

Japan-America Student Conference 69th

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I am so grateful for the CJS scholarship to participate in the Japan-American Student Conference 69th (JASC) which was conducted in Japan in August, 2017. I just finished this intense but amazing trip in which I learned a lot about Japan and gained new perspectives about the crucial relationship between Japan and America.

I traveled to Kyoto, Ehime, Mie, and Tokyo with sixty-seven other American and Japanese delegates and listened to guest lectures on a wide-array of topics such as politics, diversity, environment, business, Japanese culture, music, and religion. We also had opportunities to discuss with local communities about current issues that Japan is coping with such as shrinking population, regional revitalization, environment, and cultural preservation. More importantly, we participated in roundtable discussions throughout this trip to solidify our understanding about the topics that we chose including city, media, health, governance, minority, culture, and ideology. As a culminating activity, we presented our findings and recommendations about these topics at the final forum conducted in Tokyo in August 26th, which received great attention from the public and community. In this final forum, my team presented on “Approaching the City from Multidimensional Perspectives” in which I contributed by presenting on the homelessness situation in cities.

I hope that many more students at the University of Hawaii can participate in JASC in the future. JASC is necessary to broaden the future leaders’ views towards the strategic relationship between Japan and America.