Promoting Inter-university Exchanges beyond Language or Regional Research Activities.

Dr. Akihiro SASHI

President of Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

Regions and Languages for the Humanities

- For natural science and some social sciences, regions and languages are not necessarily essential factors.
- Without regions and languages,
 No appealing humanities studies.
- However, if we only keep within them, we cannot respond to the current situation appropriately.
- Apart from conventional individual overseas studies on regions and languages, we need the new program of exchange.

Short-term exchange of student teams

Proposal of a short-term exchange scheme.

National Model United Nations

the oldest and largest intercollegiate Model United Nations conference

(https://www.nmun.org/index.html)

Organaised by National Collegiate Conference Association

How about as an exchange model?

Model United Nation model

- Students make delegations of countries that are not countries of their own, and propose and discuss various international issues following the rules of the United Nations.
- By considering from the standpoint of others, students deepen international understanding and improve skills for solving problems.



My Proposal (1)

- Students will conduct preliminary learning at their own university on themes decided in advance, then visit partner universities as teams and discuss with the teams of the partner schools.
- The discussion should be operated in languages other than their native languages.
 In English, many students can participate.

My Proposal (2)

- By making a mixed team of several countries, we can expect more mutual understanding.
- Divide all participants into teams, and...
 - 1) Communicate within the team
 - 2) Investigate issues to be addressed
 - 3) Understanding through debate

Discussions should be based on surveys on areas less familiar to students, or on global issues.

Students will understand diverse values and positions.

Merits of the scheme

- This system can be applied between two universities, and three or more, so a wide variety of university exchange will be realized.
- We can expect better results that are difficult to achieve with normal short-term program.
- This scheme will focus on methods of "problem solving", "consensus building" and "mutual understanding".
- Examples of assumed topics:
 Peace and reconciliation, Disaster, Poverty, etc.

Individual
Regions Languages

Long-term



Team Communication

Debate General Global

Short-term

Thank you for your attention.