FY 2015 Re-inventing Japan Project Leadership Development in the Fields of Food, Agriculture, and the Environment in Latin America (Short-term)

Department of Agricultural Economics • 1st Year José Miguel Manrique Velasco



• February, Wednesday 17th

After a long and tired trip, I arrived at Narita Airport where met Mr Iwai. He helped us with the transportation to Tokyo University of Agriculture. Here we met Miss Naomi. Then we have taken a little tour at the sports departments. Finally, we ate Japanese Traditional Meal as our welcome party.

• February, Thursday 18th

We had an orientation with the Prof. Suzuki about the departments and careers of the University. After we visit the University, for example, we entered in the library and I was surprised because this library has 550,000 copies in a small build. Then we learned about the NODAI's history and after this we visited to Department of Fermentation Science, in this department we could learn and try about the Sake. Also, we visited to the Department of Bioproduction and Environment Engineering. The department is very interesting and I want to try its model in my country, because there are a lot of technology and innovations, for example the raw trash was converted to fertilizer. Finally, we could stay in the agreement meeting of the directors of Chapingo University and NODAI University.



• February, Friday 19th

First we visited to Department of International Agricultural Development, the professor Sanada explained about this department. It has 7 laboratories and 22 professors. This teaching staff help to the students with his practices for example DNA extraction of plants. Also we had an introduction to



Department and Lecture on Japanese Agriculture with the professor Gojyo. This introduction was very important to my career because the professor explained about the problematical at agricultural villages. In this places the old people is the majority of the population and this create a big problem and its answer is in the study of Economic Agricultural Policy. I learn about this themes in my career, for this I want to study a mastery in Japan. Finally, we visited a museum around the University.

• February, Saturday 20th

We learned about of Mercado, this company is of the 3 that the university has. The Mercado Co. sells a lot of agricultural produce in crowded places of the city. In this day we sold at the main gate of the University. This company is very important to the farmers because the company does not raise the prices. Also there are products from Peru for example Camu Camu drink or coffee from the same country. After, we had the opportunity of visited the temple Meji Jingu and Shibuya.



• February, Sunday 21th

We had a tour of Tokyo, we visited a lot of places and all were beautiful. The Japanese culture is really nice and the safe is incredible. The gardens were amazing; in a few words I love Japan, for this I appreciate so much this opportunity.



• February, Monday 22th

First, we had a Lecture on Japanese Agriculture and we learned about the Japanese fields, the territory and others. The most important field is the rice, Japan has 177 varieties and only 10 varieties has 82.5% of the Japanese production. Also other important fields are radish, wasabi, strawberries, eggplant, apples and peaches. The weather is little complicated for the Typhoon and I had interest in the demand of strawberry because this demand increases at Christmas. This point is also important to my career because I am studying the demand and the offer about agricultural produce.

After we learned Japanese language with Yamada and finally we visited to Futakotamagawa Garden. This garden is a project of the University and the Alumni Association. The park has a Japanese style and is really beautiful.





• February, Tuesday 23th

We traveled to Nagawa Machi, Nagano ken. Then we visited the Obsidian Musuem; here we learned about the Obsidian's history for example before using the metal, humans used obsidian to make tools as knifes. Also We understood the location in Japan and the world. Mexico has obsidian because we have a volcanoes system in our country and we tried to make Jomon Art with obsidian and other materials. After that we tasted a natural water at Kokuyo's fountain. Finally, we stayed in Rengaya. The people is so kind.





• February, Wednesday 24th

We visited Shinshuu Tate Iwa Japanese Paper village, here learned How make Soba and we could see the difference between our Soba and the Professional Soba. After this we went to NODAI Practice Field where we understood about the old production Shitake Mushrooms and understood about the problematical at Japanese Villages. This Problematic is the Agricultural Economic Politics. Finally, we learned How make a Japanese fan with washi paper.

February, Thursday 25th

We visited the Matsumoto Castle, this is a very important point because if you want understand the present you should ask the past. This castle origins in the Sengoku period, we learned about his infrastructure and the weapons, also the symbols in the castle keep much culture.



• February, Friday 26th

We explained about our experience in this village with the Nagawa Machi Mayor. The most important topics was the transport and how to attract more tourism. Finally, we return to Setagaya Campus.





• February, Saturday 27th

We went to Hachioji to participate in Mercado Co. Here, there are more products than the first visit in Setagaya. I sold cheeses and fish and this experience was very funny and interesting because I could talk with a lot of people in Japanese.



• February, Sunday 28th

We came back to Mercado Co. for third time. In this market internship we were more encouraged in announcement the Camu Camu Drink and the coffee and because of it the manager congratulated us. Finally, we returned to the dormitory a few tired.



• February, Monday 29th



We visited to Isehara Farm, in this place we learned about the machinery, but is a little smaller than Mexican's machinery. We saw the production of vegetables and flowers in greenhouses and also the production of apples, grapes, peaches and citrus. The peaches three has a different form because facilitated harvesting. Also the farm has a greenhouse with tropical plants for example: banana, pitaya, papaya and others. After we visited to Atsugi campus, here we had an explanation about the careers in this campus, then we went to 3

laboratories: post-harvest research; animal physiology; animal plant human relationships; The most I liked was post-harvest research because I could see a lot graphics about the vegetables demand and fruits demand, also we tried a really delicious apple of the variety Fuji.





• March, Tuesday 01st

We had the presentation of the program in the facilities of the University. After we had a Cultural Exchange at Setagaya. We talked about our experiences and we visited to Asakusa Temple. The temple and sight was really nice. Finally, we had the dinner in a Japanese traditional restaurant, where we ate Okonomiyaki.



• March, Wednesday 02nd

We returned to our countries.