Kyushu University of Health and Welfare (KUHW)

Japan Pharmacy Exchange Program 2019

Introduction

The University of Findlay College of Pharmacy participates in an exchange program with the Kyushu University of Health and Welfare College of Pharmacy in Nobeoka, Japan, located in the Miyazaki prefecture. Since 2016, thirteen pharmacy students and seven faculty members have traveled to Japan with this program. Two KUHW pharmacy professors have spent time with us at UF College of Pharmacy. These visits provide a platform which allows for the sharing of research, pharmacy practice, educational methods and culture.

Participating students from UF must be enrolled in the College of Pharmacy and will receive academic credit. Details for this process can be obtained by contacting pharmacy faculty member, Dr. Deborah Berlekamp, at berlekamp@findlay.edu.

Activities

Students registered for the course meet regularly (approximately every 1-2 weeks for an hour) throughout the spring semester prior to the trip, to prepare for the experience. During meetings, basic Japanese etiquette, social skills and communication skills are introduced and practiced. Some meetings take place with the Japanese exchange students on campus. The schedule of these meetings will be determined once the selection of participating members is complete.

Students should plan for three weeks approximately mid-May to early June. Two of the weeks are spent at KUHW where pharmacy students tour hospital and retail pharmacies in the area, attend faculty research presentations, and participate in several pharmacy laboratory activities. In addition to the professional education activities, students experience the culture, the beautiful Japanese countryside, and Japanese cuisine on a daily basis. Students will engage with other Japanese students, spend weekends with local families, and do plenty of sightseeing.

Approximately three days at the end of the trip will be spent either in Tokyo or in Kyoto, with Dr. Christopher Sippel as the guide.

Itinerary for 2019

The proposed timeline has us leaving The University of Findlay on May 18th and returning on June 6th. The exact itinerary will be confirmed once flight reservations are complete.

Estimated Expenses

Cost is approximate depending upon the securing of international flights. The cost for 2019 is tentatively expected to be between $2,500-$3,000. Because this is a course, students may be able to offset expenses with financial aid. The UF Financial Aid Office can assist students with this process. The program cost includes airfare to and from Japan, miscellaneous transportation within Japan, health insurance and
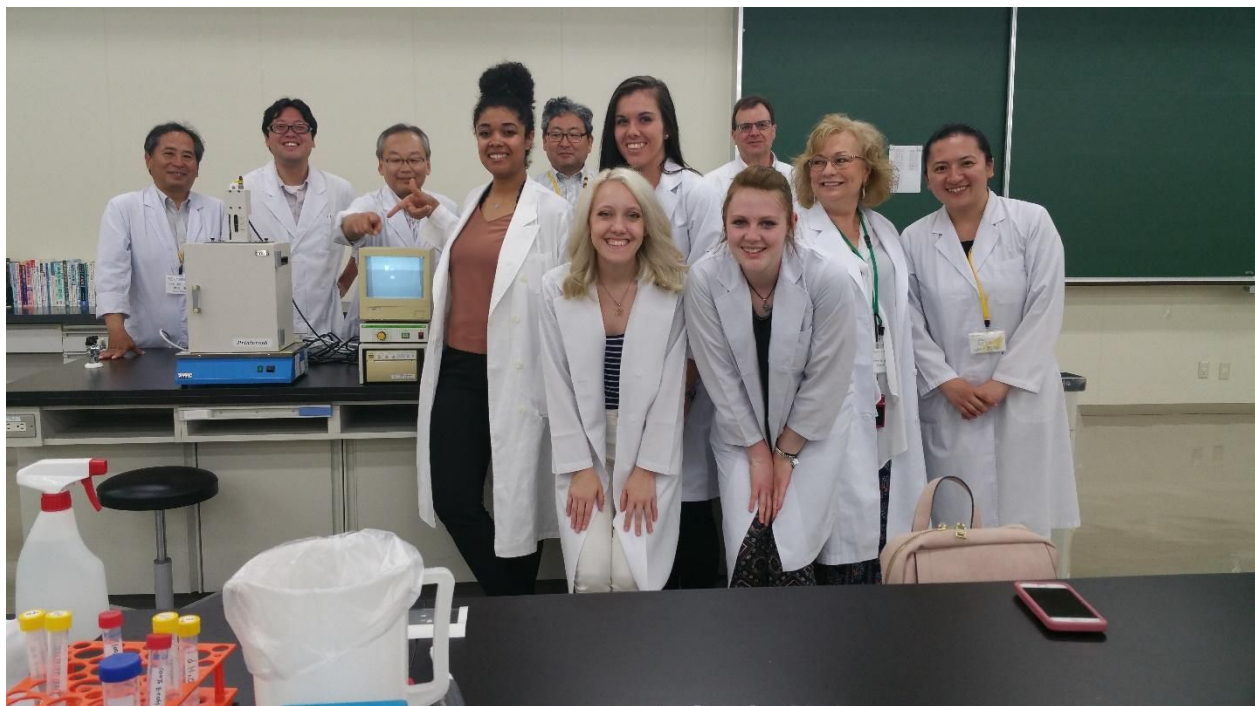
lodging. Two meals per day are included as well. Participants should count on paying for 1 meal per day, personal incidentals as needed, and souvenirs.

A non-refundable deposit of $200 is required by Friday before the last full week of the semester. Once airline tickets are purchased for program participants, each participant is committed to the cost of the non-refundable ticket in the event that they choose not to participate. The balance is due upon return to The University of Findlay in January after the winter break.

Who can apply for this program?

While any level of pharmacy student will be considered, P5 students are given preference as part of the APPE pharmacy experiential program. Underclassmen will be considered if there is room. If not selected, a list is kept for potential participation in the future. Formal study of Japanese language and culture is not a part of the selection criteria.

If you have any additional questions about the program, please feel free to contact Eileen Rucki, rucki@findlay.edu or Chris Sippel, sippel@findlay.edu.

KUHW Professors, with University of Findlay Students and Professors

University of Findlay College of Pharmacy Students Observing Practice in Tomitaka Pharmacy

Rowing in Takachiho Gorge, Miyazaki, Japan

Farewell Group Picture

Some KUHW and University of Findlay Faculty, Students and Host Families