



## **The Global Business Cours (GBC) Report (Sixth Issue)**

**April 2023**

### **1. Outline of GBC International Students**

The University of Hyogo held an entrance ceremony for 39 international students (September-enrollment students) at the on-campus International Student Dormitory on September 16, 2023. GBC welcomed three students from Kazakhstan, Mozambique, and Lithuania for the first time. With this addition, the total number of international students enrolled in GBC stands at 151; 81 males and 70 females came from 21 countries and one region. Furthermore, the majority of international students are nationals of Asian countries.

The number and percentage of international students by region are as the following: Ninety-nine students were from Southeast Asia (64.9%), 21 from East Asia (13.9%), 15 from South Asia (9.9%), three from Central Asia (2%), nine from Europe (6%), four from Africa (2.6%), and one from North America.

In addition, the University of Hyogo granted 100,000 Yen for each first-year International GBC student in September 2022 as a "GBC International Student Startup Scholarship" to ease students' financial burden. This scholarship is granted to students from the GBC International Student Support Fund, which was established thanks to generous donations from sponsoring companies.



2022 Fall Entrance Ceremony



GBC International Student Startup Scholarship Ceremony

**GBC International Students (Enrolled in September) by Country/Region of Origin**

Country/Region	September 2019 Enrollment	September 2020 Enrollment	September 2021 Enrollment	September 2022 Enrollment
	Number of Students Enrolled			
Bangladesh	2		1	
Belarus			1	
Bhutan	1			
Cambodia			1	
China	1	2		
India	1	1	4	
Indonesia	7	6	5	11
Malaysia		3	1	
Mexico			1	
Mongolia			2	2
Pakistan		1	3	1
Philippines		1		
Romania	2		3	2
Thai	14	4	10	9
Türkiye	1			1
Vietnam	6	6	7	7
Zambia		1		1
Zimbabwe			1	
Taiwan	5	4	3	2
Kazakhstan				1
Mozambique				1
Lithuania				1
Total	40	29	43	39

## 2. About Classes

### (1) Program to Experience Japan



International GBC students visited Kita Ikawadani High School to learn how to make Washi, a traditional Japanese calligraphy paper, on November 11, 2022. Each student experienced making their papers. Also, students learned the basics of Origami, a traditional Japanese art

of making objects for decoration by folding sheets of paper.

### (2) Scenes from Seminar Classes

#### Zen Meditation Experience

A seminar class visited Myoshinji Temple in Kyoto on September 29, 2022. Students practiced Zen meditation and listened to a talk about language and culture, which motivated students to think deeply about the meaning of the Japanese words they usually use without thinking about them. Moreover, the talk also focused on the differences between Western and Japanese cultures. Students also visited Ryoanji Temple after enjoying a vegetarian lunch.



#### Bakery Experience



First-year International GBC students visited Puratos Japan Osaka Innovation Center to observe the baking process of bread products on January 17, 2023. Puratos Japan, in cooperation with Hankyu Bakery and NOUEN, is working on a new bread idea using black edamame, a specialty of Tamba Sasayama City, as a promising project to reduce food loss.

At the Innovation Center, participants were briefed on Cacao Trace, a unique training and quality control program developed by Puratos to support cacao producers in developing countries. Students tasted new bread products Puratos Japan and Hankyu Bakery developed, including a customized black edamame pizza. Additionally, students learned about the basics of the baking industry, primarily regarding product development and business activities.



### **3. About Events**

#### **Clean-Up Event**



About 15 volunteer International and Japanese GBC students participated in a clean-up event on November 30, 2022. This regular event was organized by both Resident Assistants (RAs) and the GBC Office. Students were divided into two groups to clean the streets around Kobe Campus for Commerce. They also learned the importance of individual environmental protection and social contributions.

#### **Charity Event For International Students**

A charity event was held for the first time for International students living in the International Student Dormitory on October 28, 2022. Some university staff and faculty members donated various items that students commonly use. We hope to hold this event annually to support International students and increase awareness about SGDs, particularly Goal 12.



#### **Student Exchange Party**



A student exchange party was held on the first floor of the International Student Dormitory (i-Square) on December 23, 2022. The event was organized by faculty members in charge of the Dormitory and RAs to promote interaction among dormitory students. Although the event was held under the followed precautionary measures of COVID-19, it was the first exchange event in three years for dormitory students in three years.

Many students attended the event, playing musical instruments and singing in many different languages. It was genuinely moving to see the audience enjoying this entertaining event.

#### 4. About Contests

##### GBC Photo Contest 2022

The annual photo contest was held for both graduate students of the Graduate School of Social Sciences and undergraduate GBC students. Between August 15 and October 15, 2022, the GBC Office received 26 photo submissions from 10 students under the condition that each student could submit up to three photos displaying campus or dormitory life. The staff at the GBC Office voted for the best photos. An awards ceremony was held on December 7, with the top three winners receiving certificates and prizes. All photos were displayed on the first floor of the International Student Dormitory (i-Square) so that students and visitors could widely view them.



##### Business Contest



GBC faculty members held the Second Business Plan Contest, "VENTURinno 2023," on January 18, 2023. This year's theme was "Post-Corona Economic Recovery Through Startups." Nine teams of students competed and brought unique ideas to the contest venue. Five judges from different sectors, such as investors and business executives, judged the contest. After the contest ended, the judges joined the students for lunch and gave more tips on their business plans.

#### 5. About International Exchange Activities

##### Multilingual Classroom Program

The multilingual classroom was held every Tuesday and Thursday on the first floor of the International Student Dormitory (i-Square) from December 13, 2022, until January 26, 2023. Graduate students of the Graduate School of Social Sciences as well as undergraduate GBC students taught English conversation and the basics of their mother languages to participants from the local community. Participants could enjoy learning free-of-charge and engaging small classes of one to three students. Moreover, International students and participants highly evaluated the program.



## International Day at Hyogo High School



International GBC students participated in 'International Day', which was an exchange event hosted by Hyogo Prefectural High School. Forty-seven Hyogo High School students (30 first-year and 17 second-year students) and 15 International GBC students were divided into groups of one International student for every three or four Japanese high school students. All participants engaged in a multicultural exchange on various topics ranging from simple ones, such as favorite foods or subjects they like/dislike, to contemporary social and environmental issues. The event was lively, and we heard many fine comments from students. A high school student commented on the event: "It gave me a little more confidence in speaking English." Another student said: "I became a little more confident in speaking English. It was a great motivation for learning and understanding other cultures." Another one added: "The international students were very friendly and I was able to talk with them in a relaxed atmosphere."



### Editors' Comments:

#### 1. Yahya Almasri:

"GBC students are enthusiastic learners who work hard to shape their promising future careers while contributing to Japanese society. Indeed, it has been a rewarding teaching experience. I also learned a lot from my daily interactions with students. The first generation of Japanese GBC students graduated in March 2023, and their fellow internationals will graduate in September 2023. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

#### 2. Jianxiu PAN

"The Multilingual Classroom, introduced in this issue, is a new initiative in which international students serve as teachers to promote international exchange in the community and make a contribution unique to international students. It is scheduled to be held again next year, and we look forward to its growing popularity and participation."

Edited and compiled by: Specially Appointed Assistant Professor Yahya Almasri and Specially Appointed Assistant Professor Jianxiu PAN.