

Destination University: Griffith University Gold Coast

Period: March 1, 2024 ~ March 10, 2024

### **1. What you learned in terms of training and language at the host university**

- I took three classes at university. Since each class was at the beginning of a term, I learned the introduction to the class and the basics of the class. The most impressive class was the Sustainable Economics class. While learning the basics of economics, we talked from the perspective that the economy alone is not sustainable. I was interested in this kind of class, which unfortunately is not available at YNU, so I'm glad that I was able to get this training and experience it.
- At Griffith University, I attended three economics classes. None of the classes were particularly difficult in terms of economics, but the talk from an Australian perspective on environmental issues and trade was very fresh. Also, in terms of language, I think it was a good experience to think in English and explain things in English through conversations with local people.

### **2. What you learned about the lifestyle, culture, and society of the host country**

- It was my first homestay experience. The homestay family had four children under the age of 10, and I was able to learn about the local way of raising children while interacting with the children. Also, my family had emigrated from Samoa, so I was able to hear stories about Samoan culture. There were people of various races at the university, and a flag was hung at the university to symbolize them in a sense of respect for the Aborigines and the people living in the nearby islands. From this, I felt that there is a culture that respects each person's race and origin.
- I did a homestay on the Gold Coast, and I felt a freer atmosphere than in Japan. I got the impression that local people were taking their work seriously, and on days off, they were getting up late, drinking beer during the day, taking a shower when they wanted, and enjoying whatever they wanted to do. In addition, the sense of distance between people and others is closer than in Japan, and I felt that there are many people of all ages who do not hesitate to reach out to people in need and help.

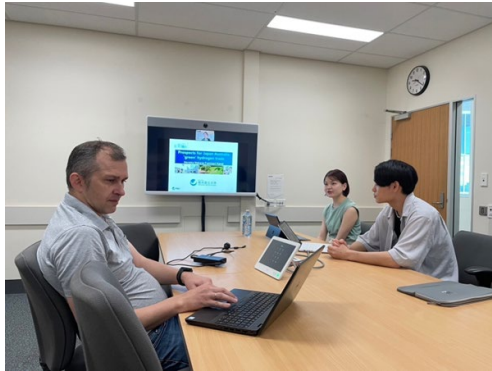
### **3. For students who are thinking of participating in the program next year**

- It's a short period of training, but you can learn a lot in a week. It is highly recommended for those who want to experience taking classes abroad or spending time with families from other countries. You can also learn about sustainability through classes and daily life, so I would like to recommend it to those who are interested in sustainability overseas.
- Regardless of whether you have traveled abroad or are confident in your English proficiency, we encourage you to actively participate. Even if you don't have any travel experience, you can

rest assured that you can work with your teachers and fellow students. Also, about English proficiency. The local people listen to us seriously even if our English is poor, and I think that by staying for a long time, we will be able to greatly improve our English speaking and listening skills.



Respect for Diversification incl LGBTQ



Final presentation



Cleaning up at Varisty Lake



4 children of homestay family