

Saitama-Ohio Company Internship Program 2011



Yukari Kayama (left) and Michiru Arai (right)
with Dr. Bradley Richardson



Michiru with workers from BioOhio

During their internships, Michiru and Yukari were able to learn a great deal about American life and culture, and improved their ability to speak English in addition to learning about American business. Amidst all of their hard work in Ohio, the interns had plenty of time to enjoy themselves too. They visited many places in Columbus such as the Jazz and Rib Fest, the North Market, the Ohio State Fair, and various restaurants. They went on home stays with Columbus families and had direct experience with American family life. They were even able to enjoy some favorite American pastimes such as swimming and enjoying the countryside.

For the eighth year in a row, the Institute for Japanese Studies has hosted interns coming from Japan interested in American businesses and organizations. This year's interns were Michiru Arai and Yukari Kayama. For their five-week stay, the interns visited several different Ohio companies which were chosen according to each intern's interests.

By visiting a variety of different companies, Michiru and Yukari were able to compare each company or organization to one another and to companies in Japan, and were also able to experience various types of work in the United States. Michiru Arai interned at: the Institute for Japanese Studies at The Ohio State University; BioOhio, where she was able to sit in on meetings to get a more hands on feeling of how people in Ohio interact in the business world; and the State of Ohio / Department of Development. All together she experienced a well-rounded sample of business culture in the Columbus area.

Yukari Kayama interned at: the Chamber of Commerce; the Institute for Japanese Studies at The Ohio State University; and the Ohio News Network (ONN) where she traveled to Cincinnati with the company and got a first hand experience of how the American media operates. Both interns also got the opportunity to meet and talk with Kiyoshi Ueda of Saitama Japan, Toshikata Amino of the Max Fischer College of Business.

Yukari and Michiru with
Mr. & Mrs. Amino

