



Welcome Week Library Guidance in English

On October 5th, we held a Library Guidance along with a library tour for newly-enrolled students. It's very exciting that finally, we were able to hold this orientation event on campus for the first time after nearly 2 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Library Guidance

Helen from the International Student Concierge Desk gave a 30-minute presentation on the library's history, basic use, and facilities. Then, members of the International Student Concierge Desk (Elena, Liwei, Chunlin, and Thiri) gave a tour of the library for about 30 minutes, with all the participants wearing masks to prevent COVID-19 infection. We thank all students for their participation despite the rainy weather.



Library Tour

Newcomers learned various things about the library on that day, including searching for books and journals, borrowing and returning books, using the underground stack room, using printers, etc. We also showed them our Great East Japan Earthquake materials and multi-culture book corner, and informed them about the use of interlibrary services through the "Mylibrary" account. Although we did not actually show them how to use the interlibrary loan system, we provided a detailed introduction with illustrations in the Powerpoint slides. Some students were very excited about this service because their research might require them to borrow books from other universities.

We sincerely hope that the pandemic will end in the near future. Then both students and faculty members will have a better experience in our library. At present, please take good care of yourself and stay safe. If you have any questions about using the library, please feel free to come to the concierge desk.

Written by **Zihe Helen Li**

The University Libraries Around the World

This section introduces university libraries around the world, mainly from the alma mater of our International Student Concierge members.

Library of Bina Nusantara University

Bina Nusantara (BINUS) University is one of the distinguished private university in Jakarta, Indonesia, and it is well known for technology-related departments such as Information Technology, Information System, and Graphic Design. As a Graphic Design student, I was mostly attending lectures at the Syahdan Campus building, but when I was looking for books and art references, I would definitely go to the library in Anggrek Campus, which is only 5-10 minutes' walk from Syahdan Campus.

The Library in Anggrek Campus can be accessed from the 1st floor, but the area is extended until the 5th floor of the building. In my memory, it was a modern-style library with a variety of book collections and computers, equipped with automated system and online service facility. Student ID card is required to access the library. Perhaps, system like this is already a common thing in other countries, but especially when I was student, it was still rare in Indonesian libraries. I felt pretty cool to swipe the card each time I entered the library. The library's collection is primarily in Indonesian and English. However, occasionally, there were also books in Japanese, especially books related to Japanese language, history, and culture.

Usually I went there to study, getting some inspiration, sketch, or work on my assignments. The quiet library is always a good space to concentrate. The copy machine there was also a lifesaver and I could use the service for a cheaper price without going out of the library. But there was a limit of pages that I can copy. The borrowing and returning procedure also use an automatic system. The building also had fast food restaurants, a café, and a food court area, so I didn't have to worry much if I got hungry during my time in the library.

After I graduated, the University Library was renovated to include a discussion room, recreation room, and a café. A Starbucks opened in Anggrek Campus and easily became a popular spot for students to hang out. Even after graduation, I would occasionally use the library with my alumni ID card, and I was very jealous of the new students who could use the newest facilities. When I go back to Jakarta, I hope I can visit the library again and see what has changed since last time I was there. Hopefully my alumni ID card can still have access to it.



"File:Anggrek Campus - Bina Nusantara University.JPG"
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Written by Andhika Wijaya

My Hometown: Vitória, Brazil

In this column, we introduce the hometowns of our members, giving you a glimpse into their culture and some traveling tips from locals!

Hello, I am Ana Maria from Brazil and today I would like to introduce my hometown to you.

Vitória is a city located on Southeast of Brazil, and is the capital of the state of Espírito Santo. It is a beautiful island city with tropical weather, so it is sunny almost all year round. It was founded in 1551, making it one of the oldest cities in Brazil. It is a medium-sized city with a population of about 369,000 people and it has often been regarded as one of the best cities to live in Brazil.



Beach at the neighboring city of Guarapari

Indeed, because of its size, one can drive across it in less than 20 minutes, so we hardly waste any time or money on traveling. Seeing the ocean every day is my favorite part. A common thing to do in Vitória is to walk, cycle or do exercise by the seaside, and then to drink some freshly extracted cold coconut water, or to eat corn on the cob boiled with some butter on top. I have many good memories of enjoying the late afternoon time doing so with both my family and friends.

Besides that, for leisure, people in Vitória enjoy going to restaurants and coffee shops. The city has quite a wide range of options, despite its relatively small scale. Speaking of coffee, Espírito Santo is one of Brazil's biggest coffee producers and in Vitória's coffee shops we can enjoy many delicious local produced beans. When it comes to food, except the traditional rice and beans, meat, and 100 different ways of eating mandioca (Cassava), that we share in common with most other states in Brazil, in Vitória we eat many fish and seafood dishes, most likely with a lot of coriander. The most famous one is called "moqueca capixaba"; 'capixaba' is the name given to those who are born in Vitória. It is a simple, but delicious fish and shrimp stew, with lots of coriander, tomato and onions. In recent years, another popular moqueca is served with banana da terra (cooked banana) instead of fish. Usually, when going to a moqueca restaurant they will serve both the normal moqueca with fish, and a smaller portion of the moqueca de banana on the side. Another famous dish, "torta capixaba" is a seafood pie often served during Easter, when many people refrain from eating red meat in Catholicism. One of my favorite dishes, however, is "arroz de polvo", or rice cooked with octopus.



View of Vitória from the Penha Convent

Although it is a beautiful city and a great place to live in, when it comes to tourism, most spots are located outside Vitória. Usually people only visit the older part of the city. However, there are many places that can be easily accessed from there, such as the Penha Convent (one of the oldest churches built in Brazil), beautiful beaches in neighboring cities, and also a mountain atmosphere only an hour away, in Domingos Martins.

I hope you guys enjoyed knowing a little more about Brazil through Vitória. Although it is not such a famous place, it has many charming aspects to enjoy. If you ever feel like knowing more about it, or any other tips for travelling in Brazil, feel free to come and talk to me for more recommendations!



"Projeto Tamar" in Vitória



View of the "Terceira Ponte" from the Penha Convent

*All photos were taken by the writer's family.

*Written by **Ana Maria Simplicio***

Manga Corner

This corner is about things that happen in the library, especially when you are a new student at Tohoku University.

Hi! I am Andhika from Indonesia! I like reading and drawing manga, and I hope you enjoy my short manga.



When I walked in front of the Library



Editors



Thiri Soe [Editor-in-Chief]

A language science student from the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She is from Myanmar, a land of Golden Pagodas, in South East Asia. Thiri is studying applied linguistics, seeking knowledge to benefit her teaching profession. Her hobby is cooking and writing. She believes that things happen for a reason and the reason is to be good.

Petrovikj Hristina

A graduate student from North Macedonia enrolled in the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She has many hobbies, some of which include: singing, journaling, travelling, reading, watching movies, and photography. She has lived in 3 different countries so far, travelled across Europe, and is hoping to embark on an Asian tour in the near future. Her secret dream is to be a member of a rock band, but since that has not come true yet, you can often find her in a karaoke booth instead!



Andhika Wijaya



A graduate student from Innovative Japanese Studies Major, who was born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia. She never had seen snow before she came to Japan, so she's always going 'wakuwaku' when the snow is falling down even though she has to struggle a lot with the cold temperature. She loves drawing, reading comics, travelling to scenic places, enjoying nice music, singing at karaoke, and playing with cute animals. Please don't mind her if she makes strange noises when she saw a photo of cute animals. Aside of those, one of her major passion is enjoying food and making review notes about it.

If you feel unwell, even just a little, please do not come to the campus or to the library. Rest at home and get well soon.

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