



Exchange of Lectures with Oversea Universities – *Teaching Trips Abroad Grant*

ACTIVITY REPORT

<i>Name of the Faculty Member</i>	Alex Pinar
<i>Status</i>	Assistant Professor
<i>Dept. Affiliation</i>	EAP/FL, BE, Graduate Program
<i>Trip Duration</i>	From: 2016/02/20 To: 2016/02/26
<i>Institutions visited / Country</i>	Saint Mary's College of California (USA)
Activity Summary:	
<p><i>February 20-21:</i></p> <p>Travel from Akita to San Francisco.</p> <p><i>February 22 (Monday):</i></p> <p>Meeting with Ms. Susan Reid, Director of the Center for International Programs at Saint Mary's College of California.</p> <p>Lunch with Ms. Susan Reid and some staff members.</p> <p>Campus visit.</p> <p><i>February 23 (Tuesday):</i></p> <p>14:00-14:45- Lecture given to students of Japanese as a Foreign Language. Topic: "Living in Japan. Cross-Cultural Knowledge for International Students".</p> <p>The aim of this lecture was to provide Saint Mary's students of Japanese cross-cultural knowledge useful to any expatriate living in Japan. They were interested in what the experience was like for a foreigner living in Japan; so, they asked me a lot of questions about my personal experience.</p> <p>15:00- 16:00 meeting with Dr. Makiko Imamura, Assistant Professor of Intercultural Communication. We exchanged impressions about how and what to teach in Intercultural Communication courses. Since one of the objectives of AIU's Super Global University Project is to blend courses with other institutions, we discuss the possibility of partnering our courses according to the COIL SUNY Faculty Guide for Course Development.</p> <p><i>February 24 (Wednesday):</i></p> <p>11:20- 11:35- Presentation of AIU to students of Japanese as a Foreign Language (Elementary level) Since one of the objectives of this trip was to attract Saint Mary's College's students to AIU, I talked about the curriculum, the students' clubs, the activities they can join to be involved with the host culture, etc. Then I answered all the question they asked about Akita, AIU, and Japan.</p>	

11:45-12:00- Presentation of AIU to students of Japanese as a Foreign Language (Pre-intermediate level).

I provided the same information as in the previous presentation.

12:15-14:30- Participation at Saint Mary's College Study Abroad Fair.

I was in a table representing AIU. Fourteen students approached and asked for information about the AIU exchange program. I gave them some promotional material and brochures that AIU staff previously had send by post.

15:00-16:00- Lecture open to all Saint Mary's College Students. Topic: "Business Courses at AIU. Program Description and Intercultural Communication Tips for the Workplace".

Saint Mary's Study Abroad Department asked me to talk to potential AIU international students about the business courses taught at AIU. I described the Global Business Program and then I spoke about Intercultural Communication in the workplace, focusing on communication styles and non-verbal codes.

February 25-26 (Thursday and Friday):

Travel from San Francisco to Akita

What I have learned and how I want to use the knowledge / skills in my future teaching at AIU:

This teaching trip abroad helped me to develop my teaching skills. I could learn about the educational system in the USA and cultural behavior of American students, which enriched my cultural knowledge and intercultural communication skills.

It was also useful to learn from exchanging class experiences and points of view with Saint Mary's College colleagues. Moreover, I could broaden my network of contacts with faculty at a partner university, so I am positive that it will be possible to blend intercultural communication courses of AIU and Saint Mary's.

During the trip, I could give presentations about AIU and participate in Saint Mary's College Study Abroad Fair. Many students showed interest in coming to AIU, so maybe, thanks to this trip, we will be able to receive students from that colleges and send our students there again.

I would like to thank the committee for giving me the opportunity to participate in the Teaching Trips Abroad program. It was a valuable experience that will benefit my lectures.



*Photo
Attached*







