

Event Report

**Project to Create Research and Educational Hubs for Innovative Manufacturing in Asia
— Online CIS Activity Report (Myanmar) —**

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The Coupling Internship (CIS) event in the fiscal year 2020 was held online by connecting Japan and Myanmar (Yangon) from Dec. 4th to 21st. Since it was prohibited to travel overseas due to the effect of the new coronavirus this year, the CIS was carried out online for the first time. In this online Myanmar CIS, a total of eight students participated: two from School of Foreign Studies, one from School of Economics and one from Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka Univ. (OU); one from Graduate School of Metallurgical Engineering/Material Science, one from Faculty of Metallurgical Engineering/Material Science and two from Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Yangon Technological Univ. (YTU)

Since last June, OU's students had taken a total of eight pre-training sessions in Japan to prepare for the actual online communication. For two days since the online CIS was begun, the students attended for giving an overview of Japan and Myanmar, introduction of Japanese manufacturing enterprises, training for communications, education of basic welding knowledge, and preliminary examination of CIS practice theme.

On Dec. 16th and the following two days, they attended the corporate training by connecting online to J&M Steel Solutions (bridge manufacturer, subsidiary of JFE Engineering) in Yangon, in which the students learned corporate missions, business organizations, and lines of business.

The students also interviewed corporate executives and leaders on the training theme, “Issues and Countermeasures for Labor Motivation,” and engaged in team discussions every day to prepare for the final debriefing session.

On the final day of Dec. 21st, the students reported the results of review of the practice theme. At the final reporting session (See Photo), a total of 16 people attended, including President Akeno, General Manager Suzuki and Deputy Section Manager Hashimoto from J&M, Prof. Mon (Mechanical Engineering Dept., Head) and Prof. Yun (Material Science Dept. Head) from YTU, Visiting Prof. Suga (Joining and Welding Research Institute) and Assoc. Prof. Hashimoto from OU. Both A and B teams of students proposed improvements of such various issues as working environment, evaluation system, education for employees, and communication, on which there were lively questions and answers. President Akeno commented, “I want to examine the proposals by all means.” The students have overcome the barriers in online communication and understood the difficulties and fun of intercultural communication and global teamwork, and have learnt about the activities of a global manufacturing company and their efforts to tackle the problems in business.

At the end of the online CIS, all the students promised, “See you again someday!”

