



## 第2回リーディングプログラム学生会議(熊本)

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Student Meeting of Leading Graduate Schools in Kumamoto

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Leading graduate schools, maybe everybody still confused and asking what is leading graduate school means? It can found in a lot of university in Japan. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, and Technology (MEXT) is promoting program for leading graduate schools to make the human resources that can solve variety of problems as PhD leader in business, government and academia. At first I also don't know a lot of this program, that's why I attended the student meeting of leading graduate schools that was held in Kumamoto. The main topic of the meeting was the connection between society and doctoral education, and employability. The meeting was attended not only by the student, but also alumni of doctoral degree, representation of company, and representation of MEXT.

The meeting was held in two days. On the first day, the meeting was opened with a presentation about innovation from Kyushu which was an introduction of halal food. The meeting was followed with discussion about the main topic, I got a lot of pictures and opinion of PhD holder during the discussion because even though we already divided into small group, we talk to different people every 15 to 20 minutes. It was so interesting because the opinion is very divers even between the students because almost all of background education was there.

What I've got from the discussion is a lot of people think that PhD holder just mastering one deep knowledge, so they not so flexible

to work in company. PhD holder is also seen as the person that is lack of experience to work in company while the master or bachelor holder got their experience whiles the PhD holder done their study on doctoral degree. But the most shocking opinion is the opinion about most of the people who continue their study to master and doctoral degree couldn't find a job after they graduated from bachelor degree, in other words, they are not qualified. For that opinion, I'm not agree with it. Like it or not, that are some opinion of the people, some are true but some also wrong, it depends on each person.

We also got a chance to think the solution of this problem, we agree that we have to change the PhD holder image on public. The way to solve the problem is like giving a chance to the students to learn anything that they want and need to support their future careers. They also need a lot of experience of internship. The group of mine agree that the leading program in Japan leads the students to achieve that condition. The problem is how to introduce the different concept of doctoral degree in leading program to the world. For that purpose, coordination between students, educational staff of graduate school of leading program, and the government is needed. I believe that Green Asia as one of the leading program in Japan can make it happens, not only for Japan region but also for Asia, even the world, because I think the program that is provided in Green Asia is very good to lead the students' future careers.

