Isabell Groß and Eri Sato, DD pioneers

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other students in our group are doing. Our professor  frequently
in Japanese. In the weekly lab meetings we get to know what
students I am mainly working with consists mostly of Ja panese
– and thus in the
work to do in the lab. All in all, our lab is quite international –
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project. For my research I can benefit from my lab in different
ways. For example, my lab offers a lot of equipment, funding
to attend conferences and seminars, which provide an
excellent chance to meet other researchers and present one's
own research. In the second year with no more classes left
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How do you like living in Japan?
having lived in Japan for over one year now, things have
settled into a routine, which brings benefits like more consis­
tency in day to day life, a close circle of friends, an established
place at work and a goal for my research. However, it does
not mean life has become boring! There is still a lot to explore
and learn about Japan and a lot of work to do, now that I
started working on my Master’s thesis. I am also enjoying the
perfect public transportation and post system in Japan more
than ever, as well as tasty food. I am still flabbergasted by
the friendliness, co-operation and politeness of the people
in this country.

Which is your message to prospective students?
I am happy to be part of this program and to have the oppor­
tunity to study and do research at Keio University. One year of
class-oriented studies at TUM and two years of more research
oriented work at Keio University are a well­fitted combination.
Moreover, living and working in an international environment
has definitely broadened my
horizons. I hope that in the future a lot of students will
seize the chance to partici­
pate in the Keio-TUM Double Degree program.

Student Experience
Isabell Groß, a TUM DD pioneer, talks about her time at
Keio University

Why did you decide to take part in the program?
Since I had already spent some
time with a Japanese host family
during my time in school, I was looking for a good opportunity
to come back and study in Japan. Starting to study physics
in Munich, at first this dream of mine seemed to be falling into
oblivion. In the first year of my Master at TUM, I bumped into
a Japanese student and we became friends, and I resumed
to look for a chance to go abroad. From here my path was
rather obvious since a very good opportunity was right under
my nose, the Japanese girl happened to be the first student
from Keio University to come to Munich for the Double Degree
program. By that time I had decided to go into solid state
physics. As it turns out, her lab was conducting research that
piqued my interest. When I learned from Keio University that
I was awarded the MEXT scholarship, I was once more all in
for going to study in Japan.

How is your experience at Keio University?
Right from the beginning I received tons of help from my lab
mates with all the official procedures. Soon university life,
which at the beginning consisted of classes, lab meetings
and getting used to the work in the lab, commenced. In the
meanwhile, there was still enough time to enjoy life in the
residence halls with students from all over the world, and to
explore Tokyo and its surroundings.

After the first half year I began to have fewer courses and more
work to do in the lab. All in all, our lab is quite international –
which is not necessarily the case in Japan – and thus in the
student office we mostly speak English. The group of stu­
dents I am mainly working with consists mostly of Japanese
students and by now I am able to have a basic conversation
in Japanese. In the weekly lab meetings we get to know what
other students in our group are doing. Our professor frequently
invites speakers working in our field to give talks and semi­
nars. Therefore, we often get the opportunity to have fruitful
discussions with professors as well as with other students in
an informal atmosphere. The lab also highly encourages us
to take part in conferences and seminars, which provide an
excellent chance to meet other researchers and present one's
own research. In the second year with no more classes left
to take, I can concentrate completely on my Master’s thesis.
For my research I can benefit from my lab in different
ways. For example, my lab offers a lot of equipment, funding
to attend conferences and the chance to discuss with many
skilled students.

How do you like living in Japan?
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pate in the Keio-TUM Double Degree program.
The Double Degree program in collaboration with the Keio University is a three-year Master’s degree program, which enables TUM students to spend the first year of their studies in Germany, followed by two years in Japan. This program aims to engage highly motivated and talented students in addition to fostering academic excellence and international awareness.

The graduates are awarded both degrees, Master of Science in Physics at TUM. Science in Physics at TUM.

Science and Technology at Keio University and the Master of Science and Technology at Keio University, potential applicants should contact prospective academic advisors to proactively discuss potential research lines. Information on Keio University’s scientific staff can be found in the yearly publication “Emerging”. The aim is to produce one common final thesis for the two Master's degrees, which shall be set and supervised by professors from both institutions.

Japanese Language Courses

Students have the opportunity to take Japanese language courses in both universities. At Keio University, classes are organized from beginners to advanced level. These include daily life communication skills, enabling students to increase their linguistic ability in a short period.

Keio University

Since its foundation as the first private Japanese university in 1858, Keio University has fostered the idea of independent and advanced thinking within its scholars and researchers. The unique feature offered by Keio University is a program that combines simultaneous study and research. Moreover, rather than having a traditional structure, Keio’s Graduate School of Science and Technology is divided broadly into three schools, with play host to academic and research centers. This flexible structure encourages a multidisciplinary environment, while enabling students to freely cross boundaries between different research fields.

Since the introduction of the Double Degree program in 2005 – a joint project with the Technische Universität München since 2005 – students from many European countries have been able to join Keio’s International Graduate Program, giving them a truly international education and research experience in Japan without requiring that they learn Japanese. The Double Degree is quickly gaining a reputation for its international opportunities and world-class standards.

Keio University’s Graduate School of Science and Technology is located in Yokohama, less than 30 minutes from Tokyo by train. Yokohama is Japan’s second largest city, with a population of more than 3.7 million.

There are several organizations on campus that offer a variety of activities and events for international students, as well as many student clubs.

More information about student life at Keio University at www.ics.keio.ac.jp/en/life/

T.I.M.E. Association

Both Keio University and the Technische Universität München belong to the T.I.M.E. Association. Top Industrial Managers for Europe (T.I.M.E.) is a network of 53 leading engineering schools and faculties and technical universities which offers, through a system of voluntary bilateral agreements, promotion and recognition of academic excellence and relevance to the international labor market in the form of Double Degrees in science and engineering. T.I.M.E. believes that its model of in-depth, bi-cultural learning and the mobile, flexible, high-quality graduates it produces are more relevant than ever – they truly represent the “Top Industrial Managers” of tomorrow.

DD Formula

The Double Degree program in collaboration with Keio University offers students a unique cultural experience – opening doors to two leading world markets – while ensuring they also gain competence in advanced science and technology fields.