

Celebrating five years of sports training to Japanese students



Japanese students from the 2010 program presenting a signed football to Trish Donoghue, SMA ACT Executive Officer.

SMA ACT Executive Officer, Trish Donoghue recently headed to Japan to celebrate the 5th anniversary of SMA ACT's intercultural exchange program.

In 2007 the start of an exciting new intercultural exchange program between students from Fukuyama Heisei University in Japan and SMA ACT began. The program was established to assist students studying within the sports medicine industry, and to provide them with the opportunity to travel to Australia to broaden their course learning outcomes, teaching curriculum and expose them to the resources and professionals which SMA and Australia has to offer.

SMA ACT Executive Officer, Trish Donoghue travelled to Japan on November 12, 2011 to celebrate the program's five year anniversary and visit a number of other Universities who have a strong commitment to international exchange programs within the sport related field.

Whilst in Japan two other universities expressed delight in SMA ACT's visit, particularly Hiroshima University of Economics, noting that the timing was exactly right for their students. This University has just started a new program, 'Sports Management' and is eager to offer their students the opportunity to participate in future exchanges.

We look forward to potentially working with these new Universities and to the continuing success of the program.

Trish Donoghue

Executive Officer, SMA ACT
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"The program highlights the wealth of resources which ACT has to offer and provides an opportunity for Japanese students to study sports medicine from a different perspective whilst experiencing Australian culture and language."

"The fact that the students are willing to travel so far to take part in our program reaffirms Sports Medicine Australia's reputation as a world leader in injury prevention initiatives and courses."

Peter Garbutt, SMA ACT President

"It was very nice to have SMA ACT visit Hiroshima, Japan! The visit has given us many positives to strengthen the links between SMA ACT and Universities here in Hiroshima."

"The President and Vice President of Fukuyama Heisei University were very impressed by the visit. The President mentioned that the SMA ACT program is the best in regards to the contents, preparation and hands on approach based on students' needs among other programs that are offered at the University. In addition, at Fukuyama Heisei University, two athletes who participated in the lecture given by Trish Donoghue, who were in the Japanese Olympics team, were enthusiastic enough to chase her back to the faculty room to ask more questions."

Hiroshi Yoshikawa, President, American Dream, Inc., Coordinator of the exchange in Japan



Trish Donoghue presenting President Dr. Noriyoshi Taguchi and Vice President Onari Kiyoshi M.D., Ph.D. of Fukuyama Heisei University with a certificate to mark the 5th anniversary of the program.