

2023 Kyoto Prefectural WWL High School Students Summit Report

- (1) Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023
- (2) Location: Connected online by Zoom
- (3) Participating schools: Rakuhoku HS, Toba High School HS, Sagano HS, Rakusai HS, Fukuchiyama HS, Mineyama HS, Akita Prefectural Akita Minami HS, Akita Prefectural Honjo HS, Okinawa Prefectural Naha Kokusai HS, Kunori Gakuen HS, Mansfield State HS (11 schools in total)
- (4) Participants: Japanese discussion 22 students (5 groups)
English discussion 18 students (4 groups)
- (5) International students: 4 students
- (6) Content

Under the main theme of "Creating a sustainable vibrant society in the future, reconsidering the values of richness", students chose one of the three discussion themes based on the SDGs goals, researched in advance what the issues are for creating a sustainable future society, and thought about "what we can do" to solve the issues.

At the summit, based on the information they had researched, they formed groups, mainly with students from other schools, and discussed the issues in either Japanese or English. The summit was conducted online, utilizing ICT.

After the group presentations, academic advisors, Associate Professor Hidenori Sugioka of Fukuchiyama University and Professor Steven Herder of Kyoto Notre Dame Women's University gave comments.

- ✓ Area I / Area III [discussed in Japanese (Area I) or in English (Area III)]
"Creating a vibrant society in the future, making strategic use of cultural heritage"
- ✓ Area II / Area IV [discussed in Japanese (Area II) or in English (Area IV)]
"Creating a prosperous future society where science and technology are in harmony with nature"

(7) Program

10:00 Opening ceremony

10:05 Introduction of reviewers

10:15 Icebreaker (Self-introduction, Division of Role)

10:30 Group work I: Presentation of each idea in each group

11:10 Group work II: Decide the best solution and summarize reasons

12:00 Lunch break

13:00 Group work III: Preparation for presentation of proposals

14:00 Presentation: Presentation of proposals by each group
(5minutes each)

15:00 Review and Comment: by Associate Professor Hidenori Sugioka
and Professor Steven Herder

15:20 Closing

(8) Comments from students

- I was able to experience that different places where we live have different ways of approaching the cultural heritage issues we envision. It was interesting to realize that the culture that we take for granted was not at all the case through this exchange.
- I thought it was a very meaningful and valuable time for me to have the opportunity to engage with students from other prefectures. Even though we live far away from each other, we got to know each other very quickly and we were all able to have active conversations, and I really feel glad that I was able to participate the summit this time. I was able to find new ideas by working together with several people on things that I wouldn't have thought of on my own. I would like to participate again if there is another opportunity like this.
- The summit has enabled me to learn more about the culture of the place where I live, as well as the initiatives being undertaken in response to that culture. The summit has made me aware of the initiatives of people who are working to revitalize local communities in places I didn't know existed. Thanks to the exchange in English, I was able to improve my vocabulary for translating my presentations as well as my communication and other skills.