

Narita Airport District

Immigration Office

The international school network went to interview the Narita Airport in Japan. We were able to meet Mr. Akihiko Kitamura, the director of Narita Airport district immigration office, Mr. Oikawa, a Public Liaison Officer, and Ms. Rimi Yonezawa, an official in the ministry of justice. We also met Narita Airport's official mascot character, TRIB, which stands for Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau.



With Mr. Kitamura and TRIB

At Narita Airport

There is an average of 65,000 passengers per day travelling through the airport, which exceeds to 100,000 passengers per day during the summer or winter holiday season. There are two Japanese airline companies and 69 international airline companies at Narita Airport. This is why the airport is separated into 2 different buildings.



The role of the immigration bureau at Narita Airport

The immigration bureau's task is to maintain the safety of Japanese people. There are three government offices run at the airport. The Customs office deals with items, Quarantine deals with diseases, animals, and plants, and

Immigration deals with people.

Mr. Oikawa explained that Japanese people often misunderstand the role of the Immigration department, thinking the immigration officers' job is to check items that are brought back from overseas.

Immigration officers examine the people who arrive to Japan from overseas. They inspect the passengers' information, by examining their passports, fingerprints, and face. The information obtained is then matched with the bureau's list of information about previous crimes and overstays, to determine whether or not the person has permission to enter the country.

The immigration officers' not only work at the airport, but work at the Tokyo Immigration Bureau in Shinagawa, where they are occupied in examination of the status of residence, or at the Ministry of Kasumigaseki, where they do office work.

Modern Automated gates



Automated gates are the new convenient system for departure or arrival. This system allows for a more easy and efficient way of traveling in and out of Japan.

This operation began in 2007. The registration procedure to use the automated gates is very simple, as it takes only five minutes. A fingerprint scan takes place, and a sheet has to be filled out and given to a staff member along with their passport. There are currently 26 automatic gates in Narita airport. (Children under 12 cannot register due to changing fingerprints at young age.)

Experiencing Departure and Arrival at the Airport

A simulation of the departure and arrival method was conducted at the airport. Firstly, Ms. Yonezawa gave us imitation passports. The passports were stamped at

the departure gate and arrival gate. The stamps were of TRIB, the mascot bird of the airport.

At the landing examination area, Europeans were lining up. A machine scanned their passports and fingerprints, as an officer checked their face, matching it with a photo on the screen. Mr. Oikawa explained to us that the passports have IC chips embedded in them, which contains their personal data and their photo. This checking procedure is very efficient.



Q: What is something you take pride in about your job?

Mr. Oikawa:

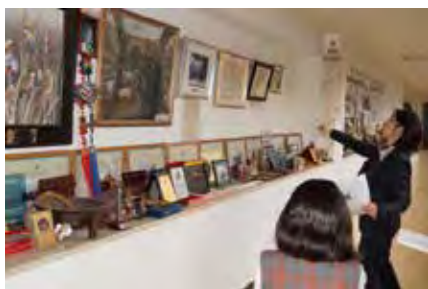
My main objective was to save Japan, so when I found a foreigner who had a forged passport, I felt pride in my job, because I felt like I was working directly to help for the Japanese people.

Ms. Yonezawa:

While examining at the booth as an officer, I focused on making the examination process as smooth as possible for the passenger. When I found a person who was not allowed to enter Japan, I took them to next examination step. I felt like I protected the country, which motivated me to continue my work.



UNAFEI



The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) is a United Nations regional institute, in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. Out of all of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI), UNAFEI has the longest history. It was established in 1962 by an agreement between the United Nations and the Japanese government, with the aim of promoting improvement of Criminal Justice Systems from the cooperation of the nations of the Far East and the Pacific Region. The regions of focus have expanded from Asia and Latin America to East Europe and to Africa. UNAFEI has achieved 4,800 alumni, in more than 131 countries.

UNAFEI is guided by the United Nations Conventions, Criminal Policies, and Standards of Norms, as well as being administrated by the Japanese government. The Japanese government has been funding UNAFEI since 1970. Training is financed by the ODA (Official Development Assistance), which is a corporation assisting developing countries.



UNAFEI works to reduce the crime in society of protected human rights by law. They arrange international training courses and seminars for criminal justice

participants. UNAFEI fights against transnational crimes such as organized crimes, economic crimes and corruption, and cybercrimes, and assist the development of sound criminal justice systems, promoting cooperation. International Activities held by UNAFEI include international courses and senior seminars, for example, regional seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian countries, dispatch of staff as experts, and overseas joint seminars. Extracurricular activities include study tours, sports, cultural activities, and Japanese lessons, which are arranged by volunteers. Participants get to know each other and build friendship.

In 1962, UNAFEI held its first International Training course. Since then, one seminar and two international training courses are held every year.



For each course and seminar, a theme is chosen on the crime prevention and criminal justice by the professors and director. The theme has to fit the policies of the United Nations and the Ministry of Justice, and to fit the International Trend, based on the needs of the participating countries. Developing countries lack of resources and equipment, so they need cooperation from other countries. The United Nations works to develop friendly relations and peace between the nations of the world. The Ministry of Justice works to achieve prosperity. Cooperation is always the key to solving problems.

Training includes activities of public lectures and group discussions between experts, professors, and participants. Visiting experts have professional or expertise that they are can apply to the discussion topics, and they encourage and enhance the participants.



There are 3 fundamental approaches of training. The first approach is the practical approach. This involves practical work-lectures and group discussion, allowing the exchange of knowledge for finding effective solutions related to everyday work. The second approach is the integrated approach. By discussing with people who have different methods, authorities, expertise, backgrounds, and experiences, the solutions build up from different aspects. This is an opportunity of breaking down occupational boundaries. The third approach of training is the comparative approach. When comparing problems (using presentations), participants can experience different cultures and legal practices.

Their facilities are the library, the lounge for participants to socialize, the dorms, the rooms for visiting experts, the sports room, and the cafeteria.

Lectures are held in the conference rooms in English. There is a small both that allows for 2 interpreters to translate from English and Japanese. The International School Network is planning to hold a discussion meeting at this conference room on June 16th, 2014. Please contact us if you are interested.



The Conference Room

Yokohama Municipal

Minato Sohgo High School

The school motto of Yokohama Municipal Minato Sohgo High School is to develop self-confidence, the ability of using suitable knowledge, and the skills for developing human relationships.

Minato Sohgo High School is a comprehensive school. The school offers special classes for career education. These classes are not often offered in other Japanese high schools. They prepare the students for the future; from a high school or university student to a social worker. Class activities include interviewing business people, doing public services, and researching (at libraries and on the internet), to learn about jobs and universities. These classes involve mostly individual work.

This year, the president of a business corporation gave a 15 minute lecture explaining how it is like to be an office worker while raising children as a mother. In her lecture, she expressed her feelings towards working, and the important features of working and communicating.



Principal Mr. Miyazaki

This school takes pride in international diversity. Several foreigners visit this school during the school year. Students

from the United States, Australia, China, Thailand, India, Afghanistan, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway, France, and Ireland have come to this school as exchange students. The school has signed a sister school contract with Britannia Secondary School, to exchange 20 students every year.

Interviewing exchange students; Ling Ming Mei Dora from Australia, Maria Bue Kessel from Norway, and Wang Wenjia from China



They have been in Japan for 2 to 4 weeks, participating in the broadcasting club, and the Japanese calligraphy club. Maria wanted to become a part of the Japanese culture, and live like a Japanese school girl. Wang Wenjia enjoyed Japanese cartoons, so she wanted to learn the Japanese language. The three students can speak three or more languages; Ling Ming Mei can speak English, Cantonese, and Japanese, Maria can speak Norwegian, English, and French, and Wang Wenjia can speak Chinese, English, and Japanese. They are all eager to be a fluent Japanese speaker for their career and university life. Ling Ming Mei's future dream is to become a lawyer. Wang Wenjia's dream is to become a doctor. Maria has not yet decided, but she plans to live in Japan and study music history. She thinks the exchange program gives her an opportunity to learn other cultures, which

allows her to see things from different perspectives and understand people better.



What are your feelings toward the school?

Ling Ming Mei:

My first impression on Japanese schools was that they are strict, but this school was full of freedom, and the teachers and students are very nice and kind.

Maria:

Everyone in this school greets each other good morning and good-bye, and so the environment is very welcoming.

What do you find the most interesting about your school life?



Maria:

In Japan, the students go to university straight after high school, which is different to Norway. I am surprised that students have their own designated desks and that the location of the classes change for each subject. I enjoy talking with my Japanese classmates.

Kanagawa International School

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Kindergarten Class Age : from 2 years old

Regular Class : Monday to Friday 9:00-14:30

Saturday Kindergarten Class : Saturday 9:00-14:00

Elementary Class Age :5 to 12 years old

Sunday Elementary Class : Sunday 9:00-15:00

Middle school Class Age :11 to 15 years old

Sunday Middle School Class : Sunday 15:00-17:00



Deutsche Schule Tokyo

Yokohama (German School)

Deutsche Schule Tokyo Yokohama (DSTY) is the oldest German school in East Asia. The school had started as a dwelling in Yokohama in 1904. Nine students from three countries attended the school at the time. The school had gone through two fires, the Great Kanto Earthquake, and two World Wars.

The school gained their own building when it was rebuilt in 1953, and then moved to Omori, Tokyo in 1967. The number of students increased as they moved back to Yokohama, which is where they stay to this day.



School in Omori, Tokyo

We interviewed Ms. Nina Kurganova, who is responsible for the school marketing and promotions.



With Ms. Nina Kurganova

What is the main reason why students attend German schools?

The education system here is same as that in Germany, so it is easy to enter a school when the students return back to Germany. Also, there is a German university qualification offered in our school called Abitur, which allows students to study all around the world. Students in this school can speak fluent English and German. In addition to English and German classes, Japanese and French classes are taught, each in their respective language. Lessons do not only consist of teachers who stand in the front of the classroom to lecture. The students have several opportunities to do group work and projects voluntarily. Students can learn while enjoying playing games.

What are the club activities in the school?

This school is separated into elementary, middle, and high school. There are many club activities such as the cooking club, craft club, choir, drama club, and numerous sports clubs. Specific examples of sports clubs are hip-hop, dance, and taekwondo. The school sports team is called "Eagles". Professional soccer players come to the school to teach the soccer players.

What are the things this school has pride in?

The school facilities are brilliant. There is an indoor pool at our school which allows students to swim during any season. Secondly, our school has high technology. Computers, Smart Boards, and iPads are being used during classes. We believe that modernizing facilities is essential. Finally, our classes are very international. There are geography classes in English, and all English classes are taught by native speakers. Our school also focuses on heightening the level of our Japanese classes.



Please mail us, and we will go to interview you!
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Director, Reporter: Madoka Nishina (10th grade St. Maur)
Assistant: Karen Nishina (4th grade St. Maur)