

I Love the Academic Atmosphere of Kumamoto University!

Xu, Zijie
Faculty of Law

Mr. Xu Zijie is an exchange student from Guangdong Province in China and currently studying law at Kumamoto University.

His future dream is to be engaged in trade business which connects China and Japan.



Mr. Xu checks the economic trends in the Nikkei newspaper at the library every day. "I was really moved when I saw snow for the first time in Kumamoto."

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Studying Advanced Pharmacy for Intractable Diseases in Kumamoto, the City of Samurai

Piruzyan, Mariam Armen
School of Pharmacy

Ms. Piruzyan Mariam Armen, from Armenia, has been studying at Kumamoto University since April 2011.

In the future, she wants to develop effective drugs for diseases which are hard to cure, such as Alzheimer's Disease.



With members of the swimming club, Ms. Mariam's shining smile tells how joyful her campus life is. (Ms. Mariam is in the 2nd row from the front, 4th from the right)

■ I think that Japanese laws pay great respect to human rights

"After I graduated from high school in Guangdong Province, I studied Japanese for two years at a language school in Kumamoto and am now a first-year student at the Faculty of Law at Kumamoto University. I read on the university's homepage that students at the Faculty of Law will learn to think independently, which was one of the reasons I chose to study at the Faculty of Law. Another reason was that I wanted to study business and trade law is because my father is involved in trade with Japanese companies."

"Though I have sometimes been confused by the terminology and difference in culture once I started studying here, I am very impressed by the laws of Japan because human rights are highly valued in Japan."

"I belong to the university swimming club and practice swimming from 6 am every weekday. Back stroke is my best stroke. I feel that there are no borders in the joy of playing sports when I swim with my friends and senior students."

■ Expecting better relationship between China and Kyushu in the future

"I work part-time on Saturday and Sunday at a logistics company. Everything to me is new and meaningful, like learning the names of food seasonings and what is selling best in Japan. I guess not only the studying at school but the experience in my part-time job is also going to give me hints for my own business."

"Kumamoto University has an ideal academic environment for studying and kind people on

campus. I read in the newspaper that many companies have tried to move their business bases from Tokyo to Kyushu after the Great East Japan Earthquake. I guess such a tendency will further enhance the exchanges between China and Kyushu. I think it is very meaningful for me to be a student here now."



Mr. Xu at the time, was a student at a Japanese language school. He took the Japanese Language Proficiency Test and passed N1, the highest level, and is now enjoying using his fluent Japanese at university.

Excerpted from "Kumadai Tsushin" Vol. 42, 2011 Autumn

■ Wishing to study both medicine and pharmacy for the future

"Longing to become a doctor like my father who is a medical doctor, I studied medicine back in Armenia. In the future, I want to master both medicine and pharmacy so I applied to the Ministry of Education for a scholarship to study at Kumamoto University, where Pharmacy studies are advanced. I visited Kumamoto Castle on my first day here. I was moved at seeing the remains of the age of the *samurai*, and I was excited when I realized that I would be living in this wonderful city from then on."

"There have been times I was surprised by the cultural differences between Japan and Armenia. For example, adults in Armenia never use bicycles as a form of transportation; they are only for kids. I was really surprised when I saw old people riding bicycles on the street."

■ Enjoying club activities which can't be found in the university of the home country

"Now I belong to the swimming club at the university. After class, I go straight to the club room. In my club, I was able to make friends with students of various departments, which would never have happened otherwise."

"I also enjoy other sports. There was a softball tournament among University swimming clubs, and we won! We don't have such activities at universities in Armenia. It is really fun to be able to make friends with many people through club activities."

"As for the classes, I am struggling with the terminology in pharmacy and need a lot of time to prepare for and review my classes. My friends

hold study meetings before exams, so I can ask them when I have questions."

"Since my childhood, I watched my father work hard for his patients with illnesses that are difficult to cure. I hope to become a medical professional like my father."

"I want to combine the knowledge of medicine I acquired in Armenia and the pharmaceutical knowledge I have studied here to conduct research that will help patients who have illnesses with no cure yet."

Excerpted from "Kumadai Tsushin" Vol. 43, 2012 Winter

熊本散歩

A Walk In Kumamoto
information of Kumamoto

Kumamoto Castle

Kumamoto University shares its home city with Kumamoto Castle, a soaring 400-year-old structure looking over the bustling center of Kumamoto City. One of Japan's most esteemed castles, Kumamoto Castle is always crowded with tourists, yet remains a favorite spot to relax among the locals.

