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LAB VISIT

**Professor Nobuya Nishimura,**  
Graduate School of Engineering

In light of prevention of the heat island phenomenon and global warming, the demand for more efficient energy utilization systems has grown stronger in recent years. Professor Nishimura decided to focus on the fact that the artificial waste heat accompanying human activity causes further deterioration of the thermal environment of cities and has been working on improving the performance of energy-consuming devices such as air conditioners and on developing environmentally symbiotic urban energy systems.

Since the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, the importance of energy saving has been drawing more and more attention. Having obtained the public's understanding of the clear causal relationship between the use of electrical equipment and electricity consumption, getting the public's cooperation to conserve energy became a driving force behind his research.

Professor Nishimura was a pioneer in showing that the performance of air conditioners decreases and energy consumption increases when the temperature rises. To establish more accurate performance evaluation criteria for electrical appliances that are environmentally dependent, it is therefore essential to carry out performance evaluations under conditions close to the actual operating environment. Products that perform well in Japan do not necessarily demonstrate the same abilities under

different climates abroad. Professor Nishimura is actively involved in international projects to build consensus on performance evaluation and environmental labelling of air conditioners and refrigerators in ASEAN countries, involving not only researchers but also local governmental officers, discussing the performance of air conditioners in the particular environment and climate in which they are functioning and different energy-saving measures.

Professor Nishimura has been successfully working on these international projects for over five years, organizing numerous workshops to promote the adoption and reflection of Japanese proposals for international standards and energy labels to be adopted in ASEAN countries. It is his ambition to expand these efforts to cover areas outside ASEAN, such as India and Southwest Asia as well.



Professor Nobuya Nishimura



International workshop on energy conservation  
(Professor Nishimura in middle of front row)

**Professor Midori Wakamori,**  
Graduate School of Economics

Professor Wakamori studies the history of economic thought. Several years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and capitalism's victory was declared, Japan's economic bubble burst. Professor Wakamori is part of the so-called "lost generation" that followed. "People said that capitalism won, but it didn't feel like a bright era was coming," she says. She came to wonder "what kind of era the twenty-first century was going to be like." Out of this interest, she began doing research on Karl Polanyi, the author of *The Great Transformation* (1944). He was of the view that one must understand nineteenth-century civilization in order to understand the twentieth century's catastrophic developments.

Polanyi argued that "well-being" meant enjoying not only materially but also culturally and morally rich lives, as well as that the freedom of people seeking good lives in society must be guaranteed through democratic means. Rather than just seeing the role of the market as giving the most wealth possible to a very limited number of winners, he thought that it could be connected with the attainment of well-being and the improvement of people's lives, but only if individuals used their cultural skills to skillfully control its functions. He held that thought, philosophy, and ethics that lucidly explain the importance of orienting market rules towards such

aims are indispensable, arguing that in welfare states which lack these, the logic of the market ends up becoming predominant, leading to more and more cutbacks. These insights of Polanyi are in agreement with some contemporary ideas regarding the market and social security programs.

Professor Wakamori says that in order to make it through our current era without repeating mistakes found in the lessons of history, people must have the ability to connect the various bits of information presented in the media today, and therefore need to acquire knowledge and learn how to think through the study of intellectual history and classics. She also notes the importance of being aware that peace and freedom are not given, but things that we should always be working to secure. Currently, there is a student from Indonesia studying economics with her. This student's perspectives and sense of time are different from those of Japan, and thus are stimulating for the Japanese students. Professor Wakamori says that she hopes that students of any nationality who are interested in history and thought will study with her. She would like to develop them into people who are highly able to think about how they would like to live their lives into the future.



Professor Midori Wakamori

Researchers  
in Focus



**Professor Nobuya Nishimura,**  
Graduate School of Engineering

Always travelling on business trips for his work as chairman of a committee for international standardization of air conditioners and refrigerators, Professor Nishimura enjoys eating unique local delicacies in each country he visits.



Investigation of thermal power plant turbine building

Researchers  
in Focus



**Professor Midori Wakamori,**  
Graduate School of Economics

Professor Wakamori says that she's recently become hooked on gardening: making weak trees become strong and bloom beautifully by pruning, choosing where to plant them while taking into account sunlight and the like, aerating and replacing the soil so that they grow more vibrantly . . . While every day is a process of trial and error, she is constantly observing and experimenting. Also, she has lived together with her small pet bird for the last 12 years.





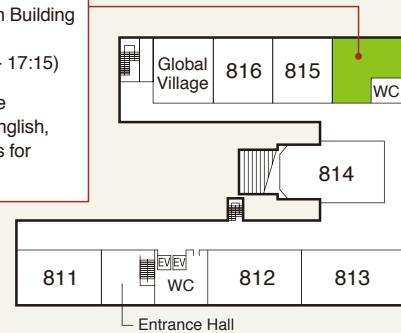
## Having difficulties in your studies? The OCU Learning Center can give you advice!

Since April 2017, students can visit the OCU Learning Center if they have any questions relating to their studies. Staff are on hand every weekday between 10:00 and 18:00 to give you advice on how to write reports and papers, give presentations, to answer questions about lesson content or support you with any other related difficulties you might have. The Learning Center also has tables that you can use outside class hours for self-study or group work.



**Location:** ground floor of the General Education Building  
**Hours:** 9:00 - 18:00 (staff available 10:00 - 17:15)

On Tuesday afternoons there are special hours for questions on English, and Wednesdays and Thursdays for mathematics.



## RESEARCHERS

### Associate Professor Masayuki Ueno, Graduate School of Literature and Human Sciences (Philosophy and History Course)

Associate Professor Ueno's field is history. He focuses on the history of the Ottoman Empire, researching how this incredibly multicultural society—comprised of diverse religions, sects, ethnicities, and languages—functioned.

The Ottoman Empire used religion as a basis for classifying people, rather than ethnicity or social status. Based on the principle of Muslim supremacy, Christians and Jews (a third of the population) were given religious freedom in exchange for their acceptance of inequality. However, in the process of becoming a modern state during the nineteenth century, equality between Muslims and non-Muslims was promised, and non-Muslims' religious freedom was guaranteed as a "privilege." In this way, the empire chose to maintain its multicultural nature. While the Ottoman Empire fell in 1922, Associate Professor Ueno sees its attempt to incorporate the

unifying principle of the nation-state while maintaining its multicultural nature, a characteristic of an empire, as very interesting.

In his co-authored work *World History: From Here and Today (Sekaishi: ima, koko kara)* that was published in April from Yamakawa Shuppansha, Associate Professor Ueno tried writing an overview of Middle East history from the advent of Islam for a general audience. While from Japan it's difficult to imagine what multicultural coexistence would be like, in societies today populations are becoming more mobile, and one increasingly comes into contact with individuals of different cultural backgrounds. In this context, Associate Professor Ueno thinks that it is important to cultivate our power of imagination regarding multicultural societies by learning history, and wants to provide this opportunity to many people.



#### Another side

Associate Professor Ueno watches foreign TV dramas in his spare time. They're often shows from Turkey (entirely in Turkish!). He says that with each episode being over two hours long, there are many pointless scenes and stories are slow to develop. Also, unlike Japanese shows, there are few scenes in which characters are working. It is almost like they're all unemployed. "I guess it's a cultural difference," he remarks with a smile.

### Lecturer Naomi Hayami, Graduate School of Human Life Science

Wanting to do research that produces clear changes in people's lives, Lecturer Naomi Hayami works in the field of nutrition and health education. Eating habits during adolescence are considerably influenced by body image, relationships with others, and the media. Even if children know intellectually that they should eat in a balanced way, such societal influences increase the number of them who, not wanting to be seen as fat or thinking that it's healthy to be skinny, are unable to maintain a healthy diet. She carries out practice-based research on nutrition education—primarily in cooperation with middle schools in Higashiosaka City—to prevent such situations from arising.

Lecturer Hayami thinks that in nutrition education it is important to not just fill children with knowledge but also educate them so that they find what they learn interesting and want to put it into practice. First, she has students go over their own eating habits, and

consider whether they eat balanced meal (in Japan, considered a staple food such as rice, a main dish, and a side dish), whether they are getting enough vegetables, and so on. Then, in group learning that includes brainstorming, students think about issues they have found and how to fix them. She tries to give them the tools to put into practice in an enjoyable way what they have learned by empowering them to feel that they can control their own eating habits.

"It would be such a waste for energetic middle school students overflowing with potential to have an unhealthy diet," Lecturer Hayami says. Since "in food education, the foundation that's already been laid is important," she dreams of spreading "a unified nutrition education program in Osaka based on the cooperation of kindergartens, elementary schools, and middle schools."



#### Another side

From the third grade Lecturer Hayami devoted herself to judo, and her husband was once the top judo player in Japan. When she studied abroad at the University of Sydney, she joined the judo club to make friends. People were excited that a black belt Japanese person had come, and she remembers being treated like an Olympian. Since in the past few years she's been busy and hasn't played for a while, she's looking for a female to join the university's judo club and practice with her (beginners and assistants welcome!).

# A Day in the Life of a Bachelor Course student

## Audi Cahya

Audi lives near Abiko-subway station, a station on the main subway line of Osaka, with lots of shops and restaurants. It is a busy area where there are always people in the street, so it feels extra safe. It takes her only 15 minutes to get to campus. Audi is from Indonesia and is in her 3rd year in the Faculty of Economics.

10:40



### Presentation at weekly small-group seminar

Today Audi has a 'zemi', a weekly seminar class in which a small group of students (usually 5 to 15) meets with a professor to intensively study a specific topic. What you study in the 'zemi' normally develops into the subject of your graduation thesis. Today Audi will be giving a short presentation about geopolitics of China.

12:30

### Local lunch box shop

For lunch Audi often buys a bento (lunch box) at a small shop near campus. The owner recognizes Audi and is happy to see her. It's a beautiful day, so Audi eats her lunch on some nice benches in the shade of the campus science block.



16:00



### Self-study at library Learning Commons

After another class, Audi studies in the 'Learning Commons', a space where you can move tables around to do group work or use computers. The internet is really fast and you can use software that is difficult to buy for yourself.

18:00

### Evening part-time job

Audi has a part-time job in one of the restaurants on-campus. She applied when she saw an advertisement at the restaurant. International students are allowed to work a maximum of 28 hours per week, to make sure they focus on their studies!



### Finding accommodation

**Q.** How did you find a place to live?



**Audi:** In my first year, I lived in the OCU dormitory (OCU International Residence). You can apply for it before you arrive in Osaka. The following year I started looking for accommodation early, starting in February. In Japan you often need a guarantor to co-sign a rental agreement, in case you cause damage or cannot pay the rent. If you don't know anyone yet, you can ask the university to become your guarantor.

### Finding halal food

**Q.** Do you eat halal food and where can you purchase it?



**Tedi:** The Japanese government is actively promoting halal food because of the increasing number of visitors from Muslim countries. I can buy some imported halal products even at my local supermarket. The number of available products, shops and restaurants are steadily increasing. You can even get halal Ramen! For other products, I check the ingredient list to see what they contain.

Q & A

# A Day in the Life of a Master Course student

## Tedi Atmapradhana

Tedi first attended a language school in Osaka and still lives in the same neighborhood, called Miyakojima. It's near a big park along a river, where it is nice to walk and relax. He travels to university by train. Tedi is from Indonesia and is in his 2nd year of the Master Course in the Graduate School for Creative Cities \*see bottom of page

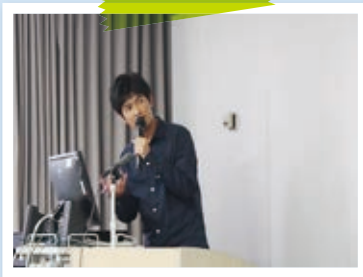
9:00

### Research and field work

Tedi is in the final year of his Master course. In his first year, he had 4 or 5 classes per week, but now in his second year he has to focus mainly on his graduation thesis. Tedi's research subject is the accuracy of drone imagery software for disaster management. He usually comes to the university in the morning to study in the research room of his department. Sometimes he joins his supervising professor to carry out field work.



18:00



### Mid-Term presentation of thesis research

Most of Tedi's classes take place at OCU's Umeda Satellite, located right in front of Osaka Station in the center of the city. Today he has an important presentation. All students in the final year of the Graduate School have to present the thesis work they have done so far in front of fellow students and professors. Both professors and students ask questions and give each student advice on how to proceed or in which direction they should continue their work. There are about 15 students participating, ranging in age from 25 to 60.

Weekend

### Free time

In his free time Tedi sometimes goes hiking or sightseeing, sometimes traveling around Japan. He often goes to Sakuranomiya Park near his house. Coincidentally, that is the location of the annual OCU rowing race. Tedi and a team of international students participated this year and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place!



Starting 1 April 2017 (\*upon approval of MEXT) the new Graduate School of Urban Management (GSUM) will start offering Master Courses to front-line workers and officials (working in governmental/public institutions, private companies, non-profit organizations, etc.) to obtain a Master Degree by studying two evenings and Saturdays after working during the day. GSUM will offer the following Master Courses:

#### Master of Urban Management

- 1 Urban Policy and Regional Economy
- 2 Urban Administration
- 3 Urban Business
- 4 Medical & Welfare Innovation Management

The existing Graduate School for Creative Cities will discontinue its Master Courses, but will continue to offer the following Doctoral Courses:

#### Doctor of Creative Cities

- 1 Urban Policy
- 2 Global and Local Economy
- 3 Business Creation
- 4 Co-existing Society Creation
- 5 Urban Information Environment

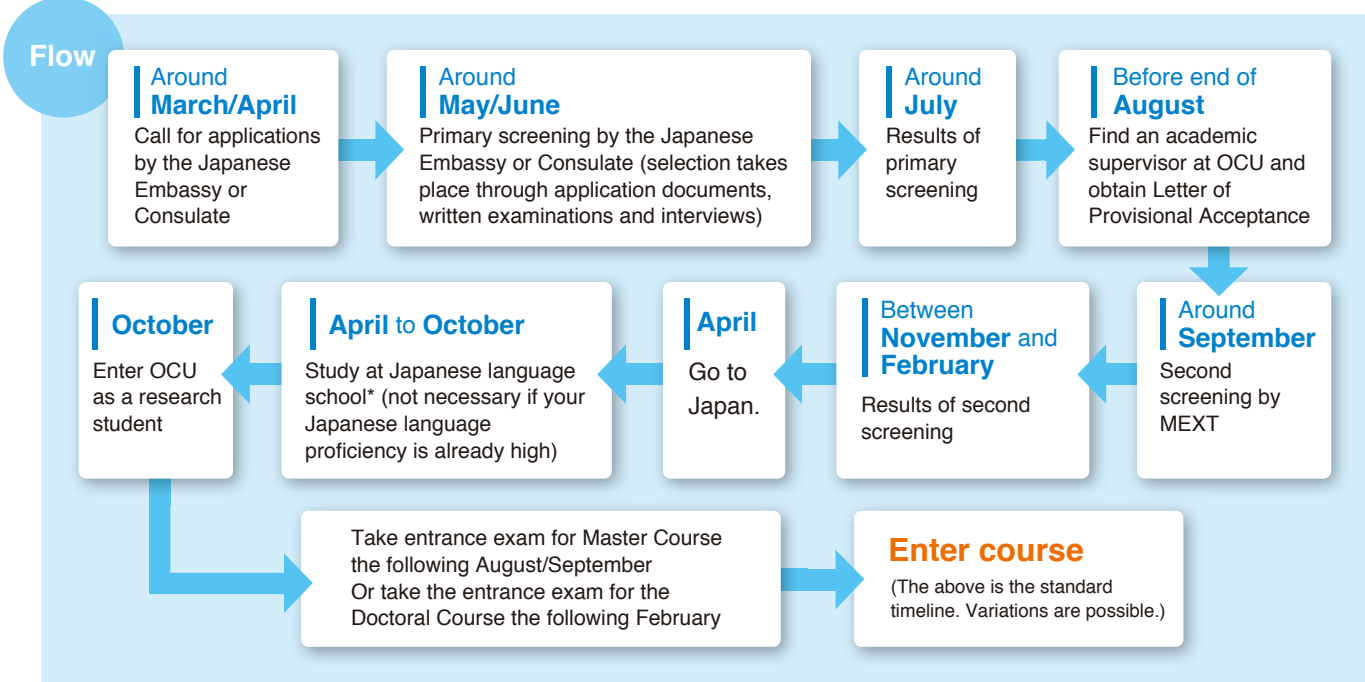
# Japanese Government Scholarships - How to Apply

One of the most attractive scholarships to study in Japan is the Japanese Government Scholarship on Embassy Recommendation (also known as the MEXT scholarship or the Monbukakusho scholarship) of the Japanese Ministry of Education (MEXT).

Aim of MEXT: "Our aim is to foster human resources who will become bridges of friendship between the grantee's country and Japan through study in Japan, and who will contribute to the development of both countries and the wider world."

You must apply for the MEXT Scholarship at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate in your home country.

OCU places MEXT Scholarship students in its Master and Doctoral courses (Bachelor Courses at OCU not possible with MEXT Scholarship).



## Scholarship amounts

- 146,000JPY per month for Research students
- 147,000JPY per month for Master students
- 148,000JPY per month for Doctoral students

- ⊕
- travel costs (transportation to and from Japan)
  - tuition fees
  - entrance examination fees (if successful)

<b>Scholarship period</b>	Maximum two years for Research Students Additionally maximum 2 years for Master Students or maximum 3 years for Doctoral Students <small>(*selection conditions apply) (*longer for medical students)</small>
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Okay, class is finished, so...

# Let's OCU Stretch

## OCU Stretch??

- Stretch exercises to improve the health of students and staff!
- Designed and directed by our very own Research Center for Urban Health and Sports
- Refresh and relax your muscles after class with these simple exercises. You can even do them sitting down!
- Featuring more than 200 students and staff!

Now on YouTube! View here:

# A lumni Interviews



## OCU Alumnus 2002: Dr. Syamsuardi, Andalas University

### Dr. Syamsuardi

Doctoral Degree at OCU in 2002

Nationality: Indonesia

#### Q. When and what did you study at OCU?

I studied for a Master's degree from 1996 to 1999 and for a Doctoral Degree from 1999 to 2002. I studied the biosystematics aspect of a plant species of Japan (*Ranunculus japonicus*). The title of my doctoral dissertation was 'Genetic Diversity and Genetic Structure of *Ranunculus japonicus* Thunb. Sect *Acris* Ranunculaceae and its Genetic Relationships to Relative Species in Japan'.

#### Q. What kind of work do you do now?

I was a lecturer at the Department of Biology in the Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences since 1989. Now, I am a professor of plants systematics in the Department of Biology. I am also the head of the plants systematics laboratory and the Head of Student Community Engagements at Universitas Andalas.

#### Q. Is your current work still related to Japan?

Yes, as a lecturer, it is important that I increase my capacity and experience in science to share with my students. I also want to help my university increase cooperation with other universities, especially in Japan. Now I am the coordinator of the Freshmen Program of Osaka City University\* in Universitas Andalas. I hope ten students from Universitas Andalas will participate in this program to increase their experience in many ways.

In addition, we just let 4665 students participate in a student community engagement program for 171 villages in West Sumatra. I hope next year some students can participate in local community engagement in Japan.

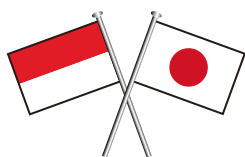
#### Q. Are you still in contact with your professors or fellow students from OCU?

Yes, right now, a young lecturer of Universitas Andalas, M. Idris, is a doctoral student at the OCU Graduate School of Science. I also often communicate with the OCU Global Exchange Office to coordinate the study program for our students at OCU this October.



#### Q. What advice would you give students from Indonesia who are thinking of studying in Japan?

They must learn and apply good character, such as hard work, honesty, obeying the rules and respect for others and if a Muslim, they must obey and keep their religious principles and respect other religions.



## OCU International Exchange Program for Students of Andalas University

This October, 10 students from Andalas University in Indonesia will be visiting Osaka City University on a ten-day study program. During the program the students will have a chance to experience the latest research and teaching at the OCU Faculty of Science and participate in workshops at OCU's most advanced research institutes such as the Research Center for Artificial Photosynthesis and the Center of Education and Research for Disaster Management. Some of our postgraduate international students in the science field will also give lectures to the group to tell them about their studies, research, and daily life in Japan.

**We are looking forward to welcoming the students from Andalas University to OCU!**

International Exchange Program for  
Freshmen in the Faculty of Science

2017

Osaka City University

Welcome  
Party

Workshops

Lectures

Exploring  
Osaka  
City

# Osaka City University Activities in *Indonesia*



## Meet us in Indonesia

OCU will participate in the JASSO Study in Japan Fair in Jakarta on Sunday 8 October 2017. Come meet us at our booth for information about OCU faculties, research and admission.

## OCU Alumni Group in Jakarta

We have an active alumni group for OCU alumni living in Indonesia and have been organizing an annual Alumni Dinner in October each year. If you are an OCU alumnus and would like more information, please contact: [kokusai@ado.osaka-cu.ac.jp](mailto:kokusai@ado.osaka-cu.ac.jp)



OCU Vice President Sakuragi at the Alumni Dinner in Jakarta in 2016



Indonesia at OCU  
Indonesian Court Dance and Gamelan performance in 2015

## OCU Partner Universities in Indonesia

- Andalas University (University-wide)
- Institut Seni Indonesia Yogyakarta
- Universitas Airlangga
- Universitas Gadjah Mada (University-wide)
- University of Padjadjaran

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OSAKA CITY UNIVERSITY

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