佐藤東洋士学長の任期満了に伴い、三谷高康教授が桜美林大学第四学年学長に就任し、学長交代式が4月1日朝前堂チャペルで執り行なわれました。学長職離任挨拶で佐藤先生は「今日のグローバル化時代において、外部評価に耐えうる大学づくりが問われている。今後も日本国内はもちろん国際的な場でも評価される教育機関とならないでいるべきです。この16年間そうした思いで大学での教育環境を整してきた。みなさまからのご理解と御礼申し上げるとともに、これからは三谷学長を中心に大学の歩みを進めてもらいたい」と述べました。President’s Chain of Officeの引き継ぎを受けた三谷学長は「大学をとりまく現状はますます厳しく、課題も多い。責任は重いが神からの使命と理解し、この召命に応えて皆さんと共に進んでいきたい」と挨拶しました。
From the Desk at OGFA

As I travel around North America to set up new relationships and to renew old friendships, I always marvel at how welcome our students are at our affiliate universities and how our students become members of a new university community in North America no matter how short their stay. After the last newsletter, some of our affiliates contacted us about what J. F. Oberlin means to them. They asked if they could contribute articles about their relationship with J. F. Oberlin as part of the greater Obiriner Family. Thus, over the next few newsletters, we will feature articles by our affiliated universities and organizations. We hope you enjoy them! In addition, at OGFA’s March Board meeting in Tokyo, the Board decided that they, too, would take turns writing about what Japan and J. F. Oberlin means to them. The first reminiscence is from our Board Vice-Chair, Carl Jacobson. When we first met, I was teaching at Obiriner and my son was only one-year-old – now he is 32! A long, long history of memories.

Maria Domoto
OGFA Executive Director

Carl Jacobson
OGFA Vice-Chair; Executive Director, Oberlin Shansi

At the end of this year I will retire after 36 years with Shansi. When asked why I have remained at this for so long, I say that for me, Shansi is about cultural sharing, about people from both sides of the Pacific looking at life from others’ perspectives, discovering that what they assumed as “normal” might not be another’s “normal.” The result for hundreds of Shansi participants has been life-making and life-changing individual growth and development.

My first acquaintance with Obiriner was through John Elder, who had been a Shansi Rep at Obiriner High School in the mid-50s. While teaching English and participating in extracurricular activities, John gained a lifetime appreciation of Japan. In the late 1970s, when Shansi was again looking for a home in Japan, it was my privilege to visit Obiriner and make the acquaintance of Reverend Yasuozu Shimizu and President Kazuo Ohno. Yasuozu-sensei and I immediately discussed re-opening the relationship. Saying that his English was getting weaker, Yasuozu-sensei asked to speak in Chinese, which we did, to the astonishment of all in the room. Since then, through Shansi, Oberlin College in Ohio and J. F. Oberlin University in Machida have carried on a robust educational exchange. It has built respect and understanding informed by language and cultural study. Now, through OGFA, we are seeking new and more imaginative ways to continue this important mission.

I am convinced that the most worthy goal is enabling people to become independent and whole, having a vision of “how it could be.” We need to create the capacity to break out of pre-conceived notions of “what’s normal,” and provide a spark of alternative vision. This is what Shansi and OGFA must and can do. This will be the true source of our strength for the future.

Shansi get-together at home of Akihiro Gotoh, JFOU’s first exchange student to Oberlin in Ohio; today Gotoh is JFOU’s General Manager of the Accounting Department

(cont’d p. 5, Jacobson)
Teacher Exchange the Oberlin Way
Shansi fellows have taught at Obirin for 32 years; Obirin graduates have taught at Oberlin for 20 years. JFOU will soon launch a similar arrangement to exchange graduates with Master’s Degrees in TESOL/JSL language teaching with the University of Memphis.

Sarah LeBaron von Baeyer
East Asian Studies & Japanese/English major,
Anthropology Minor,
Oberlin ’05; Shansi ’07–’08
Sarah is in a sociocultural anthropology PhD program at Yale University.

When Sarah met her best friend from Fukui in high school near Quebec, Canada, her interest in Japan blossomed. Her friend invited Sarah to Japan when she was only 14. “I spent only 3 weeks there, but I was fascinated, both by the language I couldn’t understand a word of and every other unfamiliar thing,” she said. After that she made up her mind to learn Japanese by herself. She even audited a college class while in high school. She lived with her friend’s mother again for 8 months, studying Japanese at a public high school as well as learning tea ceremony, Japanese dance, calligraphy, and ikebana. Even while at Oberlin, she spent a semester in Osaka.

After working for a Japanese NGO in D.C., she decided to go back to Japan. This time to Obirin. At Obirin she learned a lot from the daily challenges of teaching English. “Teaching the same group for 3 hours straight was difficult. Not all my students were good at paying attention! I found, too, that as a young female teacher I didn’t always have the easiest time managing the class,” she said. While teaching at Obirin, she also learned about immigrant communities in Kanto, studying Portuguese with a Brazilian friend she met in Tokyo and participating in Brazilian cultural events in the area. “If it weren’t for the time I spent on Shansi, I probably would not be doing what I am now – fieldwork for my dissertation,” she said. She spent the past 9 months in Aichi and now is in Sao Paulo, Brazil for another 9 months with Nikkei-Brazilians and their families as they move back and forth between the two countries. She expects to finish in 2014. “My hope is to be a university professor and teach about Japanese culture and society, specifically ethnic minorities/immigrant groups and issues of transnational migration,” she said. We may come across Professor Sarah traveling Japan or around the world in the near future!

Satoko Koizumi & Kyoko Ichikawa, Japanese instructors at Oberlin; Obirin Graduate School, Japanese Language Education ’09

桜美林大学の接待校であるオベリン大学は、アメリカ・オハイオ州の北東部、クリーブランドの西に位置する学生数約2800人のリベラル アーツ・カレッジで、音楽大学が併設されているのが特徴です。全米で初めて女性に学位を授与し、全ての人種に門戸を開いた大学として知られています。現在も世界各国から留学生を受け入れ、文化や宗教を超えたグローバルで開かれた教育を目指しています。オベリンの学生たちは学間以外の課外活動にも積極的で、小さな町の中ではありますか、スポーツ・音楽・ダンス等、それぞれに活動の場を見つけて毎日のびのびと過ごしています。

私たちが在籍する東アジア研究科では東アジアの言語にとどまらず、歴史、文学、宗教、美術史、政治など幅広いコースを用意しています。日本語プログラムには学生のニーズにあわせて、ひらがなからスタートする初級から新 聞・小説などを日本語で読んで意見を交わす上級までのクラスがあり、毎年約80人の学生が 学んでいます。主にコミュニケーション能力を 培うこと目標しカリキュラムを組んでいます が、学生たちは言語だけでなく、芸術や食べ ものなど、日本の文化にも強い興味を持ってい ます。そこで、授業以外に週に一度、日本の映 画やドラマを観る「日本語テーブル」を設け、 日本の社会と文化への理解を深めています。

昨年は、東日本大震災がありました。私たち 日本語プログラムでも何かできないかと考え、 日本語の学生が中心となり全学で約1500羽の 折鶴を作り、"Million Crane Project"を通じ仙 台の七夕祭りに寄贈しました。(cont’d p. 4,
Teaching Exchange, Koizumi)
JFOUers Talk It Up in Conversation Groups!

Mark D. Rentz Director; Eva Heard Harmony, Program Coordinator
American English and Culture Program, Arizona State University

Currently Obirin students on the College of Arts & Sciences Global Outreach Program attend AECP for one semester in fall or spring. Students live with host families. AECP is an integral part of the largest campus in the US.

To improve almost any skill, practice is required. Language is both an academic and social skill at Arizona State. JFOU students practice English in class and in the real world. They enjoy a continuum of opportunities: skills classes, communication electives, Conversation Partners, Lunch Chats, Conversation Club, picnics and a host of social and cultural activities designed to use language, build community, make friendships and explore culture outside the classroom. In addition, JFOU students live with families where they expand their language skills.

New this year is an opportunity that falls between the one-to-one conversation partner program and large conversation club that draws a hundred students weekly to the campus art café and coffee shop. These smaller conversation groups led by ASU graduate students take place outside the classroom. One advantage of group conversations according to ASU group leader Kassie Terkelson “is that students get support from each other and make friends from other cultures outside the classroom.” It’s very important for students from around the world to reach out to new people and find ways to use English with each other.

Students from Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, China, and other countries join together in groups. “Every time we talk about culture,” says JFOU student Kaede Suzuki. “My Conversation Group leader studied in Taiwan, so it’s a lot of fun to learn about Taiwanese culture. Other students are interested in Japan, so I can share my culture.” Taira Amano also finds his group a good way to learn about “the world and other languages.”

Groups meet once a week for an hour at different places on campus. With all the nice weather, students meet outside to enjoy the sunshine. Group leaders come with a topic or sometimes use a game to get the group talking. There is no homework, and no tests, so it is different from a classroom. Group leader Malina Torres notes that while games and structured questions help with students in beginning level groups, “I try to keep it unstructured, and rely on a topic and have the students carry the conversation.” Ms. Terkelson agrees, “That’s the way it is in the real world.”

Cont’d from Koizumi Teacher Exchange p. 3

また、日本留学を希望する学生も多いため、説明会や個別相談を行い日本への長期・短期留学や語学研修などに積極的に送り出しています。学生たちは、日本語を使って自分の考えを自分の言葉で表現し、人とコミュニケーションする楽しさを味わってほしいと考えています。また、学生たちの日本語学習に対する動機は様々ですが、日本に対する興味と日本語学習を通して、広い視野と世界に目を向けられる感性を養っていく大切なと願っています。
The Voice of Our Affiliates: Arizona State and University of Memphis

Experiential Learning the Memphis Way
Lisa Goins
Director, Intensive English for Internationals

Currently Obirin students in the College of Arts & Sciences Global Outreach program study in Memphis' regular ESL program in fall, but in spring Memphis has created a dual program of traditional ESL with other internationals for 8 weeks and an experiential-based ESL just for Obirin students for 8 weeks. Three junior-year-abroad Obirin students will study at Memphis in the fall. Memphis is sending about 20 students to JFOU this year as either semester/year exchanges or summer intensive students. Memphis together with the Japan-America Society of Western Tennessee has been chosen as one of the sites for the JFOU College of Business Global Outreach Program.

This spring Memphis Obirin students are nearing the successful completion of their first session in the Intensive English for Internationals program at Memphis. So far they have experienced the world of Elvis at Graceland, Southern cooking at the Cracker Barrel, picnics along the Mississippi River, game nights and hang-out nights in American homes, and snow cone runs at Jerry’s, a local treat shop. The group has been shopping and preparing meals together, and they have had a great time doing it. And they’ve been doing a little studying as well.

But the best part hasn’t started yet. In May and June, the Obirin students will spend the second half of their time here improving their English by experiencing Memphis, its music and its history. By the end of June, they will know all about cotton plantations and Civil Rights, B.B. King and Al Green, the Blues, Stax Records, and Martin Luther King Jr. They will camp near Native American burial mounds, visit the Civil Rights Museum and experience Sun Studios. It’s a great way to learn English, and we are looking forward to seeing what the Obirin students can create from these experiences. Radio shows and a Museum of Memphis Music and Civil Rights are two projects students will develop to demonstrate their improved English skills and cultural understanding.

Daniel Harper and his teaching team, Jason Gordon and Stacey Trimble, have designed the 8-week program. In addition to the fun, the students will be given language support with English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. Most of the content has been compiled by Daniel Harper, who has lived in Memphis since his college days. He said recently, “I know the Obirin students will return to Japan loving Memphis the way we do.” Memphis can leave a lasting impression, just like the wonderful impression the Obirin students are making on us here.
Toshiya Arai works for a Japanese sports management company based in Los Angeles. Since childhood, sports have always been his passion. He went to Obirin to play football. “There were only a few players on the Obirin team at the time. We didn’t even have a regular coach, but we were a strong team. I thought I could be a starter soon if there were less competition on the team,” he said.

When he read an article about Sports Management in a magazine his sophomore year, he set his heart on his future career. At the time there weren’t many schools in Japan where he could study sports management, so he decided to study in the States, the mecca of sports. After graduation from Obirin, he worked to save money and then went to Bemidji State University in Minnesota, where he received a BA in Sports Management.

He credits Obirin’s spirit of internationalization for his never giving up his dream to make sports his career. As an Obiriner, he didn’t hesitate to seek his goal overseas. He also thought he was lucky to meet Takii-sensei and many other teachers who gave him advice and support to pursue his dream.

His current job is to support Japanese major leaguers. He assists first-time Japanese major leaguers in purchasing a car and a house, advises them about taxes, and helps their families settle in the US. “I create an environment so that players can concentrate on baseball. The job is not so easy sometimes, but it is rewarding when I see players achieve success. I also learn something by being with the top players from Japan,” he said. He travels to many places in the US assisting players during spring training in Arizona or Florida and to their home bases in Chicago, Atlanta and Mississippi. Today he’s in Milwaukee, assisting rookie Norichika Aoki of the Milwaukee Brewers.

He recalls someone saying when he was young, “If you keep dreaming for 10 years with changeless passion, your dream will come true.” Ever since he found out about sports management, he kept dreaming and working hard to get into the industry. Exactly ten years later, he found his dream job. Now that he is fulfilling his dream, he hopes to support students who want to study in the US, especially those interested in sports. “I was able to become who I am now because of the help and support I received from many people. I want to do the same for the younger generation in return,” he said. He hopes that all Obiriners will keep dreaming with a continuous passion!
オビリナー氏と梅氏と桜美林大学名誉博士号を授与

3月15日（木）に東京国際フォーラムで行われた2011年度学位授与式において、桜美林大学は、9.11テロの時に米国運輸長官を務められていたノーマン・ヨシオ・ミネタ氏と、現代中国演劇界の最高峰といわれる梅葆玖氏をお迎えし、桜美林大学名誉博士号を授与いたしました。

ノーマン・ヨシオ・ミネタ氏（名誉政治学博士）（授与理由）: ミネタ氏はハワイを除くアメリカ本土では、日系アメリカ人として初めて下院議員に就任され、その後20年以上の長きにわたり下院議員を務められました。また、アジア系アメリカ人として初めて閣僚となり、商務長官、運輸長官を歴任され、多大な功績を残されました。さらに、人権の擁護とその確立のためにも大きく貢献されました。

梅 葆玖氏（名誉文学博士）（授与理由）: 梅氏は日中の友好と芸術の向上に多大な貢献をされ、ことに歌舞伎や能楽と京劇との伝統芸術交流に新たな足跡を残されました。また、本学の東洋芸術教育の推進にも大きく貢献されました。

ソングリーディング部 CREAM 世界大会で優勝

ソングリーディング部 CREAM は、4月28日29日、フロリダ州で開かれた IASF Worlds クラブチーム選手権大会に出場し、ダンス・Open Jazz 部門で優勝しました。本大会はアメリカを中心に世界のダンスクラブチームが参加する世界最大のダンス大会。予選をトップで通過した CREAM は、本選でもアメリカのダンスチームを破り悲願の優勝を果たしました。

また、世界60カ国以上の国が参加したチアリーディング、チアダンスのオリンピックともいうべき大会 2012 International Cheer Union World Cheer-leading Championships（4月26日、27日）に日本代表として参加した CREAM は Cheer Jazz 部門で参加18チーム中2位の成績をおさめました。