### シンガポール日本商工会議所基金 新奨学生の紹介 「JCCI SINGAPORE FOUNDATION NEW SCHOLARS」

月報1月号でもご報告をいたしました通り、昨年12月7日に開催した「2023年度寄付先・奨学生贈呈式」にて、2024年の秋より3名の学生が日本へ留学することを発表しました。本号では、留学を予定している3名の学生をご紹介いたします。

#### Ms. Adrienne Yap Tzi Shuan

早稲田大学への奨学生 (September 2024- July 2025)

#### Please tell us about yourself

Hello! I am Adrienne, a third-year Business Administration (Accountancy) undergraduate at the National University of Singapore, with a minor in Japanese Language.

## **What made you want to study in Japan?**

My interest in Japan developed when I first visited the beautiful country. I was fascinated by the unique culture, history, and sights. How Japan, a technologically advanced country with tall skyscrapers, is surrounded by shrines, temples, and traditional festivals. Enamoured by the blend of modern city life with traditional culture, I fell in love with Japan and began to actively find ways to learn more about the country – deciding to pursue a minor in the Japanese language in university, attending events to converse with the Japanese people and learning Japanese while in Canada. With the JCCI scholarship, I will be able to study in the country I grew to love, for an extended period of time, truly immersing myself in the culture of the land of rising sun.

## What do you intend to study at the university in Japan?

As I am currently minoring in Japanese Language, I intend to take up the Japanese Language program and Japanese-centric modules to build on my foundation and learn more about Japan. In particular, "Japanese Art History" and "Art and Lifestyle of Japan: as seen through Two Centuries of Japanese Arts and Crafts" that cannot be found in my home university. I believe that these modules can provide me with a better understanding origin of Japanese arts as well as the lifestyle of the people. I plan to try out other interesting modules such as Japanese philosophy, photography, and other languages, to aid in my holistic development.

# How do you hope to bridge yourself between Singapore and Japan in the future?

I believe that through this scholarship, I will be able to attain a better understanding of the culture in Japan. As an accounting student, equipped with the knowledge of Singapore's accounting rules and regulations. In future, I hope to assist companies who would like to expand to Singapore from Japan. Also, as someone who enjoys meeting people from different walks of life, I hope that I could promote greater understanding, collaboration, and connection between these two counties.





#### Mr. Jeremy Lim How Boon

早稲田大学への奨学生 (September 2024- July 2025)

#### Please tell us about yourself

皆さん、初めまして! Hi everyone! I'm Jeremy, and I turn 23 this year. I'm a second-year Food Science and Technology student currently studying at the National University of Singapore and am additionally minoring in Nutrition and Japanese Language Studies. During my free time, I like working out at the gym, exploring new ice cream/beer flavours, and folding origami. I once folded Senbazuru (千羽鶴, lit. "Thousand Cranes") for my family to welcome the new year!

### What made you want to study in Japan?

I believe my strong interest and passion in Japan's food industry and culture is a major contributing factor! I've watched people's live-streams and videos, and witnessed firsthand, a variety of Japan's food and delicacies. It hasn' t just gotten my mouth watering, but also wondering how Japan's food industry maintains quality, freshness, and a favourable reputation inside and outside the country. I have since gained a deep appreciation for Japan's innovation and diligence in this regard. With the opportunities JCCI is providing me, using what I've learnt from my major to learn more about, and immerse myself in the wonders of the very forefront of Japan's food industry would be an incredibly humbling and exciting experience for me. I would love to find out more about how Japan's rich culture and history has influenced her philosophies in food as well!

# What do you intend to study at the university in Japan?

As a Food Science and Technology major, while not able to find courses directly relating to my major, I intend to take this chance to explore disciplines outside of my own to add breadth to my skillset and knowledge. I would also like to challenge myself with something I am mostly unfamiliar with. I am currently expressing interest in courses with topics such as linguistics, ethics, cultural understanding and even photography. I am sure I would be able to find meaningful interconnections between them and my own life and career!

# How do you hope to bridge yourself between Singapore and Japan in the future?

I intend to utilise my gained experiences from Japan to contribute to the vibrance of Singapore's own food industry. As someone who is passionate about Japan's food industry and methodologies, I hope to gain inspiration and bring back that understanding to Singapore, as I progress in Singapore's own food scene. Being able to promote a greater appreciation for Japan's cuisines and practices through my career is very fulfilling, and I hope they positively affect others in Singapore as well, as they have done for me. Furthermore, I would also like to reach out to the Japanese community in Singapore. Living in a neighbourhood close to the Japanese community, it is my wish to form inter-cultural connections through introducing the Japanese culture to my Singaporean friends, and vice versa.





#### Mr. Benjamin Chee Jin Hong

国際基督教大学への奨学生 (August 2024 - June 2025)

#### Please tell us about yourself

Hello everyone! My name is Benjamin, and I'm a second year student at the National University of Singapore majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering. Following my passion, I am also pursuing a minor in Japanese language. Ever since I was 15, Japanese music has been an irreplaceable part of my life, accompanying me during both studies and travels. Thus, it would be accurate to say that I have an immense fondness for Japanese music.

### **9** What made you want to study in Japan?

Due to my love for Japanese music, I have always been interested in Japanese culture. This interest intensified last summer when I participated in an exchange program in Aomori prefecture. During the program, I had the chance to befriend local university students and learn about their daily lives and traditions, which deepened my knowledge and appreciation of Aomori's rich local culture. This experience was so enjoyable that it fuelled my desire to undertake a longer exchange. Thus, I applied for the JCCI scholarship, hoping that by studying in Japan for a year, I could engage in more cultural exchanges and forge deeper connections with local students, thereby gaining a stronger understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture.

# What do you intend to study at the university in Japan?

Another one of my motivations for studying in Japan is to improve my Japanese language skills. My goal is to reach a decent level of proficiency by the end of the one year scholarship. To this end, I plan to enroll in Japanese language classes at ICU. Furthermore, I am keen to participate in classes that encourage active discussion as I would love to hear the diverse perspectives of my classmates. Engaging in these discussions could boost my understanding of Japan and help broaden my global outlook.

# How do you hope to bridge yourself between Singapore and Japan in the future?

My strength lies in building connections with others. I thoroughly enjoy meeting new people and learning about their culture as well as their personal goals and ambitions. I find it easy to forge connections in this way. Thus, I can foresee myself facilitating collaborations between Singapore and Japan in the future, where my knowledge of both Japan and Singapore culture and can help me excel as the link between the two countries. I also hope that my skills in English and Japanese can play a role in easing communications.



