

Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit Program Completion Report [Student]

Report

Please write a report on your study experience, addressing the matters listed below. Your report should be more than 500 words in English. Matters to include in your report: (a) Academic outcomes (how participation in this program affected your motivation, university study and international understanding, and what interests and plans you developed for further study in the future); (b) Your experiences in Kyoto University; (c) The content of the program; (d) The impact of the program on your career plans.

Has Johnston survival theory failed?

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This program provides an excellent chance for giving a presentation in front the public. Through the presentation, Professors did give a lot of precious advices to me for rethinking the arguments which I try to argue for. On the other hand, during the research periods, many discussions was ongoing between Kyoto students and me. It gave me a lot of help in finding some interesting issues and I believe that it will give me many inspiration for my research in the future. I am planning to study about the "Ineffability logic" which the Kyoto students have introduced and I think it provides a new sight to solve the problem of Pudgalavādins' theory of persons. In Pudgalavādins' theory of persons, they argue that Pudgala in a kind of ineffability person but it get a strictly critics by Vasubandhu later. Through the "ineffability logic", it will provide a new way to examine the theory of Pudgalavādins.

Kyoto University gives me a good impression because it provides many corners to students for discussion. There have many convenient shops and coffee machines nearby, so enjoying a cup of coffee after having a prolonged discussion is quite enjoyable. Although the facilities in Kyoto University is quite convenient, but many of them is only for the Kyoto students. So, it is a real pity for me because I have no access to the precious articles which are placed in Kyoto Library.

Kyoto-Nccu-Nus 3rd conference is an interesting program. On the first day, professor Deguchi had a short meeting with all the participants. Professor announced the activities in the following days. On the two following days, we were required to join two lectures, which were lectured by professor Jay Garfield and professor Kris Mcdaniel. Their topics were "How to read Hume's treatise" and "Being and essence". After the lectures, every graduated student was going to give a presentation and this is the main activity of this program. Every graduated students was given 30 minutes for their presentation and 15 minutes was kept for discussion. Through the presentations, I can know more about their recent research and the topic which they concerned themselves in. My topic in the presentation is "Has Johnston's Survival theory failed?" This was my first time presented my topic in English, and it gave me a good opportunity to improve myself. During the question time, I was asked plenty of questions by

professors. They seem disagree with Johnston's theory that we can survive death without presuppose an ontological being as self. I thought I failed to defend the Johnston's position. Apart from this, three interesting lectures were given by professors Deguchi, Schaft, Jay Garfield, and Fujikawa during the two-days conference.

This program makes me realize the difficulties in giving a presentation using English. It provides me a huge incentive to train my spoken English especially in the academic occasions. Besides, I found that acquired multiple foreign languages is very important in doing academic researches. Ability to understand the original text is very important because many original texts, like Buddhism's Sutras, still lacking of English or Chinese translations.

*The information you provide may be included in Re-discovering Japan Project reports, or published in printed materials or on our website in pages dealing with the outcomes of programs offered by the Asian Studies Unit and/or Kyoto University. Please ensure that your report only includes content which is publishable in light of privacy considerations and the need to safeguard personal information. Also note that depending on the publication format, we may need to edit parts of your report.