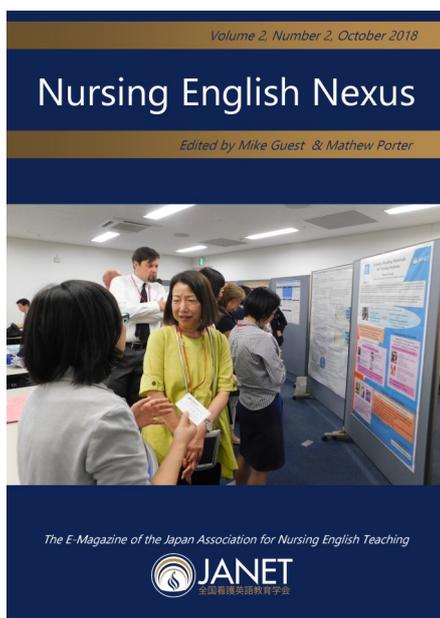


# Report on an Inbound Program for Students from Hong Kong

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## Report on an Inbound Program for Students from Hong Kong

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*Abstract: This report outlines The 2018 Okayama Prefectural University Inbound Program for students from the School of Nursing at Hong Kong Polytechnic University.*

The Faculty of Health and Welfare at Okayama Prefectural University (OPU) in Japan completed an academic student exchange agreement with the School of Nursing at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) in the year 2015, and first conducted an inbound program for students from Hong Kong in the 2017 academic year.

### Program

The 2018 Okayama Prefectural University inbound program was conducted at OPU from July 23, 2018 to August 2, 2018. A detailed schedule was constructed and organized by the staff of the Department of Nursing at OPU after several online discussions with department heads at the HKPU (see Table 1).

Two weeks before the program, Okayama was hit by a flood. Since some of the hospitals and facilities that students were set to visit were in one of the hardest-hit areas, parts of the planned schedule were changed.

Details of the program were as follows:

*Participants:* Two graduate students and four undergraduate students majoring in nursing science.

*Fees:* Students had to pay for their accommodations, flights, and food.

*Funding:* Inbound students did not receive funding from OPU. Funding from HKPU is unknown.

*Accommodations:* Students stayed at a hostel near Soja-city. Also, they experienced a three-day homestay program.

*Chaperones:* None.

Table 1  
 Program Schedule

<b>Monday, July 23, 2018</b>	
PM	Meeting with students
<b>Tuesday, July 24, 2018</b>	
Campus tour	
Noon	Lunch meeting with Okayama Prefectural University students
PM	Lecture 1: The nursing system in Japan and an introduction to the university
<b>Wednesday, July 25, 2018</b>	
AM	Visit 1: Kawasaki Medical Museum Lecture 2: Medical care in Japan
PM	Visit 2: Kawasaki Medical School Hospital
<b>Thursday, July 26, 2018</b>	
AM	Visit 3: Dinosaur Museum
PM	Visit 4: Places of cultural interest
<b>Friday, July 27, 2018</b>	
AM	Campus tour
PM	Play with children from the disaster area Activity 1: Tea ceremony
<b>Saturday, July 28, 2018</b>	
Home stay program	
<b>Sunday, July 29, 2018</b>	
Home stay program	
<b>Monday, July 30, 2018</b>	
PM	Visit 5: Red Cross Hospital
<b>Tuesday, July 31, 2018</b>	
Lecture 2: Introduction to nursing, conversation with 1 <sup>st</sup> year students	
Lecture 3: Japanese postpartum depression	
<b>Wednesday, August 1, 2018</b>	
Visit 6: Miyake Clinic	
<b>Thursday, August 2, 2018</b>	
AM	Preparation time for presentations
PM	Evaluation of the exchange program and presentation session

### Feedback from Students

On the final day, the participating students were asked to give a presentation about (1) the HKPU School of Nursing, (2) the difference in demographics between the HKPU School of Nursing and OPU Department of Nursing and (3) the differences in the nursing education system between HKPU and OPU. Their presentation

showed that students from Hong Kong had researched a lot about Okayama and Okayama Prefectural before the program.

The presenting students were also asked to complete an evaluation survey prepared by OPU Department of Nursing. Although all the participants stated that they were satisfied with the program, they also stated that wished they could have visited more medical facilities.

Since the students from Hong Kong were fluent English speakers, their visit incentivized students at Okayama to maintain their motivation to further learn both the English language and nursing content in English. And, although both graduate students and undergraduate students at OPU were busy volunteering in the disaster area, they were able to welcome the students from Hong Kong and participate by acting as program guides.

### **Feedback from Teachers**

Multiple teachers from OPU were involved in this program. The teachers stated that the students from Hong Kong seemed to fully understand the Japanese nursing system because they had researched both the Japanese nursing system and Okayama's demographic data in advance.

### **Conclusion**

Although this inbound program was held just after the flooding disaster in Okayama, it was completed successfully thanks to the cooperation of visiting hospitals, facilities, and staff members. We were able to show the disaster's effects in real time, as well as people supporting those in the hardest-hit areas. The visiting students even had an opportunity to talk to the children from the affected area and play with them on campus.

The visit was also beneficial for OPU students, who were provided with opportunities to use all four English skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) when they communicated with students from Hong Kong. One disappointing aspect of the program, however, was that there

was not very much communication time between the students from the two universities because OPU students were busy volunteering in the disaster area during the program.