

[Casebook of International Activities at Kansai University]

Joint Study Meeting between the School of Journalism and Communication at Renmin University of China and the Media Studies Program of the Faculty of Sociology at Kansai University (KU)

Faculty of Sociology

Associate Professor Xueyan Liu



[Activity outline]

Main activity	Joint study meeting with a university overseas
Organization visited	School of Journalism and Communication, Renmin University of China (RUC)
Date	May 28, 2016
Teachers from KU participated	Hiroshi Ogawa—Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Isamu Kuroda—Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Mariko Murata—Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Naoko Mori—Associate Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Morihiro Ogasahara—Associate Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Yuji Mizoguchi—Assistant Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology Xueyan Liu—Associate Professor of Media Studies, Faculty of Sociology

[Interview with Associate Professor Liu]

—Please tell us how and why this joint study meeting came to be held.

Associate Prof. Liu: Living at a time when the media industry and the field of media education are faced with opportunities and challenges at a global level, I considered what I could do to promote the mutual understanding of media education between Japan and China to further expand media education and studies. To achieve this, I came up with a plan to have a joint study meeting with the School of Journalism and Communication (J-School) at RUC to discuss media education and the



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development of media between Japan and China. I managed to organize this meeting while I was staying in Beijing as a researcher.

—Could you explain what actually took place at the meeting?

Associate Prof. Liu: I had been staying in Beijing as a researcher, and six teachers from the Media Studies Program at KU's Faculty of Sociology traveled to China and joined me in organizing a joint study meeting at the J-School at RUC. First, at the meeting, the characteristics, history, and present circumstances of media education both in the Media Studies Program at KU's Faculty of Sociology and RUC's J-School were introduced. Then, both sides made reports and exchanged opinions on their studies on the role of the media and the practical applications of media when informing and reporting natural disasters and supporting people in disaster-stricken areas, as well as on the history and acceptance of Japanese manga (comics) and anime (animation). Moreover, a number of graduate students from RUC's J-School and ex-exchange students from the KU graduate school also attended this meeting.

—Would you tell us about the relationship between RUC and you?

Associate Prof. Liu: RUC's J-School is one of the leading institutions in the area of journalism and media studies in China. Because of that, since long before, I have been communicating with the teachers at RUC through joint studies with them, meetings, and so forth.

—What was accomplished through this meeting?

Associate Prof. Liu: We were able to deepen our mutual understanding about education and research. The meeting was just our first step. Very importantly, we have made a promise to deepen our relationships since the meeting.

—What were the reactions of the meeting's other participants, the six KU teachers and the teachers from RUC?

Associate Prof. Liu: The KU teachers said that although both sides, in the midst of a changing media environment, have adopted similar awareness efforts and research themes with regard to the future direction of journalism and media studies and their potential problems, it is quite interesting that both of us apply different approaches. Our teachers were also very impressed that RUC is developing pioneering educational approaches and studies that incorporate multiple media. The teachers from RUC stated that they do not want this joint meeting to be the only meeting held between both sides and that they wish to further promote this kind of meeting between the two universities and even expand its size.

—What were the difficulties you experienced?

Associate Prof. Liu: The difficult part was that since participants of both sides were very busy, I struggled to arrange the meeting date. The things I thought about carefully, and I think I did a good job with, were the themes discussed in the meeting. I was able to find and present themes that both parties were highly interested in and that were receiving much social attention, and I believe that that was the reason why we had quite an interesting discussion.

—Could you tell us about costs and expenses of this joint meeting project?

Associate Prof. Liu: The traveling expenses of the teachers attending were covered by individual research funds or the University aid available for official overseas trips.

—What are your future plans with regard to joint meetings like these?

Associate Prof. Liu: I would like to continue to organize this type of joint study meetings with RUC and further deepen exchanges with the university. At the meeting this time, no reports were made by students, yet from this point forward, I hope



to find ways to have more interaction between the students on two sides. It was too bad that we did not have any opportunities at this meeting to screen the videos students had made due to the fact that we only had limited time available. We are also now considering if we could arrange a similar kind of meeting with universities in Korea.

[Relevant website URL]

[The Facebook page of the Media Studies Program of the KU Faculty of Sociology \(An article is featured there.\)](#)





## 新闻学院与日本关西大学代表团 举行研讨会

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RUC新闻与传播

5月28日下午，人大新闻学院师生与日本关西大学师生、人大外国语学院日语系师生共同在明德新闻楼611会议室举办了“媒体与传播教育”研讨会。会议围绕传媒教育面临的机遇与挑战展开了热烈的讨论。会议由新闻学院执行院长郭庆光教授主持，党委书记蔡雯教授做了主题演讲。

