

【Name of project】(Adopted year: FY2011, Type B—II)

“Cross-Cultural College”: Canada-Japan Collaborative Program for Educating World Citizens as Future Leaders.

【Aim of project, Ideals of Global Human Resource on the project】

To provide young people opportunities to develop their intercultural communication ability, critical and practical analytical skill, capacity to discover problems and offer solutions in international settings, and become active leaders, nurturing them to be “world citizens and future leaders”, thus contributing to the sustainable development of global society.

【Summary of project】

A collaborative project between Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) and three Canadian universities (Mount Allison, Queen’s, and Toronto) to establish the “Cross-Cultural College” (CCC), an undergraduate program featuring student mobility between Japan and Canada.

■ Forming the University Network with Quality Assurance

○ Agreement on the continuation of the CCC by Joint Management Committee and Joint Academic Committee

The JMC, comprised of the presidents/vice presidents of the four universities overseeing intercollegiate matters; and the JAC, comprised of faculty and staff overseeing academic matters, met in November to agree on the continuous operation of the CCC with its own funding after FY2015, while maintaining quality assurance under firm cooperation between the four universities.

○ Educational quality assurance by an Advisory Board formed of external experts

The CCC Advisory Board, formed of business professionals in order to respond to the ever changing needs of society, held a meeting in February. Comments from the board members included: ‘the CCC has been reacting faithfully to the points made by the Advisory Board, and it has successfully been operating with a PDCA cycle by proposing improvement plans’, and ‘the CCC has proved that its program is effective for the improvement of problem-solving ability and critical thinking ability, which is said to be a weakness in Japanese education’, thus proving that CCC’s quality assurance through the Advisory Board was beneficial.

○ Certificate Program(CP) operated jointly by four universities; achieved target for number of graduates

The number of CP graduates who completed the program with the 16 credits designated by the four universities and English ability equivalent to TOEIC®820 or above has reached a total of 102 in 5 years, exceeding the target of 95 laid out in the first proposal.

■ Contents of the Programs, Preparation for the Start of the Programs

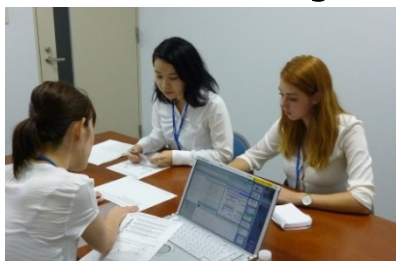


Photo: Global Internship in progress

○ Global Internship, Global Career Seminar and Joint Seminar held

The Joint Seminar(JS) in Japan, Global Internship(GI) and Global Career Seminar (GCS) in Japan and Canada were held as core courses in which Japanese and Canadian students work collaboratively and share the same accommodation. According to the pre- and post-program questionnaire, students in all three programs felt that they had improved their abilities in areas such as intercultural communication skills, collaboration skills and more.

○ Preparation for FY2016 Core Course Programs

After the termination of subsidy project, CCC will concentrate on the GI and GCS courses as students have stronger needs for such experiences. The courses will also be opened to students from other partner institutions besides the three Canadian universities, so as to make them more open and developed programs.

■ Student-Mobility

○ Outbound

Including the students sent to the University of Toronto for the above-mentioned programs, 111 students participating in the CCC program attended the Cross-Cultural Workshop (held at Queen’s University, Canada), short-term language programs, semester study abroad, student exchange, and other overseas programs, exceeding the target of 105 laid out in the initial proposal. As a result, the total number of students sent abroad in the past 5 years has reached 339, greatly exceeding the initial target of 278.

○ Inbound

50 students from Canada attended the JS, GI and GCS at KGU, exceeding the initial target of 45. The total number of students from Canada in the past 5 years has reached 212, greatly exceeding the target of 175 laid out in the initial five-year proposal.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outbound	8	27	69	124	111
Inbound	0	50	62	50	50

■ Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

○ Toronto Liaison Office (outgoing) and corporate contract with private accommodation facility (incoming)

The KGU staff member assigned to the Toronto Liaison Office, as in previous years, provided information about studying in Japan to Canadian students and provided support to KGU students studying in Canada, as well as managing the Canadian portions of the CCC program. By making a contract with a private accommodation facility, along with the utilization of the new international student dormitory established close to KGU’s main campus, an environment for students to live together in the same accommodation can continue to be provided at a reasonable cost after the termination of the funding from the Japanese government.

■ Internationalization of the university / Information disclosure and Publication of outcomes

○ CCC Open Forum held in Japan and Canada

With the support of the Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto, the CCC Open Forum was held in Toronto mainly for people connected to higher education, to show how successful the CCC has been as an international collaboration program. This was achieved by reporting the achievements of the past 5 years from different viewpoints such as university staff, cooperating companies, and participating students. In Tokyo, an open forum for business professionals was also held with the cooperation of the Embassy of Canada to discuss the possibility for industry-university collaboration. As some of the attendees proposed to cooperate with the CCC program, it proved to be a good opportunity to further appeal to companies as to the effectiveness of the CCC as a new model of industry-university collaboration.