

Stay at Kyoritsu Women's University in Tokyo, Faculty of International Studies; Host:
Professor Akiyoshi NISHIYAMA

I spent three weeks in late June/July 2019 as a JSPS Short-Term Fellow at Kyoritsu Women's University in Tokyo, Faculty of International Studies. My host, Professor Akiyoshi NISHIYAMA, is a renowned expert on Modern German History, especially on issues of national identity and border regions. During my fellowship we worked on two projects. The first is a primary source collection with documents on modern German history in translation that Professor NISHIYAMA is co-editing with a colleague from another university in Tokyo. As I have edited primary source collections for use in university teaching myself, we discussed the range of materials that should be included and how the content could be structured. The second project was preparation of a conference of the Japanese Society for German Studies that took place while I was in Tokyo. The focus of the conference was the Weimar Republic, and here I discussed recent research trends and questions with my host.

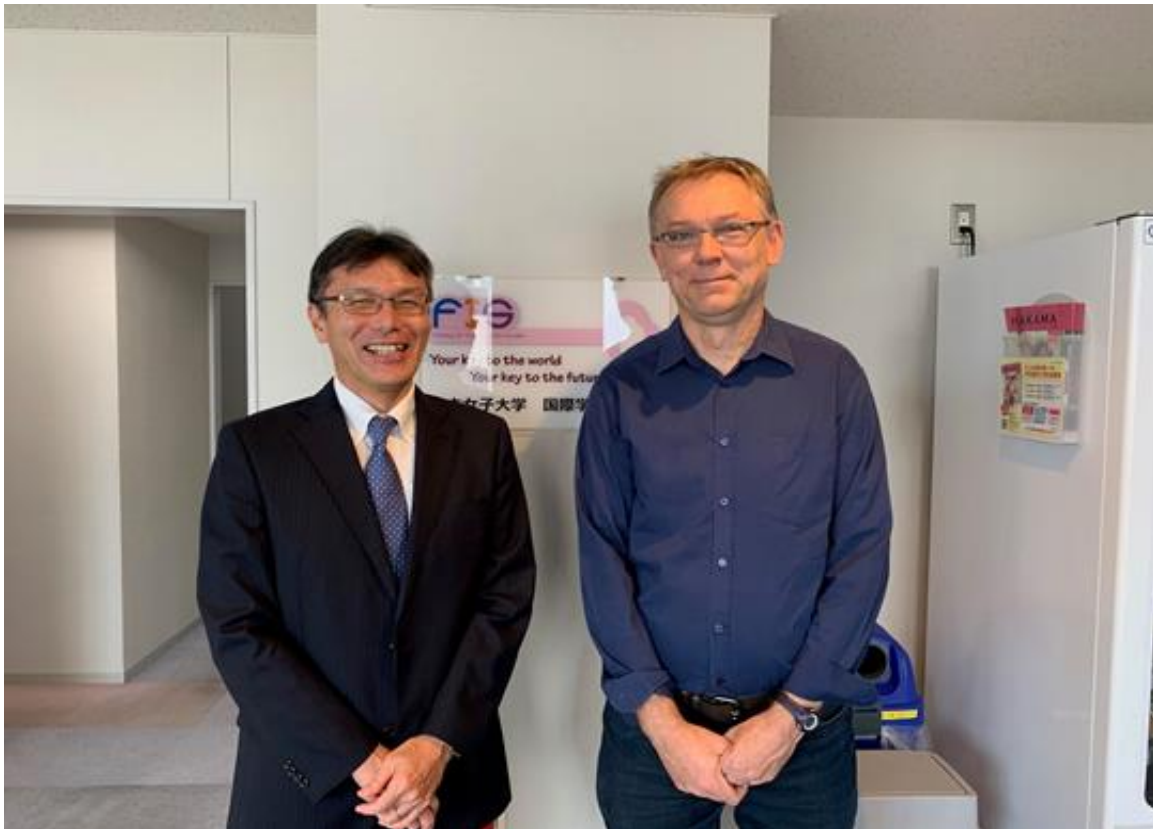
As Tokyo is such a rich, diverse and exciting place for research across the board, with 120 universities in the city region alone, I strongly recommend to reach out to colleagues at other universities in the city when planning a trip to make the most of the opportunities for academic exchange during your stay. I was lucky enough to be able to meet colleagues at other universities when I gave my first talk in Tokyo very shortly after my arrival. But planning ahead is recommended. In terms of accommodation, I would advise against renting an apartment via the usual websites. I had a reservation that I had made for the second half of my stay cancelled at short notice – and struggled to get a refund from the website! –, and was ultimately much better off staying at a large hotel. Business hotels and hotel chains offer rooms at good rates even for inner city locations in Tokyo that are well connected by the subway system.

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Meeting of the Japanese Society for German Studies, 30th June 2019



With Dean of the Faculty of International Studies, Professor SATO, Yuichi at Kyoritsu Women's University in Tokyo