

*Voice of the International Students*

# VIS

医学研究科  
国際連携室だより

(August 2011  
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## What is VIS ?

The International Relations Office of the Faculty of Medicine issues a newsletter "VIS" to send out a live message from our international students and to promote the exchange of cultural information from different countries. We hope this letter helps to cultivate intercultural communications and put international exchanges into action. (quoted from VIS Vol. 1)

このニュースレターの発行の目的は、留学生の生の声を外に出すことと、異なる国の文化の情報交換を促進することにあります。このニュースレターが異なる文化間のコミュニケーションを養い、国際交流を実行していく上で役に立つことを望んでいます。(VIS Vol.1 より転載)

## The 17th International Hour "Nigeria, the Heart of Africa"

第17回インターナショナル・アワー



### Chinyere Nwafor-Okoli

Ph D student until March,  
Hokkaido University  
Graduate School of Medicine (Nigeria)

It was my privilege to be a speaker for the 17th International Hour.

It was a great opportunity for me to speak about my beloved country - Nigeria. My speech was without the usual political bias that abounds in most news from the media; an honest and point blank "VOICE" of my perception about my country. A very personal account.

This occasion witnessed a record number of participants including: academic and non academic staff, graduate and undergraduate students of Hokkaido University and other local universities, as well as friends and well-

wishers.

I am very grateful to the organizers of this program and look forward to hearing from other speakers regarding their own countries.

インターナショナル・アワーで母国、ナイジェリアを自分の感性で紹介しました。



## Hope for a wireless campus at Hokkaido University

北大にどこでも使えるホットスポットを！



### Anton LENNIKOV

Ph D student, Hokkaido University  
Graduate School of Medicine  
(Russia)

In modern society, reliable internet access has become the key to productive work and study. In the USA, or even Russia, most campus areas are covered by free Wi-Fi or have Access Spots. Any users of Smartphones or Tablet PCs can get online immediately to send e-mail, answer video calls or read papers in scientific journals. At Hokkaido University, however, there are no open Wi-Fi networks anywhere in the campus area. This is a serious problem, especially for new international students who may experience difficulties getting on-line when they have newly arrived in Japan. Campus life may be improved, especially during the summer when people can spend their time working

on projects and study not only inside the office, but also outside on the grass and among trees of Hokkaido University. They can enjoy the beauty of nature, while having high speed, on-line access. I would humbly ask Hokkaido University officials to at least consider the possibility of creating a few internet Hot Spots on campus for the benefit of all.



## Hokkaido University (Hokudai) Festival

北大祭レポート



### Kerise LYTTLE

Ph D student, Hokkaido University  
Graduate School of Medicine  
(Jamaica)

The 2011 Hokudai Festival was the first for me, and it was truly an experience. Having only arrived in Sapporo in April, I was quite pleased at being given the opportunity to showcase my country's culture, through food. I prepared Jamaican Jerk Chicken, a popular weekend food in Jamaica; maybe equivalent to takoyaki in Japan. I was surprised at the level of interest in international foods. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the festival, there were crowds of people at the booths with some customers waiting in line for up to 50 minutes, and even asking for the jerk chicken recipe. It was also a very good opportunity for me to eat foods from other cultures at affordable

prices, and have a good time with both Japanese and international friends. I would like to say thank you to Hokkaido University for giving international students the opportunity to share their culture during the Hokudai festival.

北大祭に、ジャマイカからきている仲間と一緒にジャークチキンを作ってだしたところ、連日、大勢の人が列を作って食べにきてくれました。私もほかの国のテントにいて、手頃な値段でめずらしい食べ物を楽しむことができました。北大祭で食文化を共有できる機会を与えてくださった北海道大学に感謝します。

(ケリースは写真の中央の人です。)

## Unique Nature of Japan

日本独特の自然



### Houman GOUDARZI

Ph D student, Hokkaido University  
Graduate School of Medicine  
(Iran)

Mountains, hills and forests cover over two thirds of Japan. Ranging from Hokkaido to Okinawa, the Japanese archipelago exhibits a large variety of flora and fauna. A close and harmonious relation between man and nature is part of Japanese culture. There are several seasonal festivals in Japan which brings nature into daily life: cherry blossom-viewing (hanami), moon-viewing (tsukimi) and snow-viewing (yukimatsuri). Also, Japanese dishes preserve the natural qualities of foods including: taste, shape, color and texture. Even at Hokkaido University, located in the city center, you can enjoy different types of flowers, trees. The unique nature of Japan is not only because

of its geography, they really respect nature. Enjoy the wonderful nature of Japan.

日本人は、花見や月見のように自然を季節の行事にとりいれ、日本料理も食材の自然の質感を保っています。どうぞ日本の自然を楽しんでください。



## Spring Garage Sale

春のガレージセール

### Hiroko TAKANO

International Relations Office  
Graduate School of Medicine  
Hokkaido University  
(Japan)

The Annual Spring Garage Sale for international students was held on May 17 in the courtyard of the Office of International Affairs. This event is organized by the Hokkaido University International Women`s Club (IWC) and held twice a year; May and October. As a service to international students,



the members of IWC collect many valuable goods and then sell them at ultra-cheap prices. More than 150 international students and their families gathered; enjoying a shopping spree. All the collected goods found new homes, and the sale was an unqualified success. The IWC, an all volunteer organization, has provided much support to

the International community at Hokkaido University. The Annual Garage Sales are a fixture, woven into the fabric of campus life.

北海道大学国際婦人交流会が主催する恒例の春のガレージセールが国際本部の中庭で開かれました。この日のために会員が用意した多数の日用雑貨品、布団、小型電気器具は1時間で売り切れました。留学生はこのガレージセールを心待ちにしています。



## Spring BBQ party

春の国際交流バーベキュー・パーティー



### Biljana NOVKOVIĆ

Ph D student, Hokkaido University  
Graduate School of Environmental  
Science (Serbia)

I have really nice memories from the Medicine Faculty Spring BBQ party. There were many participants from all over the University - Japanese as well as many foreign students with their families. It was a good opportunity to encounter some old friends, make new ones, and enjoy the spring on campus.

The weather was poor, but the organization was excellent. All the participants were cozily settled, and enjoyed the event under the covered walkway. The food was excellent, with a choice of different meats and veggies. People with specialized diet requirements, such as vegetarians like me, were also considered. Some of the students also prepared and shared delicious dishes from their home countries. All in all, it was a very diversified and enjoyable event.

I wish to thank the organizers for arranging



everything so efficiently, making the Spring BBQ event a big success. I hope there will be many similar events in the future.

あいにくの雨にもかかわらず北大全体から日本人学生および留学生とその家族を含む大勢の人たちが、このパーティーに参加しました。屋根のある通路を利用してコンロを囲んで、肉と野菜を焼いて食べました。食材は私のようなベジタリアンにも考慮されていて、素晴らしかったです。自分の国の料理を作ってもってきてくれた人もいて、全てが多様であり、楽しいイベントでした。



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