



Re-Inventing Japan Project

Waseda University Global Leadership Program (Adopted year: FY2011, Type B-1) In FY2014

【Summary of project】

The Global Leadership Program (GLP) is based on the vision of Waseda University's founder Shigenobu Okuma whose educational philosophy is aimed at creating "Harmony between Eastern and Western civilizations." The GLP is a program that nurtures human resources who can exhibit strong leadership in various fields in our global society. Through collaborative education with our seven U.S. partner universities (five in the east, two in the west), this program nurtures not only Waseda's undergraduates, but undergraduates of the U.S. as well, to become global leaders of the future.

【Aim of project, Human resource development】

Aim of project: With the rise of Asia in recent decades, the economics, politics, and cultures of the world have become more complex. An appreciation of issues not only of one country but of global society is in urgent need. The goal of the GLP is to foster individuals that have a solid knowledge of the histories, cultures, and societies of both Asian and Western countries. On the basis of this knowledge, and with respect for differing value systems, our hope is that these individuals will make informed decisions and wise judgments as they address these issues.

Human resources developed through the project: Our ideal global leader is the one who can further strengthen the "Harmony between Eastern and Western civilizations" and make informed decisions while respecting other value systems. They should have:

An understanding of the histories of Eastern & Western civilizations, cultures and societies

An appreciation of such universal values as courage, a commitment to service and the desire to improve the world

High intellect, excellent character, and communication skills

The ability to address global issues and exercise leadership in international and governmental organizations, the business world, universities, and more.

Contents of the Program, Preparation for the Program

Global Leadership Program 4th Annual Meeting

The 4th Annual Meeting of the GLP took place at the University of Washington in June, 2014. There were participants from six existing U.S. partner universities: Columbia University, Georgetown University, Dartmouth University, University of Pennsylvania, University of California at Berkeley, University of Washington. A total of seventeen faculty and staff members from U.S. universities attended and discussed together specific issues regarding the program, e.g., 1) a review of the Integrated Study Year introduced in September 2014, 2) the system for accepting Waseda students at U.S. universities, 3) a review of the internships developed for U.S. students, 4) recruitment of U.S. students, 5) and the assessment of the program.



Start of the Integrated Study Year

GLFP's Integrated Study Year started in September 2014. This is a one-year curriculum to be followed collaboratively by U.S. and Waseda students. It consists of two seminars and the Global Leadership Fellows Forum (the student forum, where the students take initiatives in defining global issues in Asia, work in teams to study those issues, and come up with proposals for solutions. Through their experiences, such as participating in the two seminars and the student forum, both U.S. and Waseda students are actually given the opportunity to learn how to further promote cross-cultural understanding and cooperation. Through the program, the U.S. and Waseda students can establish a community which is tightly bound by friendship. It is our hope that this community will be expanded with the participation of the second and the third cohorts of GLFP fellows.

Forming the University Network with Quality Assurance

Taking into Account the Credit Recognition System of U.S. Universities

In order to make sure the U.S. students can get credit at their home universities for the courses they take at Waseda in their major fields of study, Waseda has established a system for cooperating in this regard with their home institutions. We have also started a system where the U.S. students receive priority in registering for Japanese courses and/or specialized courses offered in English. Through such efforts, the first U.S. GLFP fellows, who began to study at Waseda in September 2014, have been able to receive credit for the specialized courses and Japanese courses they prefer, regardless of the Waseda faculty to which they belong.

Promoting Understanding of the Program Among University Staff Members and Students Through Our Visits to Partner Universities

We have visited our U.S. partner universities and held information sessions at their schools in order to recruit the next cohort of U.S. students. During each of these visits, students interested in the program had the chance to participate in these sessions, and we were able to have the opportunity to speak directly with them. With the help of the Waseda exchange students on their campuses, we sought to increase students' awareness of this program. In addition, during these visits we held interviews with the candidates for the second cohort of students for this program. We could clarify many points which were not clear from their application materials, and we could confirm the reasons why the persons in charge at the partner universities recommended the students with confidence.

Curriculum Examination Committee

Faculty and staff in charge of the program at Waseda established a committee to review and discuss the curriculum for incoming U.S. students.

Internationalization of the university Information disclosure and Publication of outcome

Improving the Content of the Courses Provided in the Program

In order to differentiate the "Global Leadership Studies (GLS)," an important component of the GLP, from another university-wide undergraduate minor "Global Studies (GS)" established in 2014 in line with the Project to Develop Global Human Resources, we have classified the GLS courses according to their content and objectives, thereby clarifying the distinctive features of each minor (GLS and GS). As a result, the total number of GLS courses provided decreased (53 compared to the previous year's 96); however, through the various, practical courses that make it possible to acquire high-level English proficiency, many students who were preparing to study abroad or who had returned to Japan and wished to improve their skills enrolled in GLS courses. The student-course ratio increased (2,219 students compared to the previous year's 2,332), and the number of students per course rose.

Dissemination of the Program/Outcomes via the Website

In order not only to give practical information about the program but also to introduce the activities of participating students, an Archives page was newly established. The page is linked to the GLP website and by having students post updates about their activities, their experiences and their sense of how they have grown, the page has been of great help in learning about the students' experiences, spreading knowledge about the program to people not affiliated with Waseda, and recruiting students both from Waseda and our U.S. partner universities.



Promotion of Student Mobility Environment

Recognizing Credits Earned by Waseda Students During Their Study Abroad

Through advising support given Waseda students from the faculty and staff members in charge of GLFP at each partner university, the first cohort of Waseda GLFP fellows have been able to smoothly have their credits (earned at partner universities) recognized by the Waseda faculty to which they belong after returning to Japan. With the full support from the faculty/staff members at each partner university, the students have been able to full enjoy their study abroad experience.

Finding Companies/Organizations for Implementing Internships for Incoming Students

In 2014, we concluded agreement with six companies/organizations in Japan for internships for U.S. GLFP students. Seven out of eleven students took part in internships for one month starting in February 2015. This turned out to be a huge success; the students were very satisfied with their internships which could not have been possible without their being in Japan.

Student Mobility

Sending Japanese Students

In fall 2014, 11 students were sent to the U.S. as the second cohort of Waseda GLFP fellows. The third cohort of Waseda GLFP fellows will be selected mainly from Waseda students newly enrolled in 2015. We are planning to send 15 students to U.S. partners in the fall of 2015, including to the newly joined Dartmouth University.

Accepting U.S. Students

As a result of the efforts to recruit U.S. students, 11 ambitious students applied for the program; however, five withdrew due to unavoidable circumstances including financial reasons. As a result, six students are to come to Waseda in September 2015. We are going to accept students from the newly joined Dartmouth University beginning in September 2016.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outbound	—	5*	10	11	14
Inbound	—	9*	0	11	14

* Student exchange started under existing exchange agreements.