

(For JSPS Fellow)

Form B-2
(FY2018)

Date (日付)
19/02/2019 (Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)

Activity Report -Science Dialogue Program-
(サイエンス・ダイアログ事業 実施報告書)

- Fellow's name (講師氏名): Patrick W. Galbraith (ID No. P17742)
- Participating school (学校名): Toyama Prefectural Toyama Senior High School
- Date (実施日時): 04/02/2019 (Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)
- Lecture title (講演題目): 「おたく」の研究について
- Name and title of your accompanying person (講義補助者 職・氏名)
Nakamura Mayu
- Lecture format (講演形式):
◆Lecture time (講演時間) 75 min (分), Q&A time (質疑応答時間) 25 min (分)
◆Lecture style (ex.: used projector, conducted experiments)
(講演方法 (例: プロジェクター使用による講演、実験・実習の有無など))
Delivered prepared remarks using Power Point slides. The slides were in Japanese, and I spoke to the students in English.
- Lecture summary (講演概要): Please summary your lecture 200-500 words.

In order to get the students interested in cultural anthropology (in the North American sense, which is distinct from studying "simple," "primitive" or "tribal" groups), curious about the world around them and thinking cross-culturally, collaboratively and critically, I introduced my research on "otaku." I began by explaining my position, where I come from and how I came to research this topic. Simply put, born and raised in a very conservative, rural part of the United States of America, I am learning other ways of seeing and being in the world through long-term fieldwork in the Akihabara area of Tokyo. One does not have to go to the other side of the world to conduct participant observation, however, and I tried to encourage students to think about how they understand "otaku." I then introduced them to concepts such as labeling and explained the history of labeling certain fans "otaku," which reveals deeper social, cultural and political dynamics. Finally, I shared some of my fieldwork in Akihabara from the mid- to late 2000s, when various interested parties struggled over the meaning and representation of "otaku." On the streets in Akihabara, I observed simultaneous policing and promoting of "otaku" as part of "Cool Japan."

- Overall advice or comments to future participants in the program (今後の講師へのアドバイス):

Do not anticipate that the students will be ready to engage in open conversation. They were quite shy and reserved during the question and comments section.

- Other noteworthy information (その他特筆すべき事項):

None in particular.

- Impressions and comments from the accompanying person (講義補助者の方から、本事業に対する意見・感想等がありましたら、お願いいたします。)

None in particular.