

“Special Lecture on Multicultural Societies (Cross-Cultural Talk 2016)”

Date & time: October 28th (Fri) 13:00-20:30 & 29th (Sat) 9:00-16:30

Venue: Aichi Health Plaza Hotel

The “Special Lecture on Multicultural Societies (Cross-Cultural Talk 2016)” was held at Aichi Health Plaza Hotel on October 28th & 29th. This year, the theme of the Cross-Cultural Talk was “Multidisciplinary research ~ Cross-Culture & Cross-Research~”.

On 28th October, program coordinator of Well-being program, Prof. Hiroko Tsukamura delivered the opening remarks. In the first session, a workshop for team building facilitated by Dr. Nicola Skoulding, Assistant Professor of Well-being program, followed by two lectures for studying multidisciplinary research were held. The first lecture entitled “What is interdisciplinary research?” was given by Dr. Kasumi Ito, Associate Professor of International Cooperation Center for Agricultural Education, Nagoya University. She showed us how to conduct interdisciplinary research through introducing her research projects held in Nepal and Cambodia. She also referred to some issues on conducting interdisciplinary research in the real world. The second lecture entitled “How do political studies handle gender?” was given by Dr. Tetsuki Tamura, Professor of Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University. He suggested that we ourselves are actors of politics at any time in our everyday life. In family relationships, in friendship relations, and so on, all of us will encounter politics as collective decision making. If we can think and change our ways of politics in our everyday life, it may help to dissolve the existing gender division of labor between female and male. After dinner, group works for understanding cultural backgrounds of participants, which were planned and moderated by the second batch students, were held.

On 29th October, in the morning, students had group discussion on “how to apply my research to realize well-being in Asia”. In the afternoon, each group gave a presentation on what they discussed in their group and answered questions from the audience. Finally, Professors of the four graduate schools gave feedback on the student’s presentations and the closing remarks was

delivered by the program coordinator.

The Cross-Cultural Talk 2016 was held only with the Well-being program students for the first time. In total, there were 70 participants, 45 students, including first, second, and third batch students, and 25 faculty members. Participants of 15 different nationalities gathered this year, and students could learn and discuss in a multicultural environment. Since students planned and moderated several sessions in the Cross-Cultural Talk 2016, we realized that students are acquiring planning skills and so on. The Cross-Cultural Talk 2016 was also fruitful in that students and staff of the Well-being program could interact each other and reaffirm the missions and aims of the program.



(Left: Group works, Middle: Group photo, Right: Preparing the presentation slides in each group)