

DTP program report

By Gonzalo Rojas G.

In general, in the travel, all cities were wonderful, each one has a lot of things that make it unique. Also, the different campuses of the university were special each one with their specialties, like the science and engineering laboratories on Yonezawa campus. And not only the Yamagata University, as we can see on the nutrition university that is part of this program. At all the places where we stayed, people was very gentle and they made us feel so comfortable and like in home.

Detailing things for each city I can say that first of Yamagata city I think that is a very beautiful place, in special Kojirakawa campus, I think that's a very beautiful place to stay and study. There we can learn a lot about history of Japan, literature and Yamagata University's educative model and regional development plan. In the first topic, we can learn about Yamagata's history on the faculty museum, where we can learn different things like why Yamagata is famous for its textiles. Also in literature topic, we can learn many things in a lecture, various curious things about Yamagata's writers and literature topics. In education area was very interesting know about PBL (Problem Based Learning) and how it is applied on university careers. About regional development we can learn about a very effective plan to improve and raise the regional development joining industry and universities with the community. Finally, we can learn a little about traditional dances in the welcome party dancing with Japanese students.

Of Yonezawa I think that is the perfect mixture of the comfortability of a central city in terms of technology and the beauty of green areas. Also, I like that is a historical place with the Uesugi shrine and the museum where I can learn about the history of Japan and this place. About the campus of Yamagata University, I like that I can meet not only with Japanese people, but also people of another countries like Germany, Italy, Niger, and others, and I think that it was a very good opportunity to make an important cultural exchange. Another key point is that the students of that campus are studying engineering like me, and I think that's very interesting to learn about engineering viewed from different countries and in different laboratories of different applications like the laboratory of 3d printing or the green materials laboratory. Another thing that I like a lot was the Yonezawa University of Nutrition Sciences campus where we can learn a lot about how to eat better to take care of our bodies and it was in a very interactive way with the machine that calculates the contents of each menu. The museum of engineering history located in one of the buildings of the campus was very interesting also, because we can learn a lot about the origins of engineering in that place, starting from textile industry and how it changes with the time. Another thing that I like and I think is very important of Yonezawa is the research in the different specialties of engineering and how it can be integrated like we can see in the "future house". Finally, I want to remark two situations related with the people interaction that are the houses where take care of elder people and the relationship between worker and employer and the optimization of the work that we can appreciate on NEC

company. I want to remark the first point because when we visited the elders house we can see how there was so happy meanwhile they live there with people who can take the correct care of they, and we can learn some things about the social welfare and how the government is responsible of the happiness of every citizen. In the second point, I want to remark how the companies or enterprises are not only concerned about the production and profits, but also, they take care of their workers, searching new technologies and innovation that can make the work less hard.

Of Tsuruoka city the thing that I most like is the nature and environment, because there are a lot of green areas and beautiful landscapes in all around the city. Also, I like a lot the time that we passed on the farmers house, because the people there was so gentle, it was funny and relaxing. I think that experience was very interesting because sometimes is good to make a little change and relax without technology and also share a lot with the other guys. Finally, I learn a lot in the water treatment plant and the garbage treatment plant where we can learn lot about take care of the environment and ideas to innovate in the use of this technologies. It was very interesting learn that on Japan are different days to discard the garbage and help with recycling.

Finally, in all the travel was very interesting know a lot of people from the university, the different food that we can taste and the cultural exchange that we can do in parties or karaoke, sharing with the others.

About the most impressive study on Yamagata, for me is very difficult to answer, because there are a lot of researching that impress me a lot, like the OLED technology, the transparent solar panels, the research about flexible semiconductors, the researching about taking care the environment, and others. But, because I should choose one, I think that was the study of nanofibers at the green materials laboratory on Yonezawa campus, because there we can see a machine that can make fibers of a ceramic material called alumina and, they can make a nanofiber with zinc and cooper particles that is used to make textiles with a perfect antibacterial property and can be applied on medicine making bandages for sick people avoiding infections meanwhile wounds are still open.

For all the things that I have exposed before, and some others, I think that I can learn a lot in different areas. First related to my career, I can learn a lot of technical and administrative “tips” to be a better engineer, learning about technology and researching on Yamagata’s University, and about kaizen on Yamagata’s industries that can help me to innovate improving the work space in a company in benefit of the employees. In take care of environment, I can learn with the visit of water treatment plant and garbage treatment plant, to know more ideas for take care of our environment. Finally, in humanities I can learn a lot with the visit of houses that take care of elders, because this point is a topic that we have to improve a lot in my country because we don’t have an effective plan to satisfy this area, and also another topic is to try to apply the problem based learning in our educative model.

Finally, my future plan is, in nearby future, continue my studies on Talca's University and apply for the DTP program long term for the next year, also I am going to continue with my Japanese studies, first taking JLPT N5 on December and then study for a higher level. In a far future, I want to apply for a postgraduate scholarship on Japan or a work there to learn more about that beautiful country and I think that can help me to grow more as person.