GLOBAL CAFE

### KAGAWA UNIVERSITY GLOBAL CAFÉ NEWSLETTER



# FRESH START AT GLOBAL CAFÉ

With the arrival of spring, the Global Café at Kagawa University is buzzing with activities and new learning opportunities. As the weather finally begins to warm, the GC is buzzing with students.

This semester was kicked off with our Welcome Weeks activities. We began with the annual Hanami-Kai at Ritsurin Koen, which started last year as a chance to reconnect and meet new students. This year we experienced nice weather in the park, while we played cards, talked, and walked around together. The first two weeks of the new semester, students also dropped by to listen to lunchtime music sessions performed by student groups. A student band from the K-On club covered songs by Super Beaver. The following day, Birdland, a group composed of members of the Jazz circle played classic jazz tunes. Additionally, we served tea at lunchtime on April 10th, while students got to know each other and made new friends.

The past semester was a busy one, filled with events and classes for students. Takigawa-sensei led a group of students to hike Mt. Yashima and learn about the Ohenro pilgrimage, as well as to Ritsurin Park to experience a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, sado. Aside from these excursions, we have continued to offer a variety of classes, including language and cultural exchange sessions, that cater to the diverse interests and needs of students.

Aside from events and classes, the GC's resources, such as board games, musical instruments, and a rich collection of books, are always available to students, and (cont. on p. 2)

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the space is open for everyone to study, relax, or simply enjoy a good conversation. This semester at the Global Café will continue to offer new opportunities for students to grow together. If you haven't been by yet, bring your lunch, meet a new friend, and make the world your home!



#### **IELTS AND TEST PREP CLASSES**

Following the success of last semester's Intensive IELTS Speaking and Writing class, the Global Café hosted the class for a second time this Spring break, hosted by McCrohan-sensei. A variety of guest teachers came to help lead and provide feedback during the class, in order to give students diverse perspectives on how to improve their speaking and writing skills. This class is followed this semester with two test prep-focused classes during the Spring semester, by Hankins-sensei and McCrohansensei. Please be sure to check the Global Café Class Schedule on our website for more information.

#### **GAME NIGHT AT THE GC**

Last semester, representatives of the Shoqi Club hosted an event to teach students about the classic Japanese game, Shogi. During the event, students learned the rules of Shogi, and practiced some basic shogi puzzles to learn about its strategy. The game, which has its roots in the Indian Chaturanga, is also related to Chess. This semester, the Global Café has added a new Chess and Shogi board to our collection of board and card games, so please feel free to stop by and invite someone to a game or ask someone to teach you the rules.



## **NEW LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLASSES**

Starting in May, the GC will be offering a handful of new classes. Garcia-Fernandez-Sensei, who specializes in Ancient Egypt and Archaeology, will be teaching a special class in English on Egyptology, including pyramids and mummies. Kong-sensei will also be starting a new introductory class on Cantonese, so students with an interest in East Asian culture and language may have a new chance to pick up a new language.

This semester, we are also excited to introduce some classes taught by a few of our own Kagawa University Students. We are excited to begin offering classes on Introductory French and Introductory Chinese. These are great chances to not only learn new languages, but also build new relationships among students at the Global Café!





