

Re-Inventing Japan Project

【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” contributing to the sustainable development of the global society.

【Summary of project】

A collaborative project between Kwansai Gakuin University(KGU) and three Canadian partner 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

(Faculty and Staff Development seminar panel discussion)

○ Joint Management Committee (JMC) & Joint Academic Committee (JAC)

The JMC, comprised by presidents and/or vice presidents of the four universities to oversee intercollegiate matters, and the JAC comprised of faculty and staff administrating academic matters, met at KGU campus to evaluate the 2012 educational programs and discuss matters concerning the 2013 programs.

○ Faculty and Staff Development Seminar

A publicly open seminar entitled “Faculty and Staff Development Seminar in Canadian Universities” was hosted at KGU. After a keynote speech by the vice provost of Queen’s university, panelists from the three Canadian universities participated in a discussion on faculty and staff development in their universities.



○ Advisory Board Meeting at KGU

A meeting of the Advisory Board (AB) of representatives from industry, government, and the public sector, was held at KGU to evaluate the 2012 educational program to assure the academic quality of the CCC. It was also possible to include the suggestions proposed by the AB to meet the needs of business and society in Japan and Canada.

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

(Global Career Seminar group presentations)

○ Students from Japan and Canada study together

Asian Studies Summer School (ASSS) courses focused on Asia and Japan were held in July for Canada students. In August, the Joint Seminar allowing students to do group research on multicultural topics in Japan and Canada for two weeks each and the Global Internship in Japan where Canada and Japan students pair up and gain work experience together, were held. In February the Global Career Seminar gave students from Japan and Canada an opportunity to work together on real problems proposed by business/organizational representatives and present their proposals to them and instructors.



○ Expanding Global Internship student mobility opportunities

The 2013 Global Internship in Japan will double the number of student participants. Preparations are now underway between the four universities to offer the Global Internship in Canada in 2014.

■ Student-Mobility

○ Outbound

In 2012, a total of 20 KGU students were sent to U of Toronto for the Joint Seminar. Present plans to offer the Global Internship in Canada will increase the total number of KGU students sent to Canada to 45.

○ Inbound

Students from Canada coming to Japan in 2012 totaled 50 (Mt. A 8, Queen’s 17, U of T 25). The number of participants for each program is as follows.

Joint Seminar: 20 (10 participated in ASSS)

Global Internship: 10 (10 participated in ASSS)

Global Career Seminar: 20

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outbound	8	27	58	99	105
Inbound	0	50	45	45	45

Note : FY2011-2012 results, FY2013 -2015 planned

■ Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

○ Program promotion for KGU students

A “Study in Canada” fair was held with international programs staff from the three Canadian universities giving promotional presentations and answering questions at their respective information booths. Also, participants from the previous year gave talks about their experiences and program information and recruitment sessions were held at the KGU campuses. Students are always able to receive guidance from study abroad advisors on campuses.

○ Assistance to participants from Canadian universities

A KGU staff member at Toronto liaison office located at U of T coordinated communications and administration to facilitate the running of the program. Information sessions and promotion events were held at three partner universities. For the participating students, pre-departure information was passed on through the use of mailing lists along with answering questions from the students.

■ Visualization of the Content of Education, Dissemination of the Outcomes

○ CCC Website and program promotional literature

Scenes from the classroom, study abroad fairs, seminars, information sessions and promotional events were uploaded to the program’s homepage. Effort is constantly made to provide information to the public concerning course content, program achievements and future plans

(<http://ccc-canada.jp/english/>).

○ Certificate of Completion

At the end of the 2012 academic year, students satisfying the requirements for the program (Total of 21 Canada and Japan students) were awarded a certificate of completion.

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○ Joint Management Committee (JMC) & Joint Academic Committee (JAC)

The JMC, comprised of presidents and/or vice presidents of the four universities to oversee intercollegiate matters, and the JAC comprised of faculty and staff administrating academic matters, met in Canada in November to evaluate the 2013 educational programs and discuss matters concerning the 2014 programs.

○ CCC Global Joint Program Seminar

A public seminar entitled “International Strategy and Cross-Cultural College in Japanese and Canadian Universities” was hosted by KGU in February. An accomplishment report by students who participated in CCC and a panel discussion cochaired by Canadian Universities and Embassy were carried out.

○ Advisory Board Meeting at KGU

A meeting of the Advisory Board (AB) of external experts was held at KGU in February. CCC reported on the results of the 2013 program, and took suggestions proposed by the AB about plans for the next fiscal year to assure the academic quality of the CCC.

(Student’s accomplishment report)



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

(Global Internship)



○ Joint study of students from Japan and Canada

The Asian Studies Summer School (ASSS) and three core programs - Joint Seminar (JS) in Japan & Canada, Global Career Seminar (GCS) in Japan and Global Internship (GI) in Japan - were held in July-August. In February, we also held the 2nd GCS in Japan and a new program, the “Cross-Cultural Workshop (CCW)” in Canada, which provided KGU students who wished to join in the following year’s CCC core program with an opportunity to practice group research with students from Canadian universities.

○ Expanding CCC core programs in Canada

There are plans to hold a GI in August and a GCS in February for the first time in Canada in the 2014 academic year. We’ve already coordinated with companies that will accept students for the GI or that will offer lectures to students for the GCS. Preparations are proceeding as planned.

■ Student-Mobility

○ Outbound

A total of 6 KGU students were sent to Mount Allison for the JS, and 19 to Queen’s for the CCW. In addition, 44 KGU students who participated in the CCC continued onwards to study abroad on Int’l Student Exchange, and Short and Medium-Term Overseas Foreign Language Study, etc.

○ Inbound

A total of 62 students from Canada came to Japan for the ASSS, JS, GI and two GCS. The number of participants from each university is as follows:

Mount Allison : 11

Queen’s : 17

Toronto : 34

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outbound	8	27	69	99	105
Inbound	0	50	62	45	45

Note : FY2011-2013 results, FY2014 -2015 planned

■ Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

○ Program promotion for KGU students

As part of the university-wide efforts, in October KGU held a Study Abroad Fair for KGU students to stimulate their interest in studying abroad. In cooperation with KGU students who have studied abroad, int’l students studying in KGU and external institution such as the Canadian Embassy, KGU offered a variety of information about studying abroad. As part of the efforts by CCC, an “English Café” was started, in which students talk only in English once a week in cooperation with exchange students, each week setting an appropriate theme not only to improve their English skill, but also to raise their global awareness. In addition, CCC organized a social gathering for program participants, creating a peer support system in which they can share information about CCC and stimulate their motivation on one another. Also, CCC introduced interviews and a portfolio monitoring process for participants of this program. Two coordinators support and encourage students to complete the CCC and to study abroad, by checking their academic performance and giving them advice for each semester.

○ Assistance to participants from Canadian universities

CCC held an orientation for this program in Canada in November, offering detailed information directly to Canadian students, with stories given by those who have participated in the CCC. Also, a KGU staff member at Toronto liaison office located at U of T gives information directly to Canadian students by coordinating communications and administration with Canadian partners.

■ Visualization of the Content of Education, Dissemination of the Outcomes

○ CCC Website, program promotional literature and seminar

CCC publishes the contents and results of education through the public seminar and by posting scenes from classes in the CCC on its website and on facebook. Currently, we are shooting interviews of students who have participated in CCC program in order to visualize their learning outcome.

○ Certificate of Completion

Students satisfying the requirements for the program (Total of 25 students from Canada and Japan) were awarded a certificate of completion in the 2013 academic year.

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■ Forming a University Network with Quality Assurance

Advisory Board welcomes quality assurance in higher education specialist to its ranks

From the 2014 academic year, the CCC Advisory Board – which was built around a core of business professionals in order to respond quickly to the ever changing needs of society – brought in a university professor specializing in quality assurance in higher education. Thanks to the expertise of this latest addition to the board, the CCC was able to provide a program that was even more conscious of quality assurance than before.

■ Content of the Programs, Preparation for the Programs



Japanese and Canadian students working together during the GCS in Canada

Global Internship, Global Career Seminar held in Canada for the first time

Thanks to support from the University of Toronto and a group of Japanese and Canadian companies, the Global Internship and Global Career Seminar were able to be realized for the first time in Canada. The program was managed by teachers from UofT and KGU, who provided instruction to the students involved. Through their internship in a company with a multinational background, students came into contact with the multiethnic Canadian culture, and enjoyed an extremely meaningful experience. Furthermore, these two programs were also held again this year in Japan. One participant noted: “Through working together with the Canadian students, I again realized the importance of working through a problem in an effective and logical way”. Through their participation in the CCC program, we are able to see that students gained practical, effective knowledge.

■ Student Mobility

Outbound

Including the students sent to the University of Toronto for the above-mentioned programs, 124 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, greatly exceeding the target of 99 laid out in the initial proposal.

Inbound

50 students from Canada in total attended the Asian Studies Summer School, Global Internship and Global Career Seminar at KGU, exceeding the initial target of 45.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Outbound	8	27	69	124	105
Inbound	0	50	62	50	45

Note : FY2011-2014: actual numbers FY2015: proposed targets

■ Promotion of Student Mobility Environment

Toronto Liaison Office (outgoing) and establishment of new dormitory (incoming)

The KGU staff member at the Toronto Liaison Office, as well as managing the Canadian portions of the CCC program, also provides information about studying in Japan to Canadian students and provides support to KGU students currently studying in Canada. Back in Japan, the establishment of a new international student dormitory will provide affordable accommodation for students visiting KGU, which could lead to increased participant numbers.

Workshops held by CCC teaching staff

Various workshops on the themes of “Public Speaking” and “Leadership” are held at KGU, not with the aim of teaching English, but rather taking the students’ existing English ability and teaching them how to use it in a practical environment, such as they will encounter when they take part in the Global Internship and Global Career Seminar together with Canadian students.



Workshop in progress

■ Internationalization of the university, Information disclosure and publication of outcomes

Forum for business professionals

In order to increase the permeation of the CCC program in the business world, and increase the possibilities for industry-university collaboration, a forum for business professionals was held for the first time. Participants commented that: “We look forward to the nurturing of global citizens”, and “We feel that students will grow greatly through this program”. The importance of the CCC program was felt amongst attendees.

Advertising the CCC program: CCC Promotion Video created

Past CCC participants were invited to appear in a promotional video created as part of a new initiative for 2015. There was an effort to make visible the content of the Joint Seminar and Global Career Seminar. Focusing on the fact that many CCC graduates found employment at global businesses, CCC program was further promoted, adding a dimension “CCC and Future Careers” that fulfills student needs.

【CCC Promotion Video】 <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpANqLjIHajPtBd5ULlzODb9HpHOBm5a>

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■ 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.