

## 国際交流 *International Exchange*

### 2016年 マーサ大学からの交換留学生報告

2016年4月11日(月)から22日(金)の2週間、協定校の米国ジョージア州・マーサ大学医学部4年生のイライジャ・ミッチャムさん、ジョシュア・ディールさん、ダニエル・マシューさんが、マーサ大学医学部単位認定プログラムとして本学にて研修を行った。  
(国際交流センター長 上田善道記)

## Various insights into Japanese medical treatment and culture

Elijah Mitcham

(Mercer University School of Medicine)

During the first few years of medical school I had always wanted to participate in some form of foreign medical experience, whether it be through medical missions or an exchange program. Many of my classmates had visited Honduras and Cambodia and while I considered those options, none of them really intrigued me. As medical school continued and I had yet to be a part of such a trip, I began to consider other options. I had never left the country and wanted to experience other cultures and countries before residency started, so I began to consider other options. I began researching trips to Spain, England, Germany, etc. While these seemed nice there would be no opportunity to observe other healthcare systems, a major problem considering my career path. During my fourth year orientation this exchange program was formally introduced and I realized that this would be the perfect opportunity



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to get the best of both worlds: travel the world while still being able to observe and participate in foreign healthcare systems. I made a decision then and there to do my best to take part in the program.

My time in Ishikawa has certainly been an educational one. I have utilized online resources for learning but the vast majority of the knowledge I have acquired has come from listening, observing and doing. My education thus far has understandably been centered on disease processes that are more common in the United States. During this trip, however, I have seen and learned about diseases that I have never encountered but are relatively common in Japan. One such illness is Moyamoya disease, which neither my colleagues nor myself were very familiar with. Dr. Akai presented a case to us and, while we were stumped, he explained that physicians in Japan must rule out this diagnosis when similar symptoms present themselves. There were several instances such as this and I was able to gain a better understanding of global medicine and disease prevalence. I was also able to gain a better understanding of the Japanese culture itself. In this age of globalization and the small world created by new modes of transportation and communication, it



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is becoming more and more important to understand not just your own but many other cultures, especially in the healthcare field. As a physician I will be treating patients of many backgrounds and belief systems and understanding their differences and similarities is of chief importance. This program has allowed me to do this. I have had a wonderful and meaningful experience here in Japan and I would strongly recommend this and similar programs to other medical students.

This program has really opened my eyes to the world. I am from a very small town in Georgia and the extent of my cultural experience can be attributed to the various ethnic restaurants at which I have eaten over the years. The program has allowed me the opportunity to immerse myself in another culture and truly experience life in another country. For that I am exceedingly grateful to both Kanazawa Medical University and Mercer University School of Medicine. I think that this experience will make



国際交流センターにて医学部生と送別会  
前列左から、ジョシュア・ディール、筆者、ダニエル・マシュール

me not only a better doctor but also a better world citizen. Had you asked me even a few years ago if I would ever visit Japan, I would have said "probably not", but after visiting I am confident that this will be the first of many trips to this beautiful country.

### 2016年 マクデブルク大学からの交換留学生報告

2016年3月7日(月)から6月23日(木)の4か月間、協定校のドイツ・マクデブルク大学医学部6年生のアンドレア・ディングウェルトさんが、マクデブルク大学第6学年正規課程単位認定として、本学にて研修を行った。

(国際交流センター長 上田善道記)

#### A Wonderful Experience

Andrea Dingwerth  
(University of Magdeburg Medical Faculty)

The program at Kanazawa Medical University was a wonderful learning experience. I met so many friendly, interesting doctors and students. I enjoyed the time at KMU and in Japan very much.

I chose the program at KMU, Japan because Japanese culture is so different from German culture. It was so interesting to learn about Japanese people and culture. I think viewing another culture helps reduce misunderstandings and promotes tolerance between cultures.

Japan is a well-developed country with high quality medical science, too. So I learned a lot of

new information about medical subjects. I studied at KMU for 16 weeks. Every two weeks I changed to a different surgery department where I was able to see



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