

2021 KIC No.2

BBP newspaper

In the second BBP newspaper, we conducted interviews following the previous issue. This time, we interviewed Chihiro who is a third student from KIC BBP member, and Hana-san from the international center who supports BBP. If you are interested in BBP, please read these interviews! You may find something special that is only found here...?!

Interview

Chihiro HIRAMA



Self-introduction

Hello! I am Chihiro HIRAMA(平馬知優), a junior of the

Faculty of Letters, Department of International Communication. It is a difficult *kanji* to read, but it is read as HIRAMA Chihiro. I have been a member of the BBP Project Team since the spring semester of my 2nd year.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

It is difficult. I am someone who always gets inspiration from various people and motivates myself to do my best because of them. Because of that, I cannot pick one specific person. I consider parents and friends, seniors and juniors, teachers, all of them as respectable people. I get inspired thanks to them!

What is the good thing about doing BBP?

Having the opportunity to meet many people is the one thing that I am very glad about! Since I can interact with a wide range of people, regardless of their place of origin, grade, spoken language, or faculty, I can be inspired, discover new values, and learn a lot. Although the pandemic was hindering me to interact with people, I am glad that I can still manage to do so online through BBP virtual events.

You have a bird as pets, but what is the reason for choosing birds as pets?

This is, simply, because I like it! I have always loved animals and creatures since I was little! I have animals other than birds, and now I also have turtles. Also, I used to keep rabbits until recently, but after giving me 11 years of happiness, she went on to a better place.

I have raised a lot of creatures so far, but because of my house, I cannot keep dogs and cats, so I have many opportunities to keep small animals, and I happen to keep birds, hermit crabs, and frogs. By the way, it has been 13 years since my parakeet started its life with me.

Reasons for joining the BBP Project Team

I have always wanted to be involved with many people regardless of nationality or gender, in the present and

hopefully more in the future. I think the number one reason was that I thought it would be a step forward for my self-progression.

Honestly, why exactly at that time? I do not remember clearly whether I thought about it thoroughly or not! I found the application guidelines about 3 hours before the deadline and acted before I think. I just remember writing the reasons for my application in a hurry lol. I think it was because I wanted to do something new, so when I saw the BBP Project Team recruitment, I acted spontaneously. I had little courage back then, but my curiosity won out. Looking at the application guidelines back then, I was like "Now or never! Do you want to become a staff member or not?", and so I went with that feeling.

Issei-san's first and current impression

Do you know who Issei-san is? The person who appeared in BBP newspaper No. 1! He is such a great person, don't you think so? I think my first impression of Issei-san was simply, "Wow, he is amazing." I thought that he is very dependable, has lots of ideas and experiences as well. When I first joined the same team, I thought he was two years older than me(lol), had the impression "What a cool senior!". I think I was so afraid that I did not talk much. But now, I think I am a reliable senior who anyone can talk to about anything!

I still think that he is a very charismatic and capable person in many ways, and I really respect him. Final thoughts, I will say that he is a friendly, easy-to-speak to, and interesting person.

What is BBP for you?

I think BBP is a place where you can actualize the visions that you have in mind, regardless of limitations. Our staffs can actualize their visions by planning various events, but I think event participants as well as people who visit BBP can also do so.



Maybe, there are thoughts such as: "I'm not confident, but I want to speak English.", "I am a little shy, but I want to expand my circle." and "Somehow, I want to be a great person.". With regards to that, believe me, there are many people who think and work together to be able to provide the best opportunities to fulfill those wishes.

Unfortunately, perhaps some people still feel that BBP is not the place that I have described. That is why, we will continue to work hard to create a place where you can fulfill your wishes and go beyond the boundaries set by yourself and other people. So, come join us if you are willing to make this happen together!



International Center



Hana-san

In BBP Project Team's activities, the Project Team Student staff and teachers are relatively well known to the users of the BBP.

However, there are also administrative staff in the office who are working hard to operate BBP. We interviewed Hana-san of Kinugasa International Center.

What is your work in the BBP project?

BBP is a place for students to connect with each other, but it is also a place for teachers and staff to work together to create something new. While teachers approach students with an educational perspective, as a staff member, I am in charge of the administrative side of the project, making sure that all the rules and regulations are followed, and that staff and participants are learning from each other and enjoying the activities.

I think that BBP is a place where all borders can be crossed and borders can be eliminated. Therefore, I want

to make BBP as a joyful place where everyone can talk about anything with each other as a single individual, whether you are teachers, staff, or students. So I give advice to students as an individual and participate in BBP events although I am not a student.

What is the most difficult work in BBP?

It is difficult for me to deliver what I want to convey and have the students learn from it. As I told you earlier, I think everyone is just one human being, regardless of their position like teacher, staff, or student. I also walked through what everyone is walking now as students, so I always try to put myself in their shoes and wonder what they would think. However, it is a long time ago when I was a college student, and I've been through a lot since then, so I might say things without understanding students' feelings.

The other thing is that I want to say, "You do not need to be good at English to come to BBP!" or "Anyone can come to BBP!", but it is just hard to deliver that message to students. I guess everyone (BBP Project Team Student Staff) feels the same. I want everyone who does not know BBP to try to visit BBP, but without a doubt delivering that message is the most difficult part. I want everyone who doesn't know BBP to come and experience the fun. If you have stepped forward and found BBP, BBP will always welcome you. And I want to take this opportunity to say that!

Why did you want to be involved with BBP?

It is hard to say because there are so many reasons. I like the positive atmosphere of BBP where the staff work hard to try and plan together as a team. Since the atmosphere among BBP staff and friends are wonderful, I would recommend everyone to become a BBP staff member. Being inside this positive, equal atmosphere is the reason I want to be involved with. I think I really love BBP.

How do you feel about university having a place like BBP?

I think it is amazing! When I was a college student, there was no place like this (BBP), so I believe it is a precious place for students.

I think, a great thing about BBP staff is that they came to BBP by themselves, and volunteer to share their experience to other students through organizing events.

I want to spread the word about the BBP, and I hope students who are not comfortable with these kinds of places also come. Your world will become bigger, and wonderful experiences are waiting for you.

I also hope to be a good support for international students at BBP, both from my own study abroad experience and as an international student support coordinator.

Please tell us about Flat BBP.

Flat BBP means visit BBP casually. It is an event you can come and talk freely regardless of school year or nationality. Currently, the event is held online, so even if you are an international student who cannot come to Japan, you can still exchange information and become familiar with students in Japan. We hold event once in every two weeks.

<http://www.ritsumeai.ac.jp/bbp/events/detail/?id=253>

How is the atmosphere during Flat BBP?

I have a small group of people who enjoy coming to Flat BBP. I am collecting surveys every time, and it says participants are enjoying the event.

We talk in break-out rooms after selecting specific themes to talk about. I decide the themes or collect ideas from participants. Everyone is welcome to join us. Languages do not matter, whether it is English or Japanese, regardless of their language skills, as we value the desire to communicate each other. If we have a lot of participants who want to practice English or Japanese, I will allocate a language for each break-out room, so

sometimes we have Japanese students speaking in English with other Japanese students. I think that is marvelous.

What are your hobbies?

My hobby is mountain climbing. Maybe, it is because I grew up in countryside and was surrounded by mountains. However, I started hiking after I became an adult. When I first came to Kyoto, I hadn't climbed a mountain, but when I did, I felt for the first time that I hadn't felt like this in a long time. "Oh, I'm breathing!" I thought. That feeling did captivate me and now I'm doing 3000m high mountains with heavy equipment on my back.

Have you lived in overseas?

I lived in New Zealand for 10 years. Looking back, I have the strange feeling that my experiences in New Zealand was not so much about going abroad as it was about my life in my teens and twenties itself.

It all started in my second year of high school when I decided to go on an exchange for a year, simply thinking "I want to speak English!". After that, I decided to continue my education in New Zealand and worked for a local travel agency. In New Zealand, I used to go to the beach a lot, and I think

I love the sea, mountain, and environmental landscapes in general.

Any advice to those who are thinking about study abroad?

If you are under circumstances that you can go study abroad, I strongly recommend doing so. However, even though you cannot go study abroad, it is possible to widen your view by yourself. If you take a step forward from where you are right now and taking on challenges, even if it's just a small step, you can learn a lot and build a richer life with your own hands.

BBP events report



Online Travel Report (BKC)

Yuto, one of the KIC-BBP Project team member, participated this event as a participant, and made an article in the BBP newspaper.

On Thursday, May 20, BKC-BBP event "Online Travel Report" was held on Zoom.

In this event, international students from Pakistan, Hungary, and South Korea gave speeches on each country, including the scenery and sights of each country, and the introduction of food unique to those countries. In addition, there was an exchange meeting time for participants, BBP staff members, and the international students who gave the speech to interact with each other, and we were able to enjoy the exchange.

It was an enjoyable event where we were able to get to know the world we had never known before and deepen new exchange while it was very difficult to travel due to COVID-19 pandemic.

We hope that the day will come when we can go on a travel, not online.

Thank you to the BKC-BBP staff members for the wonderful event!

Mystery riddles!

Hey everyone! My name is Luna, and I am a 2nd year student of the International Relations department. One of the things I enjoy is solving mystery riddles in books or video games. In this column I want to share with you all some of the recent mystery riddles that I came across. Try

to guess the answers on your own, the answer will be provided at the very end of the segment!

1. On the first day of school, a female student was found murdered on the 2nd floor bathroom. The police suspected 4 male teachers and proceeded to interrogate them one by one. "What were you doing at 08:00 A.M.?" questioned the police, and each of them answered:

Mr. Alan: I was parking my car in the parking lot because I woke up late this morning.

Mr. Eric: I was grading exam papers in the teacher's lounge.

Mr. Tom: I was in the bathroom all morning because I had diarrhea.

Mr. Jackson: I was by watering the plants on the 2nd floor balcony.

And at last, the police caught the murderer.

Who was the murderer?

2. Four best friends regularly visited the sauna together. They always bring something together with them. Jeremy, a musician, always brings an iPod to listen to music. William, a banker, always brings a tumbler for drinking. Dylan and Lucas, both lawyers, always bring documents to read. One day, Dylan was found dead at the sauna. He was murdered by a sharp object. The police came immediately to investigate, but no weapons were found at the crime scene.

Who killed Dylan, and how did the killer kill him?

3. Cynthia was sleeping peacefully in a hotel room until she was woken up by a knock on the door. She pulled down her blanket, wore her slippers, and walked towards the door. When she opened it, she was seeing an unfamiliar man, and that unfamiliar

man said, "Oh, my mistake. I thought this was my room, sorry!". He rushed off the corridors and walked down the stairs. Cynthia then shut the door, and immediately called the security.

Why did Cynthia call the security?

4. Angie and Julia are sisters, and they were mourning because their mother was murdered by their ex-father the day before. At the funeral, Angie and Julia met a charming and attractive man, in which he offered consolation for their family's grief. Unfortunately, due to the many people at the funeral that they need to greet, they have not got the chance to exchange contact information. The next day, Angie was found dead.

Who killed Angie, and why did the killer kill her?



Here are the answers! Did you get them right?

1. Mr. Eric killed the female student, because it's the first day of school, students have not had any exams yet.
2. William killed Dylan by using a sculpture of sharp ice that he kept on his tumbler. Police found no murder weapons at the crime scene because the ice melted away.
3. If it was truly the man's own room, he would not have knocked.
4. Julia killed Angie, because Julia wanted to meet the man again (at another funeral).

Source: <https://youtu.be/xSAyYFXQdJg>

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~Railway Journey~

I am Yuto, a 2nd year student in the Area studies, Department of Letters. I will introduce the deep world of railways in the column "Railway Journey". This time, I will introduce "rare scenes".



This photo was taken one day across the Kamo River on the east side of Kyoto Station on the Tokaido

Line. This vehicle, which suddenly appeared while special rapid service trains and limited express trains were coming and going, is a new model of the Tokyo Metro Fukutoshin Line (series 17000).

So why are the trains in Kyoto?

Actually, this is in the process of being carried by train track from the factory that manufactures the railway vehicle to the depot of the railway company.

Railway vehicles can be transported by road, using trailers, by sea, or by train track, and one or more of these can be used. It will be shipped in combination.

When transporting by train track as shown in the photo, it is transported by being pulled by the locomotive of a freight train.

It has become a popular target for railway fans because it is the "first and last opportunity" for new rolling stock to travel on routes that would not normally appear when connected to a locomotive. Such trains occasionally run on the Tokaido Line and San-yo Line. It would be very lucky to see a vehicle you had never seen being pulled by a locomotive. Maybe there is something good on that day.

Editorial note

I enjoyed Olympic in August very much. The fact that men's Japanese volleyball team could advance to the quarterfinal was one of my best memory during the vacation ☺

Please take care of your health and have a nice fall semester!

(Natsu)