

University of Newcastle (UON)

Period 2023 Aug/23-Sep/2

1. What I learned in terms of training and language at the host university

University

- UON is the only comprehensive university in NSW and good at engineering and medicine.
- I was mainly active at the Global Innovative Centre for Advanced Nanomaterials which consists of more than 50 members, including faculty members and students. I was impressed with their serious attitude towards research.
- I had a chance to hear directly from UON professors and students a lot. By being there, I learned what kind of research is actively carried out, and what I have in common with them and what I have not.

Language

- Many of the laboratories were dominated by students from India and China. I experienced many deferent styles of English. I felt that I should have listened to much more words beforehand so that I was able to understand the English of many countries.
- English spoken by non-English native was easier to hear, seemingly because they consciously constructed sentences so that listeners could grasp the intention of speakers as well as spoke slowly minding where one word stops, and another starts.
- In communication, we don't have to worry too much about grammar, because we can express our intention with gestures and eye contact.

2. What I learned about the lifestyle, culture, and society of the host country

- UON has multiple campuses. Callaghan campus (main campus) is located about 15 minutes from the city campus and is about 80% green. It is a campus rich in nature, and I felt that the atmosphere was close to YNU.
- Culturally, Newcastle is a seashore city and especially famous for its beaches. I visited the Newcastle Museum where I learned the history through displays of local crafts and iron products. I also visited the Newcastle Memorial Walk, the promenade of which was built to commemorate the 100th anniversary of ANZAC Day.
- From a social perspective, I felt that there were many environmentally friendly products used throughout their lives, like wooden cutlery, paper straw, and Zero-emission bus.
- The proportion of young people is large high in terms of population pyramid, and Australian Government appears to attach more importance to universities and public education than Japanese.

- My impression was that young people in Newcastle were healthy and active overall and my discovery was cashless culture was so strong.
- Since there are many points in common with Japan, such as driving on the left and metric notation, there are almost no problems in life.

3. For students who are thinking of participating in next year's program

- I feel that it was because of a university program that we could have a very good opportunity in Newcastle, which is not popular as a holiday destination from Japanese perspectives.
- I think it's a great opportunity to experience cultures other than Japan. In addition, it is also a good opportunity to introduce our research to members of other laboratories in English and discuss each other's research in English.
- Participation in YOKOHAMA-SXIP will end up with meaningful experiences. If you are interested in participation, please try it.



