

Faculty of Engineering Summer Program 2014 Successfully Brought to Completion

This year marks the 7th year of the YU Faculty of Engineering International Summer Program. This year, we invited students from partner universities in 4 different countries to visit us here in Yamagata from July 28th to August 8th.

This year, in addition to Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi, who cohosted the 2013 Summer Program in Thailand, students from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang and Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology (Thailand); Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (Malaysia); Harbin Institute of Technology and Jilin Institute of Chemical Technology (China); and National Taiwan University (Taiwan) joined the program bringing the total number of participating universities to 7, with a total of 12 participating students. In addition to the 12 students from partner universities, 15 students from the YU Faculty of Engineering also joined the program, bringing the total number of participants to 27. Students spent a total of 12 days together, using English as their common language.

In the program, students were introduced to research from each of the departments of the Faculty of Engineering through a series of lectures and visited local businesses such as a waste incineration plant. Students also went on a field trip to Mount Zao and participated in a workshop on environmental problems in Asia and their role as upcoming engineers to tackle such problems. In the workshop, students formed groups and discussed the various environmental issues in their home countries. On the final day of the part of the program held in Yonezawa, each group presented a poster that they designed in the workshop to fellow students, university staff, and their host families.

After the Yonezawa part of the program was finished, partner university students continued on to Tokyo to visit the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) and experience cutting-edge technology first hand (this visit was generously funded by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) Sakura Science Program).

On the final day, as the students prepared to return to their home countries, many students talked of how they wish to study abroad in Japan in the future. It is our hope that the students will chose to study abroad at YU!

For a detailed report of the Summer Program, please visit JSP's website: <http://ssp.jst.go.jp/report/index.html>

