

On Friday, August 31, at the request of HIC, Frank Abou-Sayf conducted a focus group with 5 study-abroad students. The interview started at 6:15 p.m. and ended one hour later. All participants had gone to Japan and successfully completed their program.

The session was divided in two parts, the first dealing with the Hawaii portion of the program and the second dealing with the Japan portion.

At the end of each part, each participant summarized his or her opinion in a short questionnaire. The questionnaire items are presented in the "items of this worksheet.

The results and statistical analysis are presented in the "results" tab, along with the comments of both the participants and the moderator.

The moderator's comments presented are those where a great majority of the participants agreed upon and expressed verbally. These comments may not coincide with the participants' comments or their evaluation on the items they were presented with.

### **Analysis**

All results are reported on a scale of 1 to 5, as described.

On the Hawaii-program portion:

1. Participants' ratings ranged from 4.00 (good) to 4.67 (between good and excellent).
2. Item ratings ranged from 4.00 (good) to 4.20 (slightly above good).
3. Overall, the rating of the Hawaii portion was 4.13, slightly above good.

On the Japan-program portion:

1. Participants' ratings ranged from 4.00 (good) to 5.00 (excellent).
2. Item ratings ranged from 3.80 (slightly below good) to 4.40 (between good and excellent).
3. Overall, the rating of the Japan portion was 4.13, slightly above good.

### **Comments**

The comments suggest that improvement can be made in:

1. the way the program is being advertised;
2. the organization of the training in Japan during the first semester;
3. the structure of the interview that is conducted for applicants in Hawaii; and
4. accommodation logistics in Japan.

The comments as well as the item responses indicate that the program was overall successful.

;" tab

**Part One: Hawaii Program**

- 1 The application process (documents to be submitted, interview, etc.) was:
  - A. Very well organized
  - B. Well organized
  - C. Not well organized
  - D. Not organized at all
  
- 2 The training I received prior to my departure was:
  - A. Excellent
  - B. Good
  - C. Poor
  - D. Very poor
  
- 3 My overall experience at KCC prior to my departure was:
  - A. Excellent
  - B. Good
  - C. Poor
  - D. Very poor

Students' Other comments

**Part Two: Japan Program**

- 1 The overall support I received immediately upon my arrival (transportation, etc.) was:
  - A. Excellent
  - B. Good
  - C. Poor
  - D. Very poor
  
- 2 The training I received in Japan was:
  - A. Excellent
  - B. Good
  - C. Poor
  - D. Very poor
  
- 3 My overall experience with the program in Japan was:
  - A. Excellent
  - B. Good
  - C. Poor
  - D. Very poor

Other comments

accommodation, registration, etc.) was:

<b>Part One: Hawaii Program</b>		<b>Participant</b>					<b>Mean Score*</b>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Item 1</b>		B	B	B	A	B	4.20
<b>Item 2</b>		B	B	B	B	B	4.00
<b>Item 3</b>		B	B	B	A	B	4.20
<b>Mean Score*</b>		4.00	4.00	4.00	4.67	4.00	4.13

**Participants' Comments**

1. We didn't receive much training.

**Moderator's Comments**

1. The program was not well publicized.
2. The interview was not really an interview but a combination of interview and orientation.
3. The timing of the interview was poor.
4. Group interviews as this one are not good.

<b>Part Two: Japan Program</b>		<b>Participant</b>					<b>Mean Score*</b>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Item 1</b>		A	C	B	A	B	4.20
<b>Item 2</b>		A	C	B	B	C	3.80
<b>Item 3</b>		A	B	B	B	A	4.40
<b>Mean Score*</b>		5.00	3.33	4.00	4.33	4.00	4.13

**Participants' Comments**

1. I really enjoyed Japan but classes were disorganized.
2. Overall, it was a good experience in spite of all.

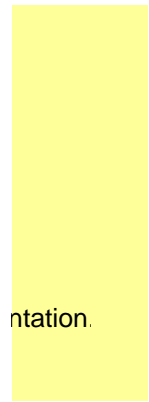
**Moderator's Comments**

1. Half of all students had accommodation problems.
2. The second semester was better than the first.

<b>Overall Mean Score*</b>		<b>Participant</b>					<b>Mean Score*</b>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	
		4.50	3.67	4.00	4.50	4.00	4.13

\* Based on the following forced-choice Likert-Type weights:

- A        5
- B        4
- C        2
- D        1



ntation.

