

# サマースクールと海外短期留学プログラムについての分析と総括 Analysis and review of Summer school program and Short-term study abroad program

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**Abstract:** This report represents the results of a survey of the summer school and a review of the short-term study abroad program offered by the Graduate School of Advanced Technology and Sciences (GSATS), The University of Tokushima. The summer school on three different courses; Materials Science and Nano-biotechnology Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, and Civil and Environmental Engineering was held at The University of Tokushima between August 2-6, 2010. This survey was prepared for the advanced graduate students by the Center for International Cooperation in Engineering Education (CICEE). The survey asked summer school participants about their summer school experience, about the benefits of having participated in the summer school, and about their suggestions for improvements to the summer school program. The survey result shows that the summer school programs made a considerable impact on the participants' interest and confidence levels. The GSATS also offers the short-term study abroad program for undergraduate and graduate students. The short-term program can increase the students' ability to learn a foreign language, improve their knowledge of engineering and of the host culture.

## 1. Introduction of summer school course in global graduate school program:

Over the last two decades, the internationalization of higher education has received a great attention [1]. Major transformations in higher education are under way worldwide at the same time the university is undergoing an educational, academic and cultural transformation to play a more vital role in a knowledge-based society. International education

activities have become a relatively recent but rapidly growing phenomenon which provides for the global mobility of students and professors to be a long-term reality. International programs like summer school and short-term study abroad can boost the attraction for international students and integrate more fully into the global scholarly community.

The Global Education Engineering Program at The University of Tokushima has developed a wide range of educational support services designed to enhance diversity and facilitate success for students by expanding the engineering talent pool. The Summer school program and Short-term study abroad programs key elements in this effort.

The Graduate School of Advanced Technology and Sciences (GSATS) is increasingly interested in promoting Summer School and Short-term study abroad enrollment to improve access to higher education [2]. The Summer school program and short-term study abroad program offers the opportunity; to help graduate students to discover what engineering is all about; to provide a unique experience of intensive learning as well as interaction with students from various countries. The main aim of these programs is to encourage students to participate in interdisciplinary studies in an international environment.

## 2. Summer school program and evaluation method

The Summer School took place on the Josanjima

campus of The University of Tokushima between 2<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2010. The courses offered during the summer school were Materials Science and Nano-biotechnology engineering, Electrical and Electronic engineering, and Civil and Environmental engineering. The language used as a medium of teaching was English.

In the questionnaire students were asked to evaluate the courses and local arrangements of the summer school 2010. The questionnaire included 16 questions. Mostly, the questions were the response options type ordered in four-point or three-point scales used to rate specific aspects of the summer school program. Nearly 100 students were contacted and 81 students responded to the questionnaire.

### 3. Short term-study abroad program:

In order to provide students with an opportunity to study abroad, the GSATS together with CICEE offers short-term study abroad programs. The duration of the program is about 2 to 3 weeks. These programs are especially designed for undergraduate or graduate students to study in an international academic atmosphere and to receive technical training. These programs are cheaper than other program since the student only spend few weeks rather than a semester in another country. It also provides an opportunity for students to get a chance to study abroad. Through these programs, graduate students from The University of Tokushima can visit partner universities and foreign students can visit The University of Tokushima for short durations. These programs also provide partial financial assistance coverings the costs of travel and living expenses.

Fourteen students participated in these programs in 2010. These programs offer a variety of experiences for students. It also provides an opportunity to get to know their professors and build the relationship for future study. Short term programs are very useful for those students who want to go abroad but don't want to spend a full semester overseas. According to

feedback from students, the short-term programs are effective to study abroad for short duration and experience the global education. Students gain technical information on their research and share experience on culture and language of another country.

### 4. Conclusions:

This report provides the results of the summer school survey. The survey deals with the different areas of student satisfaction: academic experience, expectation, learning experience, activities and recommendations. The results of the survey indicates that most respondents are happy with their learning experience and enjoy the overall program. Some of the issues suggested by the respondents for improving the summer school includes the quality of lectures; need for more courses and foreign lecturers; more time for communication with the students from other countries and the need for more social events.

The short-term programs are an effective way to study abroad for short durations, to achieve the technical skill, and to learn culture as well as language of another country.

### References:

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