Pasona Internship Program

30th Anniversary
The Pasona Internship Program, conducted as one of the Company’s CSR activities, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. The program aims to promote mutual understanding of diverse cultures as well as foster global talent by inviting foreign students to Japan with an opportunity to work as interns at Japanese companies during their summer break.

The program began in 1988 with Harvard graduate school students participating in the program. Since then, the program has expanded to include students from other countries. Students from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan participated in 2007. In 2013, students from Indonesia and Vietnam, and later on, students from India, Malaysia and South Korea have participated. In total, 463 students and 130 companies have participated in the program since its inception. Alumni of this program play active roles not only in Japan but also in many other parts of the world.
The Pasona Internship Program will celebrate its 30th anniversary this year. We could not have accomplished this without the generous help and efforts of our many benefactors who have supported our desire to promote mutual international understanding and foster global talent.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the many ambitious young individuals that have expressed an interest in Japanese culture and our way of doing business; the companies that provided internships to these students; and those who supported students by providing various other opportunities.

In 1988, I relocated to the United States with my family and worked in New York. I was distressed by the Japan bashing that seemed to be spreading throughout the United States. I recognized the importance of developing a mutual understanding between my country and the US at the private-sector level, and the significance of internationalization. Towards that end, I introduced and suggested to Japanese companies that they participate in an internship system that was already fairly prevalent in the US. With the efforts and help of a friend who was a student of Harvard Kennedy School at that time, I initiated the Pasona Internship Program in which students from the Harvard Business School, Law School and Kennedy School were invited to serve internships in Japan.

During the last 30 years, the social and global environment has changed significantly. While Japan’s economy was stagnant for many years following the collapse of the bubble economy, the economy of developing countries including China and ASEAN countries has made great strides. In response, Japanese businesses had to accelerate their globalization. It was with this backdrop that we also started to receive many inquiries about the internship program from students from Asian countries, and we decided to expand to include more countries in line with celebrating the program’s 20th anniversary. Students from 9 countries have passed screening to participate in this year’s internships.

Our job at the Pasona group is to bring out the best in people. Many alumni of the internship program are currently actively engaged in Japanese and global businesses, governmental organizations, international organizations including the United Nations, universities and in other fields around the globe. Some of them have entered into entrepreneurial ventures.

We are very proud of this fact. I believe that the collaboration of individuals of different cultural backgrounds and values, where they understand and accept each other and thereby working closely together in a diverse environment, is essential to solving many of the problems that the world and Japan currently face.

The Pasona group will continue with its efforts to cultivate global-minded individuals with an understanding of diverse cultures and values, as well as a broad vision, so that mutual understanding between countries can be promoted.

Pasona Group Inc.
Group CEO

Yasujiro Yamada
We now live in a rapidly changing environment. Development in technology and advancements in globalization are triggering fundamental changes in lifestyle and the way business is conducted. The pace of this change will only accelerate, not slow down.

One of the principles behind the MIT Media Lab is “Compasses Over Maps.” In an age of rapid changes, maps quickly become outdated, rendering itself futile. Hence, we must embrace compasses instead of maps. That is to say, it is crucial for each person to possess a broad vision, polish their expertise and procure their own philosophy in life.

The Pasona Internship Program has been providing qualified young individuals with an opportunity to obtain this “compass.” Through their internship at Japanese companies, students are exposed to different cultures and can polish their skills with students from different parts of the world. This life-changing experience helps to provide a “compass” that points them in the right direction when new challenges are being explored.

I anticipate for our global-minded 463 alumni to utilize their individual “compasses” when taking an active role in addressing and seeking solutions to the various social issues and when they strive to bring innovations to life.

Chairman/Director
Pasona Group Inc.

Heizo Takenaka
Thirty years ago, the Pasona Internship Program began as the “Nambu Foundation Internship” in 1988. Here we look back on the many encounters we’ve had along the way.
When it began, the program was covered extensively in newspapers and other media as a pioneering initiative at a time when the word “internship” was not even in general use in Japan. The program first began by taking in graduate students from Harvard University.

### 1988

**Year-1**

**Period:** June 10 – August 25  
**Students:** 12  
**Companies:** 10

**Activities:**
- Joint training and reception at the Matsushita Institute of Government and Management (MIGM)  
- Participated in an international symposium hosted by Venture Brains Partner  
- Small symposium and get together with young business executives

### 1989

**Year-2**

**Period:** June 12 – August 19  
**Students:** 20  
**Companies:** 18

**Activities:**
- US-Japan employment symposium  
- Joint training and reception at the MIGM  
- Tour of the Kimitsu Works of Nippon Steel Corporation

### 1990

**Year-3**

**Period:** June 11 – August 24  
**Students:** 42  
**Companies:** 31

**Activities:**
- Japan management seminar “Myth and Reality of Japanese Management” (Noritake Kobayashi, Dean of Keio Business School)  
- Tour of Seiko Instruments & Electronics factory  
- Study tour to Osaka and Kyoto (“The International Garden and Greenery Exposition” in Osaka, Kyoto Gion Festival, Daitokuji Temple retreat)
1991

**Year-4**

**Period:** June 11 – August 9  
**Students:** 40  
**Companies:** 37  
**Activities:**  
- Special Lecture: “Management of Japanese Corporations” (Mr. Kiyoshi Nagata, Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.)  
- Tour of the NTT Communication Center  
- Tour of Tokyo Stock Exchange  
- Lecture “Current Status of US-Japan Joint Ventures”

1992

**Year-5**

**Period:** June 8 – August 7  
**Students:** 30  
**Companies:** 29  
**Activities:**  
- Special Lecture: “Understanding the Japanese People and Japanese Business Practices” (Mr. Kiyoshi Nagata, Japan Small and Medium Enterprise Management Consultant)  
- Tour of the NTT Communication Center  
- Tour of the National Diet Building  
- Participated in the cultural exchange event “Culture Summit”  
- Visit to US Embassy in Japan  
- Kabuki viewing

1993

**Year-6**

**Period:** June 7 – August 6  
**Students:** 21  
**Companies:** 19  
**Activities:**  
- Special Lecture: “US-Japan Relations” (Prof. Robert Orr, Temple University, Japan)  
- Cultural exchange event, “Culture Summit” (Japan, US, Eastern Europe)  
- Tour of the NTT Communication Center  
- Tour of the NHK Broadcasting Center
With the Great Hanshin Earthquake in January and the Tokyo subway sarin attack in March, it was a period full of grim news. Trade frictions between the US and Japan heated up and the US warned that it would impose sanctions against Japan under the Super 301 provisions. During the internship, we held a special lecture on US-Japan relations to deepen mutual understanding between the countries through the fields of politics and economics.

Amidst worries about the impact of the Great Hanshin Earthquake the year before, 19 interns arrived in Japan. The interns were highly interested in Kobe’s reconstruction, so in addition to paying a courtesy visit Governor Kaibara of Hyogo Prefecture, they inspected the reconstruction support projects being carried out by the Pasona group such as Kobe Harbor Circus. Further, we held a US-Japan student symposium, presided over by Professor Yoshida of Kobe University, where we provided information on reconstruction.

Period: June 2 – August 5
Students: 9
Companies: 9
Activities:
- Special Lecture: “Japan’s Diplomatic Policies for the Pacific Rim Region” (Prof. Hang Blackburn, Temple University, Japan)
- Tour of the NTT Communication Center
- Tour of the NHK Broadcasting Center
- Cultural exchange events
- Japanese Speech Contest

Interns talk about their dreams at the Japanese Speech Contest

Period: June 8 – August 11
Students: 13
Companies: 10
Activities:
- Special Lecture: “Significance of Economy/Politics/Security in the US-Japan Relations” (Prof. Hang Blackburn, Temple University, Japan)
- Tour of the NTT Communication Center
- Japanese Speech Contest
- Study session at the residence of Yasuyuki Nambu

Lecture by Prof. Jiro Tamura, Keio University
Meeting with Public Affairs Officer of the US Embassy, Mr. Paul Blackburn and Mrs. Blackburn

Period: June 6 – August 9
Students: 19
Companies: 10
Activities:
- Special Lecture: “Future of the Matured US-Japan Relations” (Prof. Jiro Tamura, Keio University)
- US-Japan Student Symposium in Kobe “What We Should Do To Grasp The Moment” (facilitated by Prof. Junichi Yoshida, Kobe University)
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum
- Study session at the residence of Yasuyuki Nambu

A courtesy visit to Governor Kaibara of Hyogo Prefecture to learn about the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and the current state of revitalization

AIESEC-Nambu Foundation joint event, "US-Japan Student Symposium"
This year, the year Hong Kong was returned to China, Japan’s financial institutions’ problem of bad debt intensified due to the economic stagnation that had continued since the bubble collapsed. Combined with the Asian financial crisis, large banks and securities companies were going bankrupt one after the other. There were 24 students who participated in the internship, which celebrated its 10th anniversary, but there were no financial institutions among the host companies.

### 1997

**Period:** June 5 – August 8  
**Students:** 24  
**Companies:** 17  
**Activities:**  
- The program’s 10th Anniversary Party (Mr. Hans Klemm, First Secretary at US Embassy)  
- Special Lecture: “US-Japan Relations” (Prof. Jiro Tamura, Keio University)  
- Tour of the NTT Multimedia Center  
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum  
- Kabuki viewing

### 1998

**Period:** June 3 – August 7  
**Students:** 23  
**Companies:** 13  
**Activities:**  
- Special Lecture by Prof. Jiro Tamura, Keio University  
- US-Japan Student Symposium “Do Youth Today Have Ambition?” (facilitated by Mr. Yoshimi Ishikawa, Writer)  
- Cultural Exchange Party in Akasaka with Masayoshi Son, Founder of SoftBank Group and Naoto Kan, President of The Democratic Party of Japan  
- Japanese Speech Contest

### 1999

**Period:** June 6 – August 6  
**Students:** 6  
**Companies:** 5  
**Activities:**  
- Special Lecture: “Future of US-Japan Relations” (Prof. Jiro Tamura, Keio University)  
- Special Lecture: “US-Japan Political/Economic Relations” (Toshiko Igarashi, Deputy Senior Research Specialist, Social Infrastructure Research Institute)  
- Tour of the National Diet Building  
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum  
- Tour of the Koyama Brewery
The world's attention came to focus on China, where large growth continued while Japan's economic environment still hadn't improved. Japan came to be avoided as a place for business offices and studying abroad in a phenomenon known as “Japan passing,” with money and capital flowing into various Asian countries with the focus on China.

2000  Year-13

Period: June 8 – August 11
Students: 8
Companies: 4
Activities:
- Tour of the National Diet Building
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum
- Tea ceremony experience held at the tea house “Koka” in the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum

With Eizaburo Nambu, Michiko Nambu and Yasuyuki Nambu at the Final Presentation ceremony

Participated in tea ceremony at the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum

2001  Year-14

Period: June 7 – August 10
Students: 8
Companies: 6
Activities:
- Special Lecture: “Japan’s Economy and Economic Summary of East Asia” (Yukimitsu Sanada, Assistant Professor, Aichi Shukutoku University)
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum
- Soba noodle making experience

Lecture by Assistant Professor Sanada, Aichi Shukutoku University

Learning Japanese culture through making Soba

2002  Year-15

Period: June 6 – August 9
Students: 8
Companies: 6
Activities:
- Special Lecture by Kazuo Noda, Honorary President of Tama University
- Tour of the National Diet Building
- Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum
- Papermaking and carp banner making

Lecture by Kazuo Noda, Honorary President, Tama University

Field trip to Kawagoe City (aka Little Edo)
The severity of the recession in Japan worsened, with the unemployment rate reaching 5.5% in 2002, the highest it had been since the war, and stock prices dropping below 8,000 yen in 2003 for the first time in 20 years. The companies hosting interns were limited, and the participants of Asian descent who held a strong interest in Japan came to stand out.

2003

Period: June 5 – August 3  
Students: 7  
Companies: 4  
Activities:  
● Special Lecture: “Urban Development and Cities in the World” (Mr. Hiroshi Nakamura, HR of Mori Building Co., Ltd.)  
● Tour to the East Garden of the Imperial Palace  
● Tour of the National Diet Building  
● Experience traditional pottery - making

2004

Period: June 10 – August 11  
Students: 9  
Companies: 6  
Activities:  
● Interns submit thesis about what it means to work and are interviewed by The Japan Times  
● Tour of the National Diet Building  
● Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum  
● Japanese flower arrangement experience  
● Kabuki viewing

2005

Period: June 9 – August 12  
Students: 8  
Companies: 4  
Activities:  
● Tour of the National Diet Building  
● Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum  
● Attended pottery class
2006 Year-19

Period: June 15 – August 8  
Students: 8  
Companies: 5  
Activities:  
● Tour of Tokyo Stock Exchange  
● Tour of the National Diet Building  
● Tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum  
● Attended pottery class  
● Field trip to Sanrio Puroland

Period: June 18 – August 17 (US)  
July 9 – September 7 (Asia)  
Students: 13  
Companies: 8  
Activities:  
● The program’s 20th Anniversary Forum: “Workforce Management in the Age of Globalization” (co-hosted with the Japan Society for CHO)  
● The program’s 20th Anniversary Party held at Club PASONA Omotesando  
● Tour of Tokyo Stock Exchange

Period: June 30 – August 29  
Students: 14  
Companies: 9  
Activities:  
● Tour of the National Diet Building  
● Tour of the Office of the Prime Minister  
● Soba noodle making, wind chime painting experience

Students who wanted to gain experience at Japanese corporations increased due to an admiration of Japan among Asian youth as a result of the permeation of Japanese pop culture, including anime. Japanese companies also continued to expand into the Asian market and so we extended our program to the Asian market for the first time in this year beginning with 3 regions: China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.

2007 Year-20

2008 Year-21

Participants fascinated by underground farm, PASONA O2

Learned about the Japanese culture through wind chime painting class
The “Lehman Shock,” a global financial crisis that resulted from Lehman Brothers declaring bankruptcy the year prior, cast a grave shadow not only on the American market but on the entire global economy. Japan was also impacted, with stock prices plummeting and the Japanese economy falling into an economic downturn. This year, there were only 7 host companies.

2009 Year-22

Period: July 6 – August 28
Students: 8
Companies: 7
Activities:
- Special Lecture by Mr. Yoshimi Ishikawa, Writer
- Tour of the National Diet Building
- Sky Bus Tokyo tour of the Imperial Palace and Marunouchi district
- Soba noodle making, attended pottery class

2010 Year-23

Period: July 5 – August 27
Students: 12
Companies: 9
Activities:
- Special Lectures by Heizo Takenaka (Chairman/Director), Mr. Yoshimi Ishikawa (Writer), Koichiro Matsuura (Former Director-General of UNESCO) and Shintaro Ito (Former State Minister for Foreign Affairs)
- Soba noodle making, wind chime painting experience

2011 Year-24

Period: July 4 – August 26
Students: 10
Companies: 9
Activities:
- Special Lecture: “The Future of Global Society Based on the Current Japan-China Relations” (Mr. Yoshimi Ishikawa, Writer)
- Participated in the Pasona Group “Shadow Cabinet” meetings on the topic of earthquake disaster relief
- Participated in the “Iwate Sports Caravan” as volunteers of the Special Olympics
- Japanese drum performance at the Bon Dance Festival of the City of Funabashi

Tour of the National Diet Building hosted by Mr. Yasuhide Nakayama, a member of the House of Representatives

Japanese song performance by interns at the Farewell Party ceremony

Volunteered to help those with disabilities who suffered from the Great East Japan Earthquake in Iwate Prefecture

Interns performing Japanese drums at the Bon Dance Festival of the City of Funabashi to support reconstruction

Amidst a sharp decline in foreign visitors to Japan due to the impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the resulting Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, 10 interns still came to Japan without a single one declining. Moreover, wishing to support Japan’s recovery, they actively engaged in activities such as practicing and performing on the Japanese drums at a summer festival and volunteering at an event supporting the disabled in a disaster-hit area of Tohoku.
As the consumption tax was set to be raised to 8% the following year, the Bank of Japan decided to introduce a policy of “Quantitative and Qualitative Monetary Easing” aiming to reach a year-over-year inflation rate of 2% within 2 years in an effort to pull Japan out of its prolonged recession. Japanese companies accelerated their expansion into the ASEAN region, where economic growth continued, not only as a base for manufacturing but also as a new sales market. At the program, we took in university students from Vietnam and Indonesia for the first time.

2012 Year-25

Period: July 2 – August 28
Students: 13
Companies: 12
Activities:
● The program’s 25th Anniversary Forum: “Utilization of Global Human Resources at Japanese Companies”
● Interns teach about their home country to children participating in the Pasona Family Day “Global Challenge”
● Cultural exchange event “Summer Festival for Everyone”
● Sky Bus Tokyo tour of the Imperial Palace and Marunouchi district

2013 Year-26

Period: July 1 – August 27
Students: 11
Companies: 10
Activities:
● Special Lecture by Heizo Takenaka (Chairman/Director)
● Participated in “Awa Odori Dance” and Cross-culture session “Global Challenge” at Pasona Family Day
● Cultural exchange event “International Exchange Night”
● Visited “Mitaka no Mori Ghibli Museum”, attended pottery class

2014 Year-27

Period: June 30 – August 26
Students: 20
Companies: 17
Activities:
● Special Lecture by Heizo Takenaka (Chairman/Director)
● Cultural exchange event “International Exchange Night”
● Tour of Tokyo Stock Exchange
● Zazen (seated meditation) at the Enkakuji Temple in Kamakura, tea ceremony, attended pottery class

Program alumni participate as panelists in the 25th Anniversary Forum
Visited Nedu shrine for the cultural exchange event

As the consumption tax was set to be raised to 8% the following year, the Bank of Japan decided to introduce a policy of “Quantitative and Qualitative Monetary Easing” aiming to reach a year-over-year inflation rate of 2% within 2 years in an effort to pull Japan out of its prolonged recession. Japanese companies accelerated their expansion into the ASEAN region, where economic growth continued, not only as a base for manufacturing but also as a new sales market. At the program, we took in university students from Vietnam and Indonesia for the first time.
The number of foreign visitors to Japan reached a record high of 19.73 million, and for the first time in 45 years, the number of inbound tourists exceeded the number of outbound Japanese tourists. In order to take advantage of the economic effects of these foreign visitors to Japan, the acceptance of tourists gained momentum around the country. On Awaji Island, Hyogo Prefecture, where the Pasona group is developing regional revitalization projects, the program carried out a Cool Japan workshop in which we discussed about the appeal of regional areas from the perspective of foreigners.

2015 Year-28

Period: June 29 – August 21
Students: 15
Companies: 10
Activities:
- Special Lecture by Heizo Takenaka (Chairman/Director)
- Awaji Island Cool Japan workshop (Experienced playing the Japanese drum, visited the Pasona Challenge Farm, Nojima Scuola, and Miele, participated in Awaji Island Festival)
- Alumni Group Session
- Tour to Tokyo Metropolitan Government headquarters and Tokyo Tower

2016 Year-29

Period: July 4 – August 26
Students: 17
Companies: 12
Activities:
- Osaka University Special Open Lecture: “Practical Global Leadership”
- Chinese Cultural Exchange Event
- Alumni Group Session
- Aircraft maintenance shop tour at Haneda Airport

2017 Year-30

Period: July 3 – August 31
Students: 15
Companies: 11
Activities:
- Osaka University Special Open Lecture: “Practical Global Leadership”
- JOB-HAKU SUMMER alumni seminar
- Tour of the Currency Museum, Bank of Japan
- Soba noodle making, faceted glass making

Up until now, 463 students have participated in the internship, which has celebrated its 30th anniversary. In these past 30 years, the global activities of Japanese corporations have expanded greatly and the companies actively recruiting foreign talent domestically have also increased. In 2017, the program expanded its list of target countries to include India for the first time and a total of 15 students participated in the internship.

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- Alumni Group Session
- Tour to Tokyo Metropolitan Government headquarters and Tokyo Tower

2016 Year-29

Period: July 4 – August 26
Students: 17
Companies: 12
Activities:
- Osaka University Special Open Lecture: “Practical Global Leadership”
- Chinese Cultural Exchange Event
- Alumni Group Session
- Aircraft maintenance shop tour at Haneda Airport

2017 Year-30

Period: July 3 – August 31
Students: 15
Companies: 11
Activities:
- Osaka University Special Open Lecture: “Practical Global Leadership”
- JOB-HAKU SUMMER alumni seminar
- Tour of the Currency Museum, Bank of Japan
- Soba noodle making, faceted glass making

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In 1988, I was attending the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. While Japan bashing and trade frictions between Japan and the US were becoming social problems, there were many outstanding students around me who were thinking, “I want to gain experience at Japanese companies leading the global business.” When Group CEO Nambu came to visit Harvard, I was very impressed hearing about his passionate desire to “contribute to improve US-Japan relations.” I then gathered my fellow classmates and together, we were able to contribute in starting this wonderful program.

Ms. Koko Kato
Director, National Congress of Industrial Heritage Foundation
Interns from Hong Kong also began coming to Japan in 2007

H.E. Kuninori Matsuda
Ambassador and Consul-General
Consulate-General of Japan in Hong Kong
Interns from Indonesia also began coming to Japan in 2013

H.E. Masafumi Ishii
Ambassador
Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Indonesia

Interns from Vietnam also began coming to Japan in 2007

Mr. Mikio Numata
Chief Representative, Taipei Office
Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association

Interns from Taiwan also began coming to Japan in 2007

Mr. Mikio Numata
Chief Representative, Taipei Office
Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association

Interns from Indonesia also began coming to Japan in 2013

H.E. Junichi Kawaue
Consul General
Consulate-General of Japan in Ho Chi Minh City
Interns from Indonesia also began coming to Japan in 2013
H.E. Masafumi Ishii
Ambassador
Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Indonesia

Interns from Vietnam also began coming to Japan in 2013
H.E. Junichi Kawaue
Consul General
Consulate-General of Japan in Ho Chi Minh City

When the Pasona Internship Program (Nambu Foundation Internship) was first established, its office was in Rockefeller Plaza, located in central Manhattan, New York City. The flags of about 200 UN member states were flying at the plaza, and even now I vividly recall trying to memorize all of them whenever I passed by with Group CEO Nambu. Today, the Pasona Internship Program takes in students from many of the countries whose flags were flying there, and I feel proud that the list is growing every year. I look forward to the program continuing to expand in the future and inviting students from all over the world to Japan.

Ms. Naomi Niwa

Dr. Christina H. Paxson
President
Brown University

Participant from 2015
Dr. Ma Xiao Bing
Professor
School of Foreign Languages, Peking University

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Ms. Naomi Niwa
Congratulations to the Pasona International Exchange Programme on its 30th Anniversary and its efforts in pioneering the promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and the world for our next generation.

Thanks to the Founder Mr. Yasuaki Nambu, Pasona is such a splendid organization which demonstrates its commitment to prioritising corporate social responsibility (CSR) and holding corporations accountable for the development of the world’s future leaders. Over the past 30 years, the International Exchange Programme of Pasona has provided numerous opportunities for people, especially the youth, to realize their potential to learn and develop in different dimensions.

The programme has also introduced many young talents of the world to Japanese society and the distinctiveness of Japanese culture. Hong Kong is very lucky to be one of the beneficiaries. Being a staff of the University of Hong Kong, I am so proud that our students from different faculties of the University have been joining the programme during the past 10 years. I strongly believe they all have enriched their knowledge and obtained an unforgettable experience via the programme.

Building on the three decades of hard work and experience, I am sure the Pasona International Exchange Programme is forwarding to another new chapter. I want to congratulate it again and wish the programme to continue its great success in the future.

Yours Faithfully

Mr. Baniel Cheung
Adjunct Assistant Professor
The University of Hong Kong

Participant from 2016

Mr. Yi-Chien Chen
Director, Career Counseling Division Office of Student Affairs
National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations for the Pasona Internship Program’s 30th anniversary. This program, which began in 1988 in the US, has continued on for 30 years and has recently expanded its list of target nations to include various Asian countries. Its activities are noteworthy as a private business’s contribution to society, and I would like to express my sincere respect for them.

I believe that for these young talents, who are brimming with ambition and bear the future on their shoulders, learning a different language and culture and developing a global perspective through the internship will be of great value, not only for their lives and individual careers, but also for the development of Japanese society and the prosperity of the global society in the future. I look forward to the Pasona Internship Program’s further progress towards their noble goal of promoting international mutual understanding and supporting the dreams of youth who are globally active.

Dr. Gerald L. Curtis
Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science
Columbia University
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Dr. Gerald L. Curtis
Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science
Columbia University

Participant from 2016
Ms. Lady Diana Yusri
Professor
Japanese Language Faculty Head, Andalas University

Participant from 2014
Dr. Dao Thi Nga My
Dean, Faculty of Oriental Languages and Cultures, University of Languages and International Studies – Vietnam National University, Hanoi

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株式会社バソナグループ
代表取締役グループ代表
南野 基之 僕

称事 若葉が目にまぶしい指摘になりましたが、ますますご活躍のこととお慶
び申し上げます。

さて、「バソナ国際交流プログラム」が昭和63年に社会貢献活動として開始
され、本年、30周年を迎えられたことをお祝い申し上げます。

「バソナ国際交流プログラム」は、特定日本と各国の絆を担う国際交流、
豊かな人間を育成するインターナショナルプログラムとして、各国から奨励され
た学生に、日本国内企業でのビジネス経験と日本文化を学ぶ機会を広く提供さ
れました。このような事業は、日本と各国の相互理解を深め、友好関係の
基礎を築くものとするうえで有益であり、貴社の社会貢献活動に心から敬意
を表します。

アジア太平洋地域での経済活動が世界的にも注目される中、近年はアジア各
国での顧客の皆様の皆様の皆様を広げてみられ、本プログラムが拡大し、重要性を増
していることを深く思います。

バソナグループの今後益々のご成長と次世代を担う若者たちの更なる躍進を
祈念して、お祝いのメッセージといたします。

敬具

平成30年5月吉日
外務副大臣・参議院議員
佐藤正久

H.E. Masahisa Sato
State Minister for Foreign Affairs
Member of the House of Councillors

H.E. Yasuhide Nakayama
Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Member of the House of Representatives
School of Participants

[ USA ]
- American University
- Amherst College
- Arizona State University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Bucknell University
- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
- California State University
- Campbell University
- Carleton University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Colgate University
- Colorado State University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- DePauw University
- Dickinson University
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Georgetown University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kent State University
- Lewis Clark State College
- Long Island University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State University
- Middlebury College
- Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey
- Minnesota State University
- New York University
- New York University School of Law
- North Carolina State University
- Northwestern University
- Oberlin College
- Occidental College
- Ohio State University
- Ohio University
- Oregon State University
- Princeton University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Simmons College
- Stanford University
- State University of New York
- The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art
- The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
- The George Washington University
- The Pennsylvania State University
- The University of Arizona
- The University of Massachusetts Amherst
- The University of Minnesota
- The University of Texas
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of Utah
- Thunderbird School of Global Management
- Truman State University
- Tufts University
- University of Akron
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Georgia
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan
- University of Nevada
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of Toledo
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Waterloo
- University of Wisconsin
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Webster University
- Wellesley College
- Wesleyan University
- West Virginia University
- Yale University

[ UK ]
- The University of Warwick
- University of Oxford

[ China ]
- Beijing Foreign Studies University
- Beijing International Studies University
- Chinese Culture University
- Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
- Jinan University
- Peking University
- Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
- South China University of Technology
- Sun Yat-sen University
- Tongji University
- Tsinghua University
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Georgia
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan
- University of Nevada
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of Toledo
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Waterloo
- University of Wisconsin
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Webster University
- Wellesley College
- Wesleyan University
- West Virginia University
- Yale University

[ Hong Kong ]
- Hong Kong Baptist University
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- The University of Hong Kong

[ Taiwan ]
- Fu Jen Catholic University
- National Chengchi University
- National Taiwan University
- National Taiwan University of Science and Technology
- Providence University
- Tamkang University

[ Vietnam ]
- Foreign Trade University
- Foreign Trade University, Ho Chi Minh Campus
- Ho Chi Minh City University of Teacher Training
- Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology
- Ho Chi Minh City University of Foreign Languages - Information Technology
- Hue University, Hue College of Economics
- Phuoc Dong University
- The University of Da Nang, College of Economics
- Vietnam National University, Hanoi

[ Indonesia ]
- Andalas University
- State University of Jakarta
- STBA IJA
- University of Brawijaya

[ India ]
- Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth
What sparked your interest in Japan?

1. I want to learn Japanese 56 persons
2. I like traditional Japanese culture 48 persons
3. I want to learn Japanese business management 24 persons
4. Japanese anime and drama 22 persons
5. I previously lived in Japan 13 persons

For many alumni, Japanese language and culture were what sparked their interest in Japan. There is also a tendency among the younger generations to answer that they became interested in Japan though “Japanese anime and drama,” suggesting that in recent years Japanese pop culture has become an opportunity for people to gain interest in Japan.

Successful Alumni Around the World

1990
Donna Ducharme
Trained at Polydor Records
Employed at the UN

This internship was an important step in establishing my international career. In my work at the UN, I come in contact with many cultures. My experience in learning about the Japanese culture helped me as I lived in other countries and learned about other cultures. It was the most exhausting 4 months of my life, and the most interesting 4 months of my life!

1991
Michel van Ackere
Trained at Takenaka Corporation
Employed at Maki and Associates

Experiencing a large Japanese corporate structure from the inside was an invaluable experience, and a rare opportunity. The connections and friendships made during that summer have lasted to today. The perspective I gained on Japanese company life has been helpful in understanding current-day Japan. The inclusion of a more global outreach in recent years is very positive.

1992
Ken Oshima
Trained at Takenaka Corporation
Professor at the University of Washington

Since the internship targets the young which is a critical period in a person’s life for education and building a foundation for their career, the program fosters the next generation of workers. Moreover, these activities deepen friendships between Japan and other countries. I am extremely grateful to Group CEO Nambu and many others for the opportunity to participate in this program.

1995
Stephen Songer
Trained at Pasona
Systems Engineer at the University of Washington

Thanks to the internship program, I was able to find a job in Japan and work in Japan for a little over six years. I definitely think the internship experience gave me an advantage over other candidates when looking for a job. Most importantly were the friendships I made during my short time there. While it’s been over 20 years since my internship, I still meet with several people every time I visit Japan.

1997
Daniel Aldrich
Trained at Pasona
Professor at Northeastern University

I’m currently a college professor in a field related to recovery from the 2011 Tohoku earthquake. My internship set the stage for my career, as I focused during that time on how Kobe used private and public sector assets to recover after the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake. Much of my research since then has focused on this issue of resilience to crisis. I’m very thankful for such a wonderful opportunity.

2000
Lawrence A. Smalheiser
Trained at Pasona
Vice President, Sparkpr

I am thankful for an amazing summer experience that has in fact helped determine my career path. After the internship, I pursued Public Relations and Communications as a career. Now on my 17th year in the industry, I am a VP with a technology-focused PR agency in California. I have been fortunate enough to take advantage of the wonderful experience I gained during this internship in my work.
Q.2 What did you gain from participating in this program?

1. Understanding of Japanese culture and customs 63 persons
2. Learning Japanese business manners 60 persons
3. Improvements in Japanese language ability 57 persons
4. Building a network/personal connections 41 persons
5. A clearer career vision 22 persons

This suggests that the understanding of Japanese culture, Japanese-style business manners, and Japanese language ability that they have acquired are being greatly utilized while currently working at Japanese companies or in jobs relating to Japan. We also see many alumni fostering their connections with one another even after the program has ended.

Survey period: March – April 2018
Voices of Program Participants

Q.3 Do you wish to seek employment in Japan or at a Japanese company in the future?

In addition to Japanese companies and global corporations, our alumni are active at universities, international institutions such as the UN and more. Approximately 80% of alumni across all generations answered that they would like to work in Japan or at a Japanese company in the future.

Survey period: March – April 2018

Successful Alumni Around the World

2011
Li Wan Kiu, Queenie
Trained at NEC
Employed at Messrs. Kao, Lee & Yip

I remember back then I doubted whether I would fit into the Japanese working style and whether I had sufficient knowledge to meet the demands of my superiors. All my doubts, however, were instantly removed after I met my mentors and the members of Pasona. They were welcoming and understood the worries and the needs of the participants. I find the training on Japanese business manners particularly helpful. I also appreciate the time taken by company executives and global personnel for sharing their valuable experiences.

2012
Zeng Zeng
Trained at Imperial Hotel
Studying at the Tohoku University, Graduate School of International Cultural Studies

The summer of 2012 will be a summer I’ll never forget. It was the first time I came to Japan and experienced Japanese culture. I also learned Japanese business manners, met many people, and learned the importance of bonds between people. I wish that many more bonds between people are developed through the Pasona Internship Program in the future.

2012
Chou Peichen
Trained at NEC
Employed at PwC Consulting

I was able to build a career in Japan thanks to the Pasona Internship Program. I am still in touch with the people that looked after me at the time and they continued to help me after I started working in Japan. I will treasure these bonds forever. This program that has supported Japanese companies to go global for 30 years is an asset to Japan.

2013
Tuti Alawiyah
Trained at Pasona
Currently studying at Hokkaido University

I was the first intern from Indonesia. The Pasona Internship Program had a huge impact on my life and was an unbelievable 2 months. I look forward to many more Indonesian students participating in this amazing program in the future.

2016
Tang Chung Yin, Edwin
Trained at Hirose Electric
Employed at Hirose Electric

The Pasona Internship Program let me have a wide range of experiences and helped me to grow as a person. It was a summer to remember. Furthermore, I started working at Hirose Electric, where I had my internship. I pray that this program continues to develop.

2017
Doan Thu Quynh
Trained at Pasona Tech
Currently studying at Foreign Trade University

This internship gave me the opportunity to look not only at Japan but the world too. It also taught me a range of skills in addition to the Japanese language. I was particularly moved by Japanese hospitality, and the kindness of my friends and people in my workplace. I still miss everyone. Thanks to this internship, my future career path became clear as well.
Program Offices

Japan
Pasona Group Inc.
JOB HUB SQUARE
Otemachi 2-6-2 Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-8228 Japan
Tel: +81-3-6734-0215

Vietnam
Pasona Tech Vietnam Co., Ltd
M Floor, E.Town 1, 364 Cong Hoa Str.,
Tan Binh Dist., Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Tel: +84-28-3812-7150

United States
Pasona N A, Inc.
340 Madison Avenue, Suite 12-B,
New York, NY 10173 U.S.A.
Tel: +1-212-661-5110

Indonesia
PT Pasona HR Indonesia
Prudential Centre Fl.5A, Kota Kasablanka,
Jl. Kasablanka Kav.88,
Jakarta Selatan 12870, Indonesia
Tel: +62-21-2956-8555

China
Pasona Human Resources
(Shanghai) Co., Ltd.
910 Lippo Plaza, 222 Huaihai Middle Rd.,
Shanghai City, China 20021
Tel: +86-21-5382-8210

India
Pasona India Private Limited
F-127&128, First Floor, Rectangle One, D-4
District Center, Saket, New Delhi - 110017,
India
Tel: +91-11-46525252

Hong Kong
Pasona Education Co., Limited
2/F, Vulcan House, 21-23 Leighton Road,
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Tel: +852-2577-8002

Malaysia
Pasona HR Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
Lot11-03, 11th Floor, Menara Hap Seng 2,
Plaza Hap Seng, No.1, Jalan P.Ramlee, 50250,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: +60-3-2022-2813

Taiwan
Pasona Taiwan Co., Ltd.
No.65-6, Sec. 2, Dunhua S. Rd., Da’an Dist.,
Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
Tel: +886-2-2708-2929

Korea
Pasona Korea Co., Ltd.
201 Jinhyeon Bldg, 12, Bongeunsaro 47gil,
Gangnam-gu, Seoul, 06103, Korea
Tel: +82-2-2038-3786

※As of April 30, 2018
Pasona Internship Program
30th Anniversary