EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE

STUDENT INFORMATION

Faculty: School of International Liberal Studies  Major/Minor: Communications
Host university: Waseda University  Host Country: Japan
Dates of your exchange: (month/year) September/2016  to (month/year) February/2017

TRAVEL

Approximately how much did air transportation cost? 1550 CAD
Approximately how much did any required ground transportation cost? 35 CAD
Do you have a recommended routing or airline?  No  Yes: Air Canada offers direct flight from Vancouver to Narita Airport

VISAS

What is your citizenship? (voluntary; may impact following information) Canadian
Did you need a student visa/permit?  No  Yes: What was the cost? N/A
If yes, what documentation was needed? Refer to exchange application
Did you need a visitor visa/permit?  No  Yes: What was the cost? Refer to exchange application
If yes, what documentation was needed? Refer to exchange application
Where was your immigration documentation processed? Consulate General of Japan
How long did it take to procure your visa/permit? Several Weeks
Were any other documents required (residence permit, etc)?  No  Yes: Refer to exchange application
If yes, please comment: Refer to exchange application

AIRPORT RECEPTION

Were you met at the airport by representatives of the host university?  No  Yes
Is there easy transportation between the airport and university?  No  Yes
Please comment: If living in dorm arranged by university there will be staff from the university receiving incoming students at the airport

What is the closest airport to the host university? Haneda Airport

ORIENTATION

Is there an organized orientation session upon arrival at the host university?  No  Yes
Was there a cost for the orientation session?  No  Yes, how much? The orientation sessions provide a good overview of what to expect as an exchange student in Waseda. The sessions outline important first steps such as getting your residence card and opening up a bank account in Japan. There is also a Sempai project where existing Waseda students provide information on course selection and campus life that I recommend attending.
If yes, do you recommend that future students participate?  No  Yes
Please comment: Yes
**LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**
Is there a language program available either before or during the term?  
□ No  ■ Yes
If yes, how long is it? Most programs last the entire term (about 5-6 months)

Is there an additional cost for language training?  
□ No  ■ Yes: How much? Depends

Please comment: Additional costs depend on the courses taken

**ACCOMMODATION & LIVING**
Is on-campus or university dormitory accommodation available?  
□ No  ■ Yes
If yes, are you living in a university dormitory?  
■ No  □ Yes
If yes, can you make a recommendation for a specific dormitory?  
□ No  □ Yes

If yes, please describe: ________________

What is the average monthly cost of accommodation? ________________

Is there a meal plan?  
□ No  □ Yes: How much is it? ________________

If no, do you have access to adequate cooking facilities?  
□ No  □ Yes

How far is your dormitory from the main campus? ________________

Please comment on internet and phone access in your dormitory:

Did you have to make a deposit for your accommodation prior to arrival?  
□ No  ■ Yes

If yes, how did you arrange this? via Paypal online

Is off-campus housing easily available?  
□ No  ■ Yes

Please comment on off-campus housing:
For off-campus housing it will take some time and effort researching, but there is an abundance of share houses and apartments for rent within Tokyo. The university can also recommend families for home-stay.

Approximately how much money per month is needed for living, including accommodation and meals? 950 USD

Any other comments on accommodation:

When picking the location anywhere within 1 hour transit to school is considered reasonable.

However pay attention to the amount of lines you need to transfer as well as the train/bus fare costs as they can add up if you need to transfer multiple subway lines.

For students that generally stay out late pay attention to the last and first train times for the train lines they are taking home.
Shinsei bank is recommended for exchange students, but note that the procedure may be quite complicated at the sub-branches if the student doesn’t speak too much Japanese. For English service visit the main branch located in Nihonbashi.

Japan is a relatively safe country so bringing your home currency and exchanging in Japan would be a viable option. Otherwise look for credit cards that waive or lower the exchange fee per transaction.

Most of the small daily purchases such as eating at a restaurant or visiting the convenience store would be more convenient through cash. Most places I’ve visited on campus also take card, but keep in mind some stores are cash only.

I was able to get all the SILS (English Instruction) courses that I applied for, but the course selection in Waseda is a lottery system, and I was overenrolled for some of the Japanese Language courses that I chose.

The SILS courses are taught by English speaking professors of various class size. The experience of these courses was closer to those of North American universities such as SFU.

Japanese courses on the other hand are generally smaller class size (15-30 people). Type of instruction and assignments vary depending on the Japanese level of course taken.

- A deeper understanding of eastern culture, traditional values and how they fit into a changing modern society
- Vastly improved speaking and comprehension of Japanese
- A new way of looking at things through new research directions, exposure to different academic texts, and different ways of approaching problems.

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Submission Instructions:
1. Please complete and return this form by E-mail to studyabroad@sfu.ca as a PDF.
2. Subject line of email: Questionnaire – [Host Country, Host University]
3. Please include your full name and student number in the body of your E-mail.