



From Kumamoto University to the World

Days of hard work with friends for research and philanthropy

Daiki Ishiguro, 3rd year undergraduate student, Faculty of Law

Daiki Ishiguro studied law at University of the Pacific, California from September 2011 through May 2012. "Learning first-hand the realities of contemporary American society through classes and student activities gave me a global perspective," says Daiki.

When I was a student in high school, a senior at the school told me about his experience of studying in New York. This motivated me to aspire to help people around the world through my work, so, I set my sights on entering the legal profession and became interested in studying abroad. While taking law at Kumamoto University, I decided to head overseas to study at the University of the Pacific, which is renowned for the excellence of its legal education, under a scholarship provided by the Japan Student Services Organization.

I studied alongside students in the "Pacific Legal Scholars Program," all of whom had high aspirations to become jurists. Most of the faculty members were active judges and lawyers who shared with us their real-world knowledge about recent cases and judicial decisions in the U.S.A.

Studying at an American university, I found my intensive learning about Japanese law at Kumamoto University to be extremely valuable. Japan and the United States have very different legal structures; the Japanese legal system is founded on "continental law" that has its origins in Germany and

France, which is based on "statutory law," while the U.S. legal system is based on "case law." Thanks to the solid foundation I had built at Kumamoto University, I was able to make comparisons between the Japanese and U.S. legal structures and gain a deeper understanding of them. Also, even while studying in California, I received advice from me actively pursue my studies.

Outside of classes, I joined a university fraternity called "Phi Alpha Delta." The fraternity is a social organization with a long history and chapters located in various parts of the world, and some prominent figures belonged to it. Through volunteer activities such as running a soup kitchen for the homeless, I learned about the realities of the nation and strengthened my ties with fellow members. Looking ahead, I hope to become qualified as a lawyer in both Japan and the United States and to work in the fields of corporate legal affairs and intellectual property.



Daiki Ishiguro(center) with Dr. Thomas D. Brierton (left) (Associate Professor, Labor Law) and Dr. Laurie Lichter-Heath (Lecturer, Business Law), at a dinner with faculty members.



Fostering friendship with fraternity members through volunteer activities (front-left).