

Kijimun' s Monologue



—No.3—



~A history of the relationship with other universities~

Haisai! In this month, I'm going to show you a history of a relationship between the University of the Ryukyus and other universities. I hope you will enjoy the story!

There are both visible history and invisible history of *Ryūdai* and other Universities. One of the visible histories is "Planted trees in front of Administration building." On a picture at the right, we can see a pole noted as "Mr. David McClain, President of the University of Hawaii visited the University of the Ryukyus on October 14th, 2008." And also, there is a planted tree to commemorate the visit of Prime Minister of Laos, *Ryūdai* has a close relationship with Laos because Dr. Sunagawa and others of the University of the Ryukyus medical department operate, without charge, for cleft lip and palate patients in Laos from 2001. These prove that *Ryūdai* willingly tries to associate with other Universities in foreign countries and with foreign nations. Notably, there are many trees which were planted to memorialize visitors from the University of Hawaii; these trees show us a close relationship between both Universities.



The second visible history is "International Student Center (Current Global Education Center, International Student Unit)." This facility was established in 1998 as one of Common Educational Research Centers within the University, they accept many students from other Universities, and they also put many students of *Ryūdai* into the world. (From foreign countries to *Ryūdai*, in 2013, 283 students came, in reverse, 25 students went abroad in 2012.) According to a document of FY2012, *Ryūdai* has made pacts with 71 Universities. The richness It is surprising that *Ryūdai* has a close relationship with the Universities of Pacific Islands area, like Palau or Samoa. "*Ryūgakusei Matsuri* (University of the Ryukyus Global Festival) which is held around in July in every year or Student Tutor System are good occasions to get to know the International Student Center or foreign students, besides going abroad. Just for your information, to be a Student Tutor, it is necessary to apply for that at the International Student Center.



The invisible history is support from Michigan State College at the establishment of the University of the Ryukyus. According to "Memorial magazines of the University of the Ryukyus for 20th anniversary of the foundation (1970)", in June 1951, with Michigan State College, the American Council on Education completed arrangements for guidance and assistance to the University of the Ryukyus. Then, the college sent a team of teachers to the University for developing a program of aid. Exchange events with other Universities were often held other than the Michigan State College.

We own a collection of Ph. Mitsugu Sakihara who taught at the University of Hawaii and we are also preparing an open to the public within this fiscal year, Digital Archive of Sakamaki Hawley collection owned by the University of Hawaii at Manoa Library in cooperation with the University of Hawaii. Now you know the history of the University of the Ryukyus a little bit, I hope it helps you take more interest in "Your University"!!