

Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2010

Final Report

Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

3rd - 9th August 2010

“Friendships across the world make near neighbours of far horizons”.

“天涯若比鄰”



~Wang Bo 王勃

1. Table of Contents

1.	Table of Contents and Supporters.....	p.1
2.	Foreword.....	p.2
3.	Acknowledgements.....	p.4
4.	Introduction.....	p.5
5.	Committee Organisation.....	p.7
6.	Programme Overview.....	p.9
	Summary, Arrival and Registration, Trust Building, Language and Cultural Sharing, Media Bias and History Timeline, Professor Hamashita's Guest Lecture, Guangdong Fieldtrip, Professor Liang's Guest Lecture, Education Discussion, Hong Kong Exploration Tours, Reunion Dinner, Commemoration for Peace, Initiative Planning, Cookery for the Final Dinner, Free Expression Night, the Buddy Group System, Departure and Deregistration, Post-Conference Presentation Day	p.25
7.	Guest Lecturers and Guests.....	p.26
8.	Financial Report.....	p.27
9.	Improvements.....	p.28
10.	Conference 2011.....	p.32
11.	Conclusion.....	p.34



Supporters

Organizer: Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Supporters: Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong, United World College International Office (London), Japan National Committee for UWCs

Sponsors: The Kamenori Foundation, Sojitz Foundation, Mitsubishi UFJ Foundation, UWC Graduate Organisation Hong Kong

Secretariat: Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee



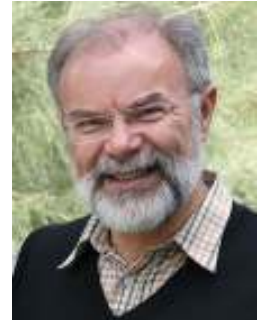
2. Foreword

- ❖ LPC Principal Dr. Stephen Codrington
- ❖ Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee 2010

Foreword by LPC Principal Dr. Stephen Codrington

This was the second Sino-Japan Youth Conference to be held at Li Po Chun United World College, and it is obvious that it was a very special experience for everyone involved!

From the first day until the end of the conference, the positive energy and excitement were palpable, and this conveyed the conference's success and the fruits of the organisers' efforts better than any statement or document could ever achieve. For me personally, it was a privilege to accompany the participants on the two day trip into China, a time that provided participants with many deeply moving and challenging experiences. It was inspiring to see the impact of the United World College movement coming to life, with students and graduates working to reach out together to young people from other countries. I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone who contributed to this sensational event!



As often happens when I reflect on the achievements of your students and young graduates, I am in awe of the magnitude of the achievements of this conference. It brought together 15 Chinese and 15 Japanese secondary school students with contributions from 35 organisers for a very full week. Our notable guests included Professor Yunxiang Liang, Associate Professor of International Relations at Peking University, Professor Takeshi Hamashita, Dean of Asia Pacific Studies at Sun Yat Sen University, and Deputy-Consul Daisuke Matsunaga from the Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong.

The outcomes of the conference reassure me that when vision is combined with constructive inspiration, co-operative efforts and energy, UWC students are capable of achieving significant cutting-edge goals that one would not normally expect from teenagers; achievements that are presented very powerfully in the pages of this Report. Li Po Chun United World College is proud to have organised this significant initiative by youths to promote mutual understanding and a brighter, more peaceful future.

Stephen Codrington (PhD.), Principal
Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong





Foreword by Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee 2010

The participants and organisers from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Japan parted on the last day of the conference with new feelings. After the 7 days of sharing personal and cultural backgrounds, discussing the media, history and education of the Sino-Japanese relationship, and the solemn commemoration for peace for the future, we became closer to one another not only as Chinese and Japanese, but as new young friends supporting one another.

As youths, we are often considered not to have the experience from age to accomplish large things. It is so easy to forget the deep reserve of motivational power that young people cultivate within them. During the Initiative Planning Session, the inspiring atmosphere created by the outpour of ideas and discussion by young people allowed serious consideration about what it meant to nurture the seeds of a blossoming initiative.

It has been already a month, but we still keep those raw emotions that we felt at the Conference close to us. This incredible feeling would not have been possible without the support of countless people including funding organisations, advisors, teacher supervisors, guests, participants and organisers. We wish to acknowledge, thank and give our sincerest gratitude to those who have given their exceptional commitment and support through this final report that outlines what the conference aimed to achieve through its program.

Keeping the flames alight is always a difficult task. But, when we overcome turmoil together and look towards the future with the combined hope, we can always be inspired by our united belief as one participant said - “this is only the beginning”.

Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee 2010



3. Acknowledgements

- ❖ LPC Teacher Supervisors
- ❖ LPC Board, Teachers, and Staff
- ❖ Ms. Hiroko Nishida
- ❖ Ms. Delpha Ho
- ❖ Sodexo Catering



Without the help and support of countless numbers of people, the Conference would not have been possible. It is only the cumulative effort of everybody that made the Conference possible. Because of this, the Committee would particularly like to give a special word of thanks and gratitude to the following people:



LPC Teacher Supervisors including ***Dr. Stephen Codrington, Mr. Kok Ming Lee, Ms. Beta Chau, Ms. Cherrie Cheung and Ms. Esther Chau*** who gave up their valuable time and efforts to supervise the Sino-Japan Youth Conference during its year-preparation and the actual Conference. Their advice, support, and presence contributed for the smooth running of the Conference.

LPC board, teachers and, staff who permitted the Sino-Japan Youth Conference to take place at Li Po Chun United World College in spirit of the UWC movement. In particular, the Committee would like to thank ***the Board, Ms. Flora Hui and the office staff*** for their patience and cooperation in the administration of the Conference at LPC. The Committee would also like to thank the ***LPC teachers*** for supporting the Conference and allowing the use of residential areas.

Ms. Hiroko Nishida, for her numerous advices on project management with regards to organizational structure, risk managements, and accounting. The Committee is entirely grateful for her dedication and her help in constructing the foundations for the Sino-Japan Youth Conference so that it may continue in the future.

Ms. Delpha Ho, for her kind offer of legal services including the finalization of the participant and organizer Consent Form and its corresponding Chinese translation as well as her recommendations for minimizing the practical and legal risks during the Conference particularly the Guangdong Fieldtrip.

Sodexo catering, in particular ***Raymond and the canteen staff***, for their excellent catering and decorations that greatly enhanced the culinary experience of the Conference. The Committee will not forget the canteen staffs' consideration and flexibility in catering for the tight schedule of the program.

4. Introduction



Principle: Sino-Japan Youth Conference helps young people in China and Japan to contribute towards a constructive future based on mutual respect, by upholding the UWC ideal of international understanding.

1. Purpose of Final Report

This Final Report is the culmination of the Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2010. It aims to summarize the conference program succinctly so as to give the reader a sense of how the conference was. It also seeks to recognize all the people who gave their time to make the conference a success.

2. Introduction to Conference 2010

The Sino-Japan Youth Conference began as a simple idea – other young people helping young people to change the legacy of two neighbouring countries in East Asia. Initially, the idea of youth from all over the region coming together to promote dialogue, mutual understanding and celebration of difference was simply the vision of a single individual, but the vision was profound enough to inspire like-minded United World College (UWC) graduates and current students joining together to turn the vision into reality.

After successfully holding the Sino-Japan Youth Conference of 2009, dedicated organizers from the Committee 2009 made the commitment to bring to life Conference 2010. During the preparation in the second year, the foundations for the conference were strengthened significantly and the organizational structure solidified. The Committee made changes to the program to further empower the participants of the Conference and increased their awareness of risk managements to insure the smooth running of the Conference.

The changes that were witnessed in Conference 2010 came after crucial and thoughtful

consideration to ensure the continuity of the Conference in future years to come. The Sino-Japan Youth Conference now belongs to everyone and is a significant force within the Sino-Japanese relationship, within the educational field in East Asia, and within the heart of youths from China and Japan. After a year of planning and preparation, many dedicated people all came together at Li Po Chun UWC of Hong Kong from the 3rd to 9th of August, 2010 for the second Sino-Japan Youth Conference.

3. Aims

The conference had four main aims:

1. To have a direct impact on Chinese and Japanese youths' perceptions of the Sino-Japanese relationships and each others' culture.
2. To raise awareness about the importance of dialogue in contributing towards a constructive future for Sino-Japanese
3. To encourage Chinese and Japanese youths to contribute to their society in China, Hong Kong and Japan through youth initiatives and community services.
4. To provide opportunities for participants to experience the international environment of United World College.

The slogan for the 2010 conference was:

“Future for young neighbours”

4. UWC in Action

UWC is a global educational organisation that brings together students from all over the world

with the explicit aim of fostering peace and international understanding. The organisation selects students based on merit, regardless of their ethnic, religious, educational, or financial, background. It is a melting pot of youths from around the world that have great interest in international issues. UWC creates a friendly atmosphere in which open-minded ideas of students are well-protected and encouraged.

At the Hong Kong campus where China and Japan have substantial cultural influences, many Chinese and Japanese students live under the same roof and engage in serious discussions about each other's society and culture.

Although this was the birth of the idea the Sino-Japan Youth Conference, the heart and mind of the Conference now lays in the fact that Chinese and Japanese UWC students from all around the world form the Committee. With the commitment to work across borders, the preparation work for the Conference occurs in Japan, China, and Hong Kong with organizers from those regions. The UWC ideal is brought to fruit through our active collaboration.

5. Features

What is exceptional about this conference is that it is entirely student-initiated, student-run, and student-g geared. The conference is therefore a culmination of UWC students as organizers feel is important to work for, in order to continually broaden the young people's horizon.

The conference is based on the idealism of intercultural understanding of UWC movement. With students and staffs from many different nationalities and a wide variety of backgrounds, they form vibrant, enthusiastic and compassionate communities that live and work together in mutual understanding and learning. Such accepting ideal tolerant to difference is the foundation of this conference.

The conference is based in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is one of the most popular tourist spots

in Asia for Japanese people, and the Sino-Japanese interaction in Hong Kong creates much open and positive atmosphere.

6. Conference Ethos

The Committee seeks to explore diverse points of view and respects freedom of responsible speech and accepts its consequences.

7. Action Guideline of the Committee

Conference committee respects the United World College principles, the Administration and the Board of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong, and the Japanese UWC National Committee, and follows the basic views of the Hong Kong government with regard to political and geographical names and expressions.

8. Supervisors

Dr. Stephen Codrington – Principal of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Mr. Kok Ming Lee – Mathematics and Economics teacher of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Ms. Beta Chau - Economics teacher of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Ms. Cherrie Cheung – Chinese teacher of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Ms. Esther Chau – Economics teacher of Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

9. Secretariat

Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee

10. Website Link

<http://sinojapanyouthconference.org>

5. Committee Organisation

Improvements from 2009 for 2010

In the Final Report 2009, there were three main points that the Committee 2009 emphasized that the Committee tried to improve on for Conference 2010 in various ways.

1. Committee Structure

For Conference 2009, there was an unclear allocation of work during the preparation process and the actual conference and it was suggested that there was a separation of organizers into administrators and facilitators. We adopted this policy for the Conference 2010 and this made the conference program run a lot smoother. All the organizers were given specific responsibilities within the conference and work was evenly divided between all organizers between administration and facilitation.

For Conference 2009, there were not enough translators in Japanese and Putonghua for the participants. To improve the participants' contributing experience for Conference 2010, language-specific work was assigned early before the conference. Furthermore, there were free translators at the conference in the event should one translator become unavailable.

2. Risk Management

To improve the decision making procedures of the Committee, it was suggested that there was an adult supervisor to monitor the conference progression. This was because the Committee needed consultation with various adults with regards to medical, legal and project management

issues for the conference. It was also necessary to pinpoint the where the ultimate responsibility of the conference for any emergency situation.

For the Conference 2010, the Committee requested the valuable supervision of the Principal of LPC to be the Head Teacher Supervisor and for some LPC teachers to be Teacher Supervisors under the LPC Board requirement. These teacher supervisors gave advice throughout the year preparation and were available throughout the conference on campus in case of any emergencies. On the Guangdong Fieldtrip, the teacher supervisors also accompanied the conference to Guangdong to provide their generous supervision. On the whole, the conference went smoothly without any accidents.

For the medical issues that could arise at the conference, there was a nurse available on the first and last days and during the Guangdong Fieldtrip. There was also a medical organizer who constantly reminded participants and organizers to maintain hygienic practices and take enough rest. This medical organizer also had all the contact details of hospitals and insurances. Furthermore, the legal issues were considered through the Consent Form signed by organizers and participants and the public liability insurance that was applied for the conference.

3. Cooperation with the College

To improve our communications with LPC, at the culmination of conference 2009 the Committee obtained the approval to host the conference the following year. Once again, they generously provided the accommodation for the conference for the entire 7 days.

Also to improve our accounting procedures on advice from the LPC accountant, the Committee assigned an organizer to take on the responsibility as an accountant for the conference. There were clear records of all expenditures and the money remaining in JPY, HKD, and RMB.

1. Committee Structure

The core organisers of the Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee of 2010 were formed in August 2009 at the end of the first inaugural conference of 2009. It included organisers from 2009 who made the commitment to prepare for the conference for 2010. During September 2009 and onwards, other student organisers for the Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee were recruited from Li Po Chun United World College, the Japan United World College Committee, other United World Colleges, and participants from 2009. All the organisers fell under the Committee structure of Japan Team and Chinese Team with the Chinese and Japanese Coordinators doing their best to unite the different Committee branches.

In December 2009, The Board of Li Po Chun United World College approved of the conference to be held on campus on the condition that there were a suitable number of adult supervisors for the conference. Hence, the Committee requested the principal of Li Po Chun United World College Dr. Stephen Codrington to become the Head Teacher Supervisor for the Conference. Other teachers also agreed to be a Teacher Supervisor for the conference. For the Guangdong fieldtrip, an organiser's father who is a native of Guangdong agreed also be an adult supervisor for two days. Furthermore, other adults with project, legal and medical knowledge advised the Committee throughout their preparation period.

2. Year Planning

The planning for the Sino-Japan Youth Conference of 2010 took place from August 2009 to August 2010. For organisers abroad, frequent skype meetings and many emails were used to

conduct the preparation. For the organisers studying at LPC, the Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee was part of the International Baccalaureate curriculum of Creativity, Action and Service. The organisers would meet once a week on Tuesday afternoons and work on program planning, participant application, participant selection, promotion and fundraising through the selling of tshirts. The Japan Team would meet up frequently at different locations in Japan and work on participant application, participant selection and fundraising through foundations. Many organisers took part in the preparation although sadly, they could not partake in the entire conference.

3. Preparation Period

There was a preparation period of one day on August 2 where all the organisers prepared for the arrival of the conference. It was the first time that all the organisers came together for preparation. Therefore, getting to know each other and forming a strong bond among the team was the primary goal of the day. The facilitation training was lead by the program coordinator who has had extensive experience in conflict mediation through being a facilitator in two UWC Initiative for Peace Conferences. The facilitation training guideline was given by Dr. Selena Sermeno, a professional conflict mediator who has worked to provide Constructive Engagement of Conflict workshops mainly at Bartos Institute of UWCUSA campus and other UWCs around the world. The rest of the preparation period was preparing the team for risk management and doing last minute administrative works to ensure the smooth running of the conference. Some arrival details, buddy group arrangement, and the detailed spreadsheet of organisers' roles' descriptions were made.

6. Programme

Overview

Summary,
Arrival and Registration,
Trust Building,
Language and Cultural Sharing,
Media Bias and History Timeline,
Professor Hamashita's Guest Lecture,
Guangdong Fieldtrip,
Professor Liang's Guest Lecture,
Mr. Harada's Sharing Session,
Education Discussion,
Hong Kong Exploration Tour,
Reunion Dinner,
Commemoration for Peace,
Initiatives Planning,
Cookery for the Final Dinner,
Free Expression Night,
Buddy Group System,
Departure and Deregistration,
Post-Conference Presentation Day.

Summary

The programme was carefully structured, beginning with trust-building and raising participants' awareness of cultural differences in order to nurture friendship among the participants. This was followed by the fieldtrip to Guangdong Province, where participants directly interacted with local people and experienced firsthand Mainland China. Then, the programme moved forward to an exploration of issues surrounding the Sino-Japanese relationship, including the guest speakers' lectures and the conflict mediation games. Cultural activities such as dances and songs as well as performances and cookery were held to foster experiential learning. After gaining a thorough understanding of the issues at hand, the students' experiences culminated in the sharing initiatives which participants can implement in their home communities, reflections on the 7 days of the programme, and the expression night where participants performed and shared with one another.



Arrival and Registration



On the 3rd of August, all the participants arrived from Japan, Mainland China, and Hong Kong. Most of the Japanese participants travelled by plane to the Hong Kong International Airport and had a bus arranged by the Committee to LPC accompanied by organizers. The Mainland participants took various transportations either by bus, train, or plane to Hong Kong International Airport or Shenzhen Airport accompanied by organizers. The Hong Kong participants took local trains and buses to LPC. Then, they had registration where they submitted their Consent Form, Health Form, ID Card/Passport copies and travel insurance copies. They also had their temperatures checked while they received their name tags, program booklet, buddy group arrangements and room arrangements. Simple introductory name games were played and a campus tour was given by the LPC organizers. All the participants were excited to come to the conference and the organizers were able to conduct registration smoothly.

After the participants settled in, a Welcoming Dinner followed in the canteen. For this dinner, both participants and organized wore their national costumes. Cultural performances like dragon dance and lion dance were performed. The Conference Coordinators also gave a speech. It was definitely a wonderful start to the Conference.

Trust Building



In order to build trust among the participants and to help them realize the importance of communication, leadership, problem-solving, teamwork and perseverance, the trust building session was held in the morning of 4th August. As the starter activity of the conference in which the participants got to interact with the whole group for the first time, the session holds significant meaning because it is not simply about trust and cooperation, but can also be regarded as the first step towards mutual understanding between different cultures and ultimately the friendship of the participants.

Four games were introduced to the participants. The first one was an introductory game called the “Mingle Mingle”. In this game, participants were formed into different groups according to their different characteristics, such as their ages, interests, family backgrounds, as the game progresses.

In the second game, the “Blind Circle”, the participants formed into circles and in each circle one person was picked to close his/her eyes and walk freely in the circle. This was a scary task, but it built up the trust between the participants.

The third game was called the “Human Circle”. After sitting on the chairs and making a circle, participants were asked to lie on the laps of the person behind them with their upper bodies. The chairs were then taken away one by one until all

participants in the circle were supported by each other. The participants seemed nervous at the beginning when the first few chairs were taken away. But as the game proceeded, they showed determination to achieve the final goal of lying on each other's laps without any external support and completing the human circle.

The fourth game, "Walking on the Chairs", required the participants to first form a big circle on the chairs and then walk on them. Again, the chairs would be taken away one by one, and participants had to continue walking on the chairs. The participants were not confident in the safety of the game and were unwilling to walk at first, but as more and more chairs were taken away, they started to pick up the pace and cooperate with each other.

After each game, a debriefing session was given to explain the purpose of the game. While most participants found the games very challenging, they also reflected that they enjoyed the session. Despite knowing each other for only one day, the participants showed a higher familiarity and were more active in talking to one another after the session.

Language and Cultural Sharing Session



The Language and Culture Sharing Session served as an introductory activity on sharing and discussion among the Buddy Groups (which the participants were divided into previously). This

session provided an open platform for the participants to share aspects of their own personal and cultural backgrounds. This session served as an ice-breaker activity and it allowed the participants to have an understanding of each other's personal and cultural backgrounds, thus allowing them to bond better throughout the conference.

In each group, the six participants and three Buddy Group leaders were given 5-10 minutes to present their cultural experiences with the help of an item or PowerPoint presentation that they had prepared in advance. The session was designed as a casual and informal sharing, where participants and Buddy Group leaders could exchange ideas freely as long as the comments were respectful. Since this is the first sharing session the participants experienced at the conference, Buddy Group leaders were asked to first share their own experiences so as to open up the discussion. During the sharing session, most participants were well-prepared and were already eager to share with their peers. In one group a Japanese participant shared traditional snacks with others and in another a Japanese participant taught her group the traditional art of Furoshiki gift wrapping. Some Chinese participants brought silk and paintings to show. Others used PowerPoint slideshows to show architecture and festivals from their hometowns. In short, many participants were active in asking each other questions in English for clarification and sharing their opinions and thoughts on different cultural items. The small groups were adequate for personal sharing and the informal atmosphere also helped create a space where all could contribute freely.

This session was also greatly beneficial for the organizers in grasping the participants' fields of interests and fluency in English. Through lively discussions, the groups were able to make the first step to mutual understandings and further establishing their friendships.

Media Bias and History Timeline Session



Media Bias Session

The Media Bias Session was immediately followed by the History Timeline Session. This was to link the concept of media and history together to show how history is formed by media standing the test of time.

This one-hour session aimed to introduce the concept of media bias in preparation for the History Timeline Session. The participants took part in two activities in order to better their understanding of bias.

Activity 1: Crime Scenario

In groups of 4, students wrote short articles; they were given a crime scenario and a personality (Police officer, Shopkeeper etc) to assume. They then compared how their positions affected their articles. The crime scenario allowed the participants to understand that even when viewing the same incident, different perspective will give rise to bias in reporting.

Activity 2: Beijing Olympics

After seeing a slide show of photos to trigger their memory, participants shared what they remembered from the 2008 Beijing Olympics opening ceremony. Some recalled suspicions of

fake performances, others about human rights movements and the disruption of the torch relay. They discussed how their individual environments might have affected the topics and facts they knew of.

The written and oral activities were a success as they helped participants to get involved in the way they felt most comfortable. Students enjoyed these activities.

History Timeline Session

The objective of this session was to use textbooks and their own knowledge to shed light on the different perspectives on historical events. The task was completed in two groups, each with 3 students from Mainland China, 4 or 5 from Hong Kong and 7 or 8 from Japan.

Firstly, the 3 regional groups were given 1 hour to construct separate timelines for the years 1900-1971. They then selected significant events and posted the name and content on the timeline on the board.

Based on the completed timeline, participants were given time to voice their thoughts. The main focus was on the Twenty-one Demands and Nanjing Massacre. They compared not only the use of wording, but also the emphasis (number of lines, abundance of sources) put on the incident. Many expressed that it was eye opening for them to see photos and statistics that differed to –or was not mentioned (ex. 731 Unit)– in their textbooks.

To conclude, both groups came together to reflect on the discussion. They realised the difficulty in obtaining ‘unbiased’ information. They also became enthusiastic with the coming Guangdong trip where they can observe Mainland China with their own eyes. Participants had thoughtful comments to share, coming to a general consensus that the awareness of other perspectives is crucial for seeking truth.

Professor Hamashita's Guest Lecture



Professor Takeshi Hamashita, who visited the conference on 4th of August, shared his researches on globalization along with the diversity and mobility of regional economic relations within East Asia focusing specifically on the example of the Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corporation. His speech entitled “East Asia Economics through Historical Perspectives” covered the territorial identities of China and Japan taking examples from history to highlight his observations on regional economic development. Using the flying geese model, he was able to present an interesting algorithm to analyze China’s economics. From Professor Hamashita’s personal anecdotes from his journey around East Asia and his academically profound topic, most of the participants said his speech was very stimulating. Many of them applied his theory in conference discussion.

Guangdong Fieldtrip



In order to provide a first-hand experience of Mainland China and allow participants to experience the human touch through community interaction, the organizers included a two-day fieldtrip to Dongguan in the Guangdong Province in the programme.

The two-day fieldtrip took place on the 5th and 6th of August and consisted of four main parts - a lecture given by Professor Liang Yunxiang from the Peking University, a sharing session given by Mr. Ryotaro Harada, the founder of Joy in Action (JIA), a visit to the Japanese factory Konica Minolta in Dongguan City and a visit to the Jianyu Village in Zengcheng. While Professor Liang’s lecture aimed to provide the participants with information on the econ-political issues in the Sino-Japanese relations from the academic viewpoint, the visit to Konica Minolta Factory gave them a first-hand experience of the social-economic reality of grass-root workers in South China. As well, the visit to one of the villages for ex-leprosy patients, Jianyu Village, and the personal sharing given by Mr. Harada on volunteering for Jianyu villagers and other disadvantaged communities promoted the UWC values of intercultural understanding, community services and youth initiatives.



The introduction to the Guangdong trip was held in the evening of 4th August. Cautions for traveling to Mainland China and visiting the remote JIA leprosy village, and information on Professor Liang's lecture and Mr. Harada's sharing were provided for the participants. They were then given time to plan for their performances at the JIA village. With the help of organizers, the participants held efficient discussions and decided on the performances ranging from traditional Chinese dances to singing performance. All in all, this session served well to introduce the participants to the objectives and the programme of the Guangdong trip.



Professor Liang's Guest Lecture



The two-hour lecture by Professor Liang Yunxiang from the Peking University called "Implications and Lessons of the Normalization of Sino-Japan" provided us with insights on Sino-Japanese relations after the Second World War and the process of solving various political issues to regain a cooperative relationship through the efforts of the two countries since 1971. His lecture not only focused on the economic and political aspects of the normalization of Sino-Japanese relations, but also brought up the different problems to be solved in the future. In the subsequent thirty-minute-long Q&A session, many participants showed high interest and asked many questions to the professor. Many participants found the lecture inspiring and they enjoyed the time to interact personally with Professor Liang in a less formal setting. Also, they found that the lecture introduced them to many ideas related to Sino-Japanese political history with high academic depth.

Mr. Harada's Sharing Session



Following Professor Liang's lecture, Mr. Ryotaro Harada, the founder of the non-profit organization Joy In Action(JIA/家) shared his experience in the work camps at the villages for ex-leprosy patients. He devoted his life to volunteering at the villages in China and married a Chinese volunteer. This session also provided participants with a deeper understanding on one of those villages they were going to visit on the following day. His wife, Mrs. Harada, also attended the sharing session and helped translate his presentation into Mandarin. From his childhood to circumstances in his life that inspired him to participate in the work camps, Mr. Harada shared with the participants his personal life and thoughts, which many commented were very inspiring. As quoted from a Japanese participant, "Mr. Harada's speech was life-changing!" Many of the participants even asked Mr. Harada different possibilities to take part in JIA action in the banquet dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Harada that followed after the session, where they could talk with them in a casual setting.

After the dinner, participants continued their performance practices under the assistance of the organizers. The performance groups, motivated by

Mr. Harada's example, enjoyed their time not only in preparing to bring joy to the villagers, but also bonding among themselves. As Mr. Harada's motto goes, "Do what you love with the people you love".

As seen from the enthusiasm and compassion in the participants during their visit to the village the next day, the sharing session was a successful programme that constructed to the participants a solid image of what community interaction beyond national borders means to volunteers and people they serve for.

Visit to Japanese Factory Konica Minolta in Dongguan City



On the second day of the trip, we visited one of the Konica Minolta Factories in Shilong. After a short presentation on the geography and products of the company, participants had a twenty-minute visit of the factory's production line. The product-line visit gave the participants a good idea of the working conditions and welfare of the workers.

After the tour, they had about half an hour to ask questions to the Japanese and Chinese managers which range from labour management to employee welfare, and from marketing to company operations in regards to current affairs.

Among the many questions raised in the Q&A session, a participant asked a question concerning the Fu Shi Kang Incident where some

young Chinese migrant workers committed suicide due to resentment on the factory's management, low wage and long working hours. In response, the managers explained the humanitarian concern of Konica Minolta in terms of the the high-standard welfare of the workers and the company's efforts in providing a good working environment, and gave examples of how the factory implemented their caring philosophy for workers by different means.

A senior Japanese manager and board member ended the session with a short but inspirational note to all the participants and organizers with his personal experience as a Japanese staff who received help from Chinese colleagues when he first came to China fifteen years ago, hoping that they would cherish the valuable opportunity of making friends across borders at such a young age. This factory visit allowed participants to experience first-hand the development of Sino-Japanese economic interactions and the strategic locations of Dongguan City where many Japanese factories are situated.

Visit to Jianyu Village in Zengcheng



The team proceeded to one of the JIA villages, Jianyu Village, after the visit to Konica Minolta Factory. This visit aimed to introduce to the participants a different perspective towards the social development of Mainland China through

showing concern for a disadvantaged community after half a century of isolation from the urban area. The performances that the participants had prepared and organized took part an activity room. The mix of Chinese and Japanese participants in all cultural performances gave both the participants and the villagers a refreshing experience of intercultural understanding and strengthened the bonding between the participants. During the show, the participants, villagers, JIA staff and organizers joined different performances and cheered for each other. At the end of the show, one of the villagers sang to express his sincerest gratitudes.

A thirty-minute home visit followed after the performance and the participants visited the villagers' home in their Buddy Groups. They had chance to communicate with the villagers with the help of local JIA volunteers so that they were able to obtain first-hand impression of their life in the village. Thanks to Mr. Harada's sharing on the previous day, the participants were able to mentally prepare for their volunteer work and were ever more curious about the villagers' life stories, which the villagers were also eager to share. Many of them were shocked by the living conditions and the old buildings, which inspired them even more to participate in volunteer work for the villagers and many others who are in need. All in all, the feedbacks were positive and some participants initiated poster- and message-card-writing to the villagers the day after they returned to Hong Kong.

Summary of Guangdong Fieldtrip

Throughout the trip, the UWC values on intercultural understanding, initiatives and community services were successfully conveyed to the participants, as seen from their eagerness to learn from Professor Liang, Mr. Harada and the managers of Konica Minolta Factory, as well as their enthusiasm and compassion towards the Jianyu villagers. As well, the first-hand impressions of South China, the Guangdong Province were also

Education Discussion

established during the trip, including geography, food, dialects and customs. Most significantly, the participants formed stronger bonds throughout the trip as they spent their free time to talk to each other while traveling. For example, some participants helped others with translation while others spoke out more in the group to share their opinions. In short, the learning experiences of the social, economic and political aspects of China, community interactions and the strengthened friendships among the participants not only fulfilled the aims of the conference on humanitarian work and youth empowerment, but also brought an extraordinary experience to both the participants and organizers that shall contribute to the lasting discussion on what is essential to go beyond the cultural and social gaps.

Timetable of the Fieldtrip

8/4/2010 (Wed)

7:15-8:00	Wake up and Breakfast
8:00-12:00	Traveling to Dongguan
12:00-14:00	Hotel check-in/Lunch
14:00-16:00	Prof. Liang's Lecture/Q&A
16:00-16:30	Free Time
16:30-18:00	Mr. Harada's Sharing, JIA Introduction
18:00-19:30	Dinner with Mr. Harada
19:30-20:40	Performance Preparation
20:40-21:00	Buddy Group Sharing Session
21:30-23:00	Performance Preparation

8/5/2010 (Thu)

7:30-9:00	Wake up and Breakfast
9:00-10:00	Bus to Shilong
10:00-11:45	Konica Minolta Factory
11:45-12:45	Bus to Zengcheng
12:45-16:00	Jianyu Village
16:30-18:00	Dinner at a Local Restaurant
16:30-18:00	Traveling back to LPC
22:00-22:30	Buddy Group Sharing Session

The education discussion session provided an opportunity for both Chinese and Japanese participants to get a taste of each other's educational culture and practice.

Mainly divided into three parts, the session started with a mind-showering procedure, with participants raising different characteristics of their education system. The second part was a role play where each had to teach the rest of the group certain things by the way of teaching in their own culture.

These activities served to trigger discussions, which was the last and most important part of the session. The participants touched on the purpose of education, the importance of educational culture in shaping education, what they have learnt in the role plays, and the advantages and disadvantages of each education system. Participants in Hong Kong expressed their concerns towards the education reform and the new system which has just been ongoing for 1 year, and discussed the objectives of it: whether it has achieved the goal of allowing space for creativity in students. The Mainland Chinese participants mainly focused on the amount of technicalities they have had in their system and the mode of teaching. The Japanese participants raised concerns about the form of education in Japan, which allows for minimal student input, and thus puts students in a bad position in terms of critical thinking, when compared to those in other regions.

Throughout the 90-minute session, each participant has contributed ideas and made tremendous effort in the attempt to understand and appreciate each other's culture. Overall, the session was quite successful in arousing the need to respect each other's culture and to reflect what education should be, in the midst of educational controversies in both countries.

Hong Kong Exploration Tour



1. Hong Kong Exploration Tour Preparation

On the August 3rd, there was a preparation session for HK and Mainland participants for 2 hours to brainstorm some ideas for The Exploration Tour with participants from Japan on August 8th. The objective of the preparation session was to allow participants to get involved in session planning and allow them to cooperate with each other. The eager participants thought of many places that can show Hong Kong culture, such as Ladies Street, Blue House in Wan Chai, and Wong Tai Sin Temples.

2. Hong Kong Exploration Tour

On August 7th when all the participants traveled and explored around Hong Kong based on the ideas formed by the Hong Kong and Chinese participants, the objective of the session to allow participants to experience Hong Kong lifestyle, culture and allow them to cooperate with each other was achieved. The organizers accompanied the Buddy Groups around Hong Kong and the session coordinator did regular phone checks to ensure the participants' safety. During the tour, The HK

participants took the lead and brought other participants around Hong Kong. The participants went to Ladies' Street for shopping, Cha Chaan Teng for lunch and crossed the harbor by ferry. They enjoyed the whole trip very much.

Reunion Dinner



In order to continue the connection of the participants and organizers from conference 2009 with conference 2010, as well as to provide an opportunity for all the participants and organizers to share their experiences and exchange ideas, the Reunion Dinner took place on 7th August. At this Reunion Dinner, the past participants shared their stories and experiences from last year's conference with this year's participants over dinner. In general, the Reunion Dinner stressed the importance of continuing the Sino-Japanese friendships established during the conference, and creating bonds between the older and younger generations of participants.

Outline of the Dinner Program

- ❖ Introduction of last year's participants and organizers
- ❖ Warm-up exercise, led by one 2010 participant and one 2009 participant
- ❖ Photo slideshow of conference 2009
- ❖ Dinner (two past participants sat in each table and shared their stories from last year's conference with current participants)
- ❖ Mingling time (2010 participants and 2009 participants mingled, got to know each other, took photos, and exchanged their contact information)

The Reunion Dinner created strong friendships and ensured the continuity of the conference. This year's participants had interesting conversations with last year's participants, and were inspired to support the conference in the future and in return, like the past participants, to pass on the tradition of Sino-Japanese youth friendships. The warm-up exercise created team spirit between the two generations of participants, and the slideshow offered this year's participants a glimpse of what the conference was like the year before. Eating together and chatting offered everyone the chance to know one another.

This event in Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2010 was not only successfully held but also meaningful. Participants of SJYC 2010 were made aware of the importance of continuing the cross-cultural friendships that was nurtured in the conference and ensuring the continuity of Sino-Japan Youth Conference in the future.

Commemoration for Peace



The Commemoration for Peace Sharing Session was held in the evening of 7^h August. This event was held to give participants an opportunity to share personal stories that they had heard from their family, relatives, or friends about the war. The sharing session aimed to provide a safe space where participants from the three regions can share with each other their stories and opinions, through which they can reflect not only on the past and future of Sino-Japan relations, but also on their roles as young people in the whole picture.

Building on last year's success, the Commemoration for Peace sharing session was held again but with a few small modifications. Whereas there were fifteen participants in one group, this year there were three groups with ten participants in each group. It was hoped that with smaller groups, better time management and more in-depth sharing from the participants can be resulted. Also, the participants were encouraged to speak in English as a way to solve last year's problem of time-consuming interpretation that might result in a loss of concentration in the participants. However, since not all the participants spoke fluent English, one of the three groups was designed to consist of participants with lower English ability. More translators were assigned to this group to offer help when needed. This arrangement hoped to help these participants gain confidence in communicating in

English by providing them with a comfortable environment to do so, since these participants seldom spoke out, but many of them in fact understood English well.

After gathering in the lecture room for a brief introduction, the participants were divided into three groups and led to smaller rooms respectively. Following last year's format, in each room, lights were turned off, candles were lit, and the sharing session took place in the form of a "Power Circle" to create a space for participants to feel safe in and respected by one another. In the "Power Circle", only the person who had the candle in their hands might speak voluntarily. This is to ensure that those in the circle engage in sharing and understanding – not confrontation or debate. After each story, there was a moment of silence to reflect before the candle was passed on to the next person in the circle.

The sharing session lasted for about one and half hour. The participants were prepared for sharing their stories and after hearing each others' stories of grief and loss, they were also able to reflect on the scarred past of the Sino-Japan relations. This sharing session was an emotionally overwhelming experience. Tears were shed when stories were told. What was remarkable, however, was that the participants expressed their determination to build a positive relationship between the countries in order to achieve a more peaceful global community and ensure that these atrocities never happen again. Moreover, through listening to each others' stories, the participants seem to be able to see beyond borders as they empathize with "a common ground for humanity" when sharing their hopes for the future. The stories and memories shall serve as painful reminders of the past for the future.

After the "Power Circle", the participants gathered again to watch a slideshow of images of wars and on-going conflicts in Sino-Japan relations, and of Sino-Japan cooperation on both political and grass-root levels. Quotes on world peace and youth

initiatives were also included in coherence with SJYC's objective of youth empowerment. As the participants sat in silence, with candles in their hands, the slideshow provided a space for the participants to reflect on the painful memories they had heard and the power they possess as the young generation. Wars and conflicts continued to inflict endless pain and sorrow upon people all over the world, but it is the determination to join hands that brings hope and peace to the world. As one of the quotes said, "What can we do? We ARE the answer" said a Japanese participant.

It seemed that the sharing session and the slideshow were a success as the participants did not only show high empathy, but they also seemed to build a much stronger bond through a shared sense of obligation to work together for world peace. The participants remained in the room after the slideshow, hugged each other and formed a tight circle where they shouted words like "build a better world!" with smiles and tears on their faces. However small or even insignificant the steps of attempting to move forward from the past into a constructive future may be, the warmth, hope and the sense of urgency that the participants felt already accomplished the goal of the session, as SJYC believes that small changes make big differences in the world. As a participant from Mainland China said, "The Peace Commemoration really touched the core of Sino-Japan relationship." Another participant from Japan also commented that she would "never forget the Peace Commemoration session."

Emotions were intense on the night of the Commemoration for Peace session. Regarding the settling of emotions, a buddy group reflection session was held in the following morning. One of the buddy group leaders remarked that the participants in her group were exceptionally calm, and she could tell that "everyone grew somehow and became more frank and mature." Still, the intensity of emotions after the "Power Circle"

Initiatives Planning



should not be overlooked. On top of the availability of organizers to whom they could always talk to if they wished, a suggestion to the management of emotions is to ask the participants to spend some time to write down their thoughts on their personal journals right after the session.

Concerning the grouping arrangement, the goals of efficient time management and encouragement of English communications were achieved. Those who seldom spoke due to language barrier did speak out during the sharing session and were seen to be more comfortable with using the language afterwards. However, as the participants reflected afterwards, some participants felt that the two other groups had more in-depth sharing. In retrospect, the problem of translation and time management may be not as important as the content of sharing. Participants should choose which language they felt comfortable with using, and translation would be available. After all, understanding language barrier is also a part of what sharing means.

All in all, the Commemoration for Peace session not only provided a safe space where the participants were able to share and listen to stories of loss, but it also inspired the participants to contemplate the deeper meanings of Sino-Japan cooperation, world peace and youth empowerment. As they found out that they gained not only a deeper sense of empathy and urgency but also a new understanding of their peers, the participants should be able to see that the achievement of the ideal of world peace in fact starts from very small things in life – friendships based on sincerity, respect and mutual understanding, and acts as simple and fundamental as caring and loving our surrounding world.

Almost five hours of the last day were spent on Initiative Planning Session, where participants came together to brainstorm, share ideas, and present briefly about what they wished to do after attending this conference. Organizers first asked the participants for their ideas on what they could do to promote Sino- Japan Youth Conference values in their own countries. They came up with a list of projects they could work on, including ideas such as fundraising for Joy in Action, presentations on Sino- Japanese relations in schools, and sustaining communication between the participants. Then, the large group was divided into three regional groups (Mainland China, Japan, Hong Kong) and the participants brainstormed about how these ideas could be realistically carried out in their own region. After a short break, they then formed three groups of participants from each region to brainstorm about each project.

The aim of allocating time to such a session was for participants to see the last day of the conference as not an end, but as a beginning. As the 2010 SJYC slogan was “Future for Young Neighbors”, and Youth Empowerment was an integral element of our focus, this session served to promote initiations by the participants after the conference, so they could learn to equip themselves

with the ability to carry out your visions and ideals. This session also allowed for discussion by participants on how to contribute to the organization of SJYC, which proved important to sustain the development of our organization. Below is a short summary of the content of discussion for each regional group.

1. Mainland China Group

In the small group discussion, PRC participants focused on possible ways of taking initiatives after they go back to their high schools. The ideas they had were related to the ones in the large group discussion. However, instead of Pen pal, for example, a participant came up with an idea of building sister schools between China and Japan. Some practical suggestions and procedures were shared within the small group. Every member in the group also talked about their own initiatives and plans. The most important is that all PRC participants seem to be enthusiastic about taking actions after SJYC 2010.

2. Hong Kong Group

The Hong Kong participants were very active in brainstorming ideas for their own initiatives of how to spread SJYC in their own communities. They all felt that they had gained a lot from the conference and were determined to share their experiences and feelings with others, hence this became the major topic of their discussion. Ideas such as writing up articles and sending them to newspapers such as Young Post from South China Morning Post, starting up a Wordpress website where everyone could write their blogs and upload them for public viewing were brought up. They also talked about holding sharing sessions during their morning assemblies in their own schools and if possible, have a joint school sharing session. Last but not least, they were all very eager in promoting our future conferences and requested organizers to send them information once they confirm the details.

3. Japan Group

Much of the discussion and brainstorming of the Japan regional group was on how to plan the SJYC reporting session at the start of September in Kanto area and Kansai area respectively. The participants decided on a representative who would be responsible for leading the preparation for each reporting session, and brainstormed about the things they would like to present about to their parents, friends, and other adult advisors to SJYC. Productive discussion led to a decision on the time, place, and content of the reporting session. They also made a time schedule to meet post conference to continue their planning.



The whole Initiative Planning session went on well with plenty of ideas and passion. Participants kept Sino-Japan friendship and practical plans in mind from the beginning, big group discussion, to splitting up into regional groups, and to the end, working on initiatives after regrouping. In the end when the three project groups presented about what they wished to initiate, we could see how the participants were making small but meaningful steps from SJYC. We could also see the thinking process in which the participants came to the belief that it is important to inquire what we as youths can do to better society, which was a vital aim of this year's conference.

Cookery for the Final Dinner



The cookery session aimed to provide a chance for the participants to experience and share Chinese and Japanese culinary cultures, as well as an interactive learning opportunity that further establishes cross-cultural friendships.

Using the ingredients provided by the canteen of LPCUWC, Japanese and Chinese organizers prepared half of the food, Chinese dumplings and sushi, beforehand to ensure that they taste good and to allow the participants more time for practicing for their performances for the final dinner. Two tables were set up for making dumplings and sushi respectively, and regardless of nationalities all the participants were able to try them both. A Japanese participant commented that it was his first time to make both sushi and dumplings, and to make them with friends from the two countries added a deeper meaning to cookery for him. Both the participants and organizers had a good time doing cooking together, and many of them were creative in making dumplings into various shapes and sushi of different ingredient combinations.

With everyone's effort, five hundred dumplings and sushi were made for the final dinner. On top of the good taste, the process of accomplishing things as ordinary as food also taught the participants the importance of cross-cultural cooperation while having fun. Sharing culinary cultures, after all, is a good way to unite people.

Free Expression Night



The Free Expression Night was the last major session in the conference. During daytime, participants formed groups and prepared performances of up to 10 minutes each. The Night started off with 3 organizers dancing to the beats of a pop song, hyping up the participants and bringing them into mood. A variety of performances by both participants and organizers followed. With dances, singing, drum beating and even a "cup beating" rhythm show, the conference was brought to an emotional high. Nonetheless, elements from both Chinese and Japanese culture were surprisingly well-incorporated into some of the performances, which directly echoed the cultural aspect of the Conference. Seeing the smiles and tears on the faces of participants, it was evident that participants enjoyed the show not only as an entertainment, but as a bridge to understand and experience the very beauty of a foreign culture. After a short break, the organizers held hands and tuned in to the theme song of the conference. The participants, moved, then received certificates from the organizers with smiles and tears. The session was then concluded with a back-writing activity: participants were given a piece of paper, which they stuck on their back, and a pen, which they used to write on others' back. Overall, the Night was successful in concluding the conference with a final sentimental touch.

Buddy Group System



During the conference, each participant was assigned into a buddy group that consists of participants from Japan, Hong Kong and the mainland China. Facilitated by three organizers from each region respectively, buddy groups played an essential role in helping the participants develop trust amongst the group and hence create a comfort zone for the participants to exchange their thoughts and feelings throughout the conference. Buddy group sessions were normally scheduled at the end of each day's program, allowing participants to share with each other their reflections on what they had learnt from the programmes on that day.

Apart from encouraging personal growth and bonding among the buddies, buddy group was also an effective way for organizers to take care of participants. For instance, participants were encouraged to approach their leaders if they had any personal problems concerning language barriers, cultural shock, interactions, health conditions, to name a few. Buddy group leaders could then follow up on them or refer them to other organizers who are in charge of participants' mental or medical support.

Throughout the conference, there was a substantial change in the participants' expressions and willingness to speak up within the buddy group.

At the beginning, many participants seemed reserved. Yet as the conference progressed, stronger bonds were established thanks to regular buddy group meetings and a small group size. By the end of the conference, the participants were comfortable with sharing their many thoughts and feelings with each other in their buddy groups. In terms of openness, understanding, and motivation towards the cause of Sino-Japan cooperation, the participants also showed considerable growth. As a buddy group leader commented, she felt that "they were experiencing a mini-UWC, which is only between China and Japan, for only a week". SJYC was a significant event for most of them compared to other camps they had gone through before.

To sum up, the buddy group system allowed a supportive peer system and provided the participants with casual reflection and sharing time on a regular basis. The participants were able to see both their own and others' growth, thus deepening the bonds between them. The participants learned a lot different cultures and ways of thinking. More importantly, they built enduring friendship across cultures and borders, marking the first step towards the bigger goal of Sino-Japan cooperation as well as world peace.

Departure and Deregistration

On August 9 the participants and organizers, although sad to leave the conference, went with new experiences and dreams in mind. Everyone removed their bed sheets, threw away the garbage from the bins, returned the furniture to their original positions and packed their belongings. Organizers checked their rooms and led them up to deregistration where they collected their valuables which was kept in the security room throughout the conference. Participants also received their deposits back from their acceptance to the conference. Then

a small speech was given by organizers and the participants left the campus by noon accompanied by the organizers. By the way participants and organizers interacted with one another enthusiastically at the end of the conference, everyone felt that the conference was a success.

Post-Conference Presentation Day



In September, there were two Post-Conference Presentation Days held in Japan in order to allow guests and parents to gain a brief insight into the conference. The presentation was prepared entirely by the 2010 participants after the Conference in August during their summer break. The Tokyo Presentation Day, held at K International School, was directed towards external guests and parents whereas the Kyoto Presentation Day, held at Ritsumeiken Uji High School, aimed towards parents, teachers, and a younger audience who may want to take part in the conference in the future. We would like to express our deepest appreciations to these schools for supporting our program and providing us with facilities to hold the reporting sessions.

The students used powerpoint presentations and photos to talk about some of the most memorable sessions and their personal experiences throughout the 7 days. For example, one student

talked about teaching Chinese participants how to tie the Furoshiki, a Japanese wrapping cloth. Another recalled comparing text book descriptions regarding the Nanjing Incident. Each had different impressions, but the Peace Commemoration seemed to have had a great impact upon participants. 'Becoming friends was a blessing in itself' reflected one, after she felt the historical tension that exists between Japan and China.



The students showed their youth initiative when presenting their thoughts about JIA and its founder Mr. Ryotaro Harada. The presentation in Kyoto sought to encourage the audience to reflect upon their roles in society rather than make a factual report. The participants in Tokyo expressed their determination to hold a charity concert in the near future.

During the Q&A session, all participants were asked to share unexpected experiences, and how they changed before and after the conference. They had all learned greatly during the week and all spoke with confidence before the audience.

As clearly shown, such an opportunity to present and convey the experiences that the students went through during the conference acts as another learning process for them. The 13 Japanese participants who planned these sessions were able to reflect upon their unique experience and strengthen their bonds with each other through preparing for this presentation session. Although such an opportunity was only provided in Japan, we hope that a similar event could take place in Mainland China and Hong Kong next year.

7. Guest Lecturers and Guests



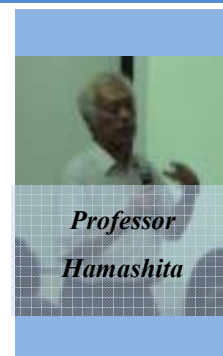
Guest Lecturers



*Professor
Liang*

Peking University Vice Professor, PhD in Law, Yunxiang Liang is specialized in international politics. His academic interests cover politics and diplomacy in Japan, Sino-Japan relations, international laws, with a regional range covered in Northeast Asia with a focus on Japan. His main research papers include politics and diplomacy in Japan during post-cold-war period, the impacts of different development progress between China and Japan on East Asian ideology, and comparative research on nationalism in China and Japan.

Dean of School of Asia Pacific Studies, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou Takeshi Hamashita is a Professor of Chinese economic history. He taught in the Department of Economics at Hitotsubashi University and was a Professor of Center for Southeast Asia Studies, Kyoto University, a Professor of Faculty of International Communication, Ryukoku University and Professor of Sun Yat-sen University. His field covers modern and contemporary Chinese economy, East Asian regional history, relations between China, Japan, and U. S., and Hong Kong studies.



*Professor
Hamashita*

Guests



*Consul General
Mr. Matsunaga*

Mr. Matsunaga visited the Conference on Day 2 generously offered his time again after his first visit to the Conference in 2009. This year, he observed the Language and Culture Sharing Session in which he stated that these grass roots intercultural understanding was vital for a nation-level friendship. Afterwards, he gave a speech at lunch where he also talked to participants at each dining table.

「やりたいことを、やりたい人と。」

“和想做的人一起，做想做的事情”

Mr. Ryotaro Harada, founder of an NGO based in China, Joy In Action, generously visited us during our Guangdong fieldtrip and shared with us his personal stories. His unique experiences and courage to coordinate work camps for university students in China to visit villages in which ex-leprosy patients lived struck the hearts of many. His word, "Do what you love, with the people you love." inspired many participants to have the courage to find and follow their own paths, and his sharing session served as a highlight of the program.



*JIA Founder
Mr. Harada*



8. Financial Report

Income	HKD	Expenditure	HKD
<i>Foundations</i>		<i>Transportation</i>	
The Kamenori Foundation	29,863	Transportation in Hong Kong	1,049
Mitsubishi UFJ Foundation	29,863	Guangdong Transportation	6,334
Sojitz Foundation	29,863	Subsidy for Participants and Organizers' Flights	10,407
<i>Others</i>		<i>Food</i>	
Individual Donations	8,500	Food during the Conference (Catering Company: Sodexho)	39,600
Miscellaneous Income	1,000	Food during the Guangdong Trip	7,215
		Food during Preparation Period	500
		Extra Food for Participants	181
		<i>Postage</i>	
		Welcome Package and Letters	1,745
		<i>Printing</i>	
		Brochures and Certificates	1,242
		<i>Consumable Supplies</i>	
		Stationery (ink, pens, paper)	2,868
		Medical Equipment	516
		<i>Miscellaneous</i>	
		Public Liability Insurance	5,050
		Clothes and Goods	4,631
		Guangdong Trip Agency	13,470
		Gift of Appreciation (Plaques)	492
		Bank Transfer and Exchange	349
		Subsidy for Organizer	511
		Accommodation	
		Additional Subsidies	2,930
Grand Total	99,090	Grand Total	99,090

Individual Donations include:

- ❖ Hong Kong UWC Graduate Organization - Ms. Delpha Ho

The Kamenori Foundation has funded a total of 42,662HKD of which the rest will be used on costs to increase sustainability of the organization throughout the year.

This expenditure will be reported in March.

❖ This table is made with the following currency exchange ratio:

- HKD : JPN = 1: 11.72 (as of July 28th where there is proof by Mitsubishi UFJ Bank)
- HKD: RMB = 1.1511: 1 (as of July 30th where there is proof by Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation)

❖ The calculations for this financial summary have not regarded decimal numbers.

The evidence of spending, receipts, invoices and precise figures are available in Appendix or upon request.



9. Improvements

1. Participants' Feedback
2. Conference Programme
3. Committee Organization

Conference 2010 was a wonderful success with many positive feelings and actions. At the same time, after numerous reflections and evaluations from participants and organizers, many areas of improvement for Conference 2010 were identified in hopes that they can be implemented for Conference 2011.

1. Participants' Feedback: Reflections

Through Peace Commemoration, I learned the importance of the current political issues over the history and the importance of the peace. I will keep it in my memory for a life time.

Talking to the villagers during the trip to JIA village was such a valuable experience.

Every moment was precious, every single word we exchanged with people in the conference were important to me.

Communication in English was my biggest challenge, but when I could exchange thoughts through simple words and gestures, it came back to me as a great accomplishment and reward.

It was hard to accept completely new views and emotions towards my country, but I was glad that we had time to overcome.

Thank you so much for organizing such a wonderful program!

All the people I met there are all amazing in different ways, they are friends I will treasure. I think I was able to change in a good way.

After the conference, I could see what I want to be in the future more clearly, and I feel that I am able to put my thoughts into action.

I think the aim of the conference was reached. SJYC will mean a lot to me

I learned that if I have strong intention to convey something, it is possible.

*Many thanks to the organizers were described in the final questionnaire

2. Participants' Feedback: Questionnaire Table

Overall Program Evaluation	Average Points
1. JIA founder, Mr. Ryotaro Harada's sharing Peace Commemoration	5
2. Visiting JIA village Talent show	4.89
3. Initiative Planning	4.78
Lowest: Guest Professor's Lecture	3.33
Committee Organizer Evaluation	Average Points
1. Availability of the organizers Guangdong trip arrangement Accommodation arrangement	4.89
2. Organization of activities	4.78
3. Transportation arrangement	4.67
Lowest: Availability of Translation	3.56



❖ Questionnaire point system ranked with 5 as the highest score and 1 as the lowest score.

3. Participants' Feedback: Questionnaire Results

❖ Program overview

JIA founder, Mr. Ryotaro Harada's sharing session, and the following JIA village trip left strong impressions in the participants' minds. They learned to "Do what you want, with those who you like," as Mr. Harada said, and put in their action when they enthusiastically communicated with the villagers the next day. As indicated by the participants comments, the Peace Commemoration session had a different atmosphere from other sessions and many participants said it was a life-changing experience. They learned the importance of historical issues and shared various perspectives. On the other hand, many participants felt the Guest Professor's lecture was too difficult and more explanation was needed to reach deeper understandings.

❖ Committee organization

The organizers' accessibility was highly evaluated as the participants were connected closely through Buddy Group sessions, as well as through informal conversations. The arrangements of the Guangdong trip were also highly praised as we were able to provide smooth transportation and accommodation arrangements. However, the comments also showed that availability of translation was low, and it was hard for many to speak up in their own language during the discussion sessions.

4. Conference Program reflection by the committee: How to make the Program activities meaningful for participants



❖ Availability of Translation and Facilitation

Since we only had a one-day preparation period, many organizers were not well equipped to provide facilitation and translation. This made it difficult for participants to ask for translation, or to speak up in their own native language. This could be improved by providing a Facilitation Training by a professional instructor for all organizers prior to the conference.

❖ Guest Lecture Content and Preparation

Many participants felt that they were not well prepared to understand the guest lectures which had content that was more catered towards university level classes. Participants could be better prepared if prior reading assignments are given out, or they are asked to research about the topic before the conference.

❖ Provision of Conference Schedule

This year, as the schedule was not finalized until the end of July, a day-by-day program schedule was not sent to the participants before their arrival. This made it difficult for participants to prepare for the conference. Many commented that if they could get together prior to the conference and learn about the schedule, they could prepare together and gain more out of the actual conference.

❖ Hong Kong Exploration Preparation

Originally the Hong Kong Exploration session was planned to give the Hong Kong Participants a chance to take up responsibility and bring the other participants to explore Hong Kong in their own small groups. But given the short amount of time available for the preparation session and the very packed conference program, we felt that it would be very stressful for the participants to form their own small groups and talk about it during their free time. Hence we asked them to stick to their buddy groups when touring around Hong Kong. Although this enhanced the bonding between buddy group members, it may have limited the chances for participants to interact and bond with others from different buddy groups.

❖ Limited time for performance practices before visiting Xian Village

Students were told beforehand that they would be performing for the villagers. However, due to the very packed program, we did not have time for the participants to rehearse before leaving for Guangdong on the third day. Participants therefore had to rehearse on their own in the very limited hotel space we had in Guangdong the night before the visit. This greatly reduced the time participants could prepare for the performances as well as limited the interaction amongst participants.

❖ Large Group Sharing Sessions

Throughout the conference, the majority of the sharing among participants was done in their buddy groups. This limited the exchange of information between buddy groups. For example, some participants wanted to make a card to give it back to the Xian villagers, but the idea was only brought up on the last day and there was not enough time for the participants to work on it. If a large group sharing session could be held halfway through the conference, it may provoke the exchange of ideas which participants could start to work on.

❖ Dinner with SJYC 2009 Participants

This session was planned in order to allow SJYC 2009 participants to reconnect with SJYC as well as share their past experiences with the SJYC 2010 participants and motivate them. Although the dinner went well and the participants from both years seemed to enjoy the discussions, the discussions were relatively superficial. In the future, organizers could meet and communicate with the SJYC 2009 participants before the dinner just to specify the purpose of the session.

❖ Initiative Planning Session

This year, participants were a lot more enthusiastic about starting their own initiatives after the conference. We gave the participants a whole morning to discuss as a group, both regionally and according to their own interests, but it seemed that there was not enough time for them to go in to the details and start working on the initiatives. Also, organizers would have the time to pass on some skills on how to plan and implement projects.



5. *Committee Organization reflection by the committee: How to make the Committee more effective and united*

- ❖ **To increase the preparation period:** The preparation period was for one-day, but this was not enough time for organizers to bond and communicate for the arrival of the participants on the next day.
- ❖ **To decrease the number of Hong Kong organizers for the conference:** The ratio of Hong Kong organizers in comparison to Japan or Mainland China organizers was very high due to the need for Hong Kong organizers for conference administrative works, however the administrative works can be done by less people
- ❖ **To recruit organizers earlier during the year:** Some organizers were only recruited during summer of 2010 just before the conference but this meant that organizers had different awareness of the year preparation and affected conference communication
- ❖ **To have a clear organizational structure:** This would allow organizers to know their roles and have a better expectation of what to expect from the conference. This would also let organizers know who to communicate to and how the decision making process is made
- ❖ **For organizers to be aware of LPC administration's expectations:** Not only is it important to understand the LPC teachers' expectations but also the administration. For example, organizers' needed to be more aware that the block residences needed to be tidied up



10. Conference 2011

“Progress is impossible without change”

- George Bernard Shaw

1. Introduction to 2011

The Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2011 aims at helping participants from China and Japan acknowledge and celebrate their cultural differences, inspiring them to create a strong basis for future actions that benefit Sino-Japanese relations. In order to foster a more harmonious relationship between the two countries, we will provide Chinese and Japanese youth with opportunities to broaden their views on Sino-Japanese relations by sharing cultural and historical perspectives, overcoming language barriers, and building lasting friendships.

The participants of the conference will experience deep cultural exchange for mutual understandings. As in previous years, a visit to a remote village in Guangdong Province which displays the problems of social discrimination and poverty will be organized. We expect that the participants will learn from the complexity of issues from the experience and the different perspectives of guest speakers.

A new session on critical thinking will require participants to examine and evaluate assumptions, in order for them to arrive at conclusions on unbiased grounds. This prevents them from drawing unwarranted generalizations, and helps them to understand the raised questions or problems in more reasonable and reflective ways. Through this session, participants will be able to think in wider perspectives for the construction of reasonable arguments, which will be essential for the Sino-Japan discussions later during the conference.

One of this year’s conference’s highlights, the peace commemoration session provides them with a platform to share each other’s grief. The session is not for confrontation or historical debates, but a safe space where youth from both countries can share their sincere feelings and be respected by one another.

During the past conferences, this session has been an emotionally evoking experience with the voices showing the determination to build a positive relationship between the two countries.

We hope that the participants will bring the messages of peace to their home communities after the conference and that they will continue to be committed to peace-building not only between China and Japan, but also internationally, fulfilling the goal of the UWC movement. As well, through initiative planning, the participants will be encouraged to take actual actions towards the goal of peace.

The Sino-Japan Youth Conference 2011 is set in early August 2011.

2. Overview

Organizer: Li Po Chun United World College (LPC)

Time: Early August, 2011

People: 15 Chinese and 15 Japanese, and organizers from the United World Colleges (tentative)

Coordinators: Kevin Chong, LPC Coordinator; Amika Matsui, Japan Coordinator; Connie Zhang, Mainland China Coordinator

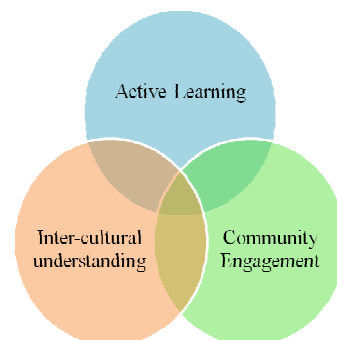
Supervisor: Dr. Stephen Codrington, Principal, LPC

Status: Community Service, CAS programme, International Baccalaureate

Conference 2011 will emphasize the importance of “learning” as a youth for the better understandings of the world and for taking actions.

The following three aspects will be the focus:

- ❖ Active Learning
- ❖ Intercultural Understanding
- ❖ Community Engagement



3. Changes from the Conference 2010 to 2011

The conference 2011 will have the following changes:

(a) A Change in the Focus

In addition to communication which had been emphasized in the past conferences, critical thinking and mutual understanding, two ideals of UWC education, will be stressed in SJYC 2011. A new session on critical thinking will require participants to examine and evaluate assumptions, in order for them to arrive at conclusions on unbiased grounds. This prevents them from drawing unwarranted generalizations, and helps them to understand the raised questions or problems in more reasonable and reflective ways. The aim of this session would be to appreciate problems and information that we face, to evaluate and to understand them correctly in order to taking effective actions. Therefore, “Active Learning,” in addition to last year’s Youth Empowerment, will be the focuses of SJYC 2011.

(b) Organizational Structure Change

A Mainland Chinese team will be formed for SJYC 2011, and all three teams (Hong Kong, Japan, Mainland China) will be divided into three sub-teams, namely the Administration Team, the Funds Team and the Application and Promotion Team.

4. Messages from the Coordinators

The two past conferences have provided us with insights as to the ways to carry out a successful conference. Having observed the short-comings of the previous conferences, we have had a major change in the organizational structure, which we think will benefit the operation more.

The Conference 2010 was a tremendous success, having improved a lot from the first conference. With the coordination amongst three regions, the Conference 2011 will be re-developed to better suit the theme and the participants’ benefits.

5. Preparation Timetable

Time	Details
November 2010	Start Promotion
January 2011	Application Opens
March 2011	Deadline of Chinese Application
April 2011	Deadline of Japanese Application
Summer 2011	Welcome Package Finalized
Early August 2011	Conference 2011

This is our envisioned timetable for the year.

6. Contact Information



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Details will be available in the Proposal 2011.

11. Conclusion



The Sino- Japan Youth Conference of 2010 served as a space of learning, of bonding, of sharing and of dreaming. The initial conference aims of bridging the youths of Japan and China through dialogue and empowerment were realized with the help of countless advisors, funding supporters and past organizers.

The 30 participants from Japan, Mainland China and Hong Kong and 35 organizers all came out of this one year and 7-day program with a renewed determination to spread the Sino- Japan Youth Conference values that weave together people of different values and cultures; understanding each another through dialogue, engaging with outside communities, and contributing to society through the energy of youth initiations.

The program started with sessions for participants to share their own cultural background and discussions on history textbooks to highlight bias. The two-day Guangdong trip served as an opportunity for participants to engage with the rural communities of Mainland China and to deepen their awareness of local issues. The Peace Commemoration session instilled a lasting determination for peace in each individual. The Initiative Planning session allowed them to think about how they wished to take these experiences forward and to directly contribute to the societies in China and Japan. The actualization of Reporting Sessions in Japan show that the participants are determined to spread their awareness and belief in these Sino- Japan Youth Conference values to others.

The Sino- Japan Youth Conference Committee 2010 hopes that the personal bonds created this summer will remain strong and that it will give rise to a societal phenomenon of youth initiatives and improvements for society. It looks forward to the actualization of Sino- Japan Youth Conference 2011, and to the individual personal growth and initiatives of the 2010 participants.

Further Resources

- ❖ Conference Proposal
- ❖ Welcome Package
- ❖ Programme Booklet
- ❖ Consent Form
- ❖ Application Form
- ❖ Conference Brochures and Posters
- ❖ Details of organisers and participants reflections
- ❖ Conference Proposal
- ❖ List of Participants and organizers
- ❖ Details of Financial Spending
- ❖ Receipts and invoices of expenditures

Contact Details

All documentations are available upon request.

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Sino Japan Youth Conference 2010

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This Final Report was compiled by the Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee in September 2010.



*"Do what you love, with the
people you love."*

- *Mr .Ryotaro Harada*
NGO Joy In Action Founder

“やりたいことを、やりたい人と。”

“和想做的人一起，做想做的事情。”



Supporters

Organizer: Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong

Supporters: Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong, United World College International Office (London), Japan National Committee for UWCs

Sponsors: The Kamenori Foundation, Sojitz Foundation, Mitsubishi UFJ Foundation, UWC Graduate Organisation Hong Kong

Secretariat: Sino-Japan Youth Conference Committee