



Bringing you news about the Foundation's immigration-related activities

## 9 participants of the 2014 Exchange Students Program for Descendants of Immigrants start their new life in Fukuoka!

With the sakura in full bloom, 9 participants of the Descendants of Immigrants program arrived in Japan on April 2nd to begin their year as students in Fukuoka Prefecture. Immediately after arriving the days were busy with visiting their new schools and preparing for student life, but with help from fellow participants the students are now enjoying their time in Fukuoka.

In May, they paid a courtesy visit to Fukuoka Prefecture Vice Governor Ebii. They received the following words of encouragement from the Vice Governor: "The Brazil Kenjinkai has established an alumni society for prefectural scholarship exchange students. For those of you from Brazil, I hope that you will join the society and work together with other members upon returning home. For those from Kenjinkai which don't have alumni groups, I hope you will work to create one. Also, please make the most of this valuable chance to study abroad so that it may benefit you from here on. In the future, I hope you will aid us to deepen the relationship between Fukuoka Prefecture and the various Kenjinkai."



【Courtesy visit to Vice Governor Ebii】

### Questions for the Students! How is life in Fukuoka?

I was moved by the way people in Fukuoka are always ready to lend a hand and consider your happiness without asking for something in return.



**Kristy Takeshita (Peru)**

Japanese is difficult and it is hard to understand each other, but these things are now the motivation for studying the language.



**Erich Kazuo Shigue (Brazil)**

The first trouble I had living in Japan was riding the trains. My home country doesn't have trains, so it took time to get used to them.



**Natsumi Kuroki (Colombia)**

Fukuoka is beautiful, has great public transport and is full of kind people.



**Sophia Miharuru Minami (Brazil)**

Student life is really fun. I think being able to experience and learn about Japanese technology and culture will be a great opportunity for me.



**Massashi Guiotoko (Brazil)**

Each time I go to the university I make new friends. When I have trouble with Japanese, my friends and teachers help me out.



**Ana Paula Tsuru (Argentina)**

I was really excited to lay my eyes on Sakura for the first time when we arrived in Japan in April!



**Naomi Kawanami (Zai-Bolivia)**

My goals for the year are to learn new skills at university, to take the Level 1 Japanese Language Proficiency Test, and to make Japanese friends.



**Sayuri Guiotoko (Brazil)**

I want to master Japanese quickly, and become able to freely read the books that I want to read. And make lots of Japanese friends!



**Gerardo Tanamachi (Mexico)**

Everyone's  
TOP  
3

#### Favourite Japanese Food

- No.1: Hakata Ramen
- No.2: Kaiten-zushi
- No.3: Udon



#### Favourite Tourist Spots in Fukuoka

- No.1 and No.2 (same votes): Tenjin, Island-City Central Park
- No.3: Canal City Hakata



### Change of Director-General, International Relations Bureau, and Head of Planning & Exchange Div., FIEF

- \* Director-General, International Relations Bureau, New Society Promotion Department  
(Former) Mr. Minoru Saruwatari → **(New) Mr. Akihiko Fukushima**
- \* Head of Planning & Exchange Division, Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation  
(Former) Mr. Hiroshi Kumagai → **(New) Mr. Hiroyuki Irie**