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## International Students Mobility Under the Post-Coronavirus Era

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As the chief of the International Liaison Office's Study Abroad Grant Division, I oversee interviewing students who wish to study abroad from Osaka University, interviewing students who wish to receive scholarships, and managing programs to improve English proficiency. The abstracts of the presentations prepared by the applicants for this “International Seminar” are also reviewed by the professors in the department.

The theme of this year's fifth international seminar is “Increasing the Number of International Students in Higher Education Institutions under the Post-Coronavirus Era.” This is related to the fact that we are amid monitoring the revival of international exchange, including the movement of international students to and from universities and other higher education institutions, which had come to a major halt during the Corona disaster. In fact, since around last fiscal year, the number of students wishing to study abroad from Osaka University and the number of students from overseas universities wishing to study at Osaka University have been steadily increasing. In the field of accepting international students, the increase in burden due to the increase in the number of international students is becoming a major problem. Under these circumstances, how to respond to the requests of students who wish to study abroad and what kind of preparation and response need to be taken is a very timely issue that needs to be considered immediately. This is how this year's theme was set.

My research specialty is contemporary American theater, and it can be said that the theater industry is one of the genres that has been affected by the coronavirus. For example, in March 2020, for the first time in its history, the Broadway production in New York ceased altogether. Currently, although the number of performances is returning to normal, it seems that the effects of the departure of actors, lighting staff, sound staff, etc. who had built up their careers from the scene remain, and even now that the coronavirus pandemic is about to pass, it seems that the impact that can be said to be a remnant of it certainly remains. American theater studies as a field of study of this phenomenon is no longer possible to analyze without mentioning the impact of the coronavirus. This is a familiar example for me, but I believe that not only faculty members but also students in the various research fields they are trying to challenge themselves need to see and face similar changes. This is especially important for international students who aspire to study overseas.

In the special lecture, Professor Iwata of Nagoya University reporting on the current situation of universities after the corona disaster, which is perfect for the theme of this seminar, based on various cases. In addition, there are many remarkably interesting keywords in the presentations of applicants such as “cross-culture,” “orientalism,” and “global” from the perspective of international exchange.

From each standpoint, we got an opportunity for discussion on how we are facing this current situation and proceeding with our / your research, and how we will develop it in the future. The system in which we listen to presentations from various research fields remotely using the ZOOM meeting system also firmly demonstrated the research style of this era and a new way of international exchange. In fact, the seminar, which included both presentations by Osaka University students and students from overseas, was extremely fulfilling. We hope that each of the studies included in these proceedings will further develop in the future.