



INTERVIEW

**taken to foreign students studying
at Babeş-Bolyai University within programmes of student exchange
within inter-university agreements**

CCI: What's your name and where do you come from? What is your home university?

...My name is **Izuho Yasui from Kobe University, Japan.**

CCI: When did you study at BBU?

...from October 2016 until February 2017 as an ERASMUS+ student, from February until July 2017 as an exchange student.

CCI: Why did you choose a student mobility at BBU?

...Firstly, I wanted to study in Eastern Europe because in Japan it is difficult to know and collect information about this area. I wanted to know more for my graduation thesis by studying here. Secondly, I wanted to experience uncommon exchange life unlike America, Australia, China. Thirdly, I knew that the price is so cheap, so I thought I could live with only scholarship.

CCI: Did you have any trouble with the language? Did you have to take a Romanian language course?

...I took a Romanian language class in the first semester. But Romanian is not familiar to me, so I didn't take it again in the second semester. Generally it was ok to live here with using English and some simple Romanian. Especially young people can speak English like in restaurants and shops. Sometimes I was rejected to take public services only because I can't speak Romanian.

CCI: What did you think of the courses taken at BBU?

...Almost all classes were good. Teachers were so kind to foreign students. Students study hard. When I had trouble, they helped me a lot.

CCI: Were you in any way supported by teachers and/ or fellow-students at BBU, during your mobility?

...Yes, when I had a problem regarding some procedures of exchange, a teacher helped me personally. When I couldn't attend a student conference which was necessary for the final grade, another teacher found an alternative way for me. When I didn't understand about exam, my colleagues helped me.



CCI: Did you have a student-buddy to help you get around and get accustomed with life during your mobility?

...Yes, I have a close friend who studied at my home university. She help me a lot since I arrived at Cluj. She helped with my procedures for the dormitory, international office, immigration office, school, bank, mobile phone and shopping. Without her I couldn't have gone through.

CCI: Where did you live during the mobility? What were the living conditions at the host university/ in town?

...I lived in Hasdeu A1 dormitory. It was good condition / location and it cost only 170 lei. I had to pay for food, kitchen stuff, wifi router and laundry (7 lei for one time). I had one roommate, but the space was enough. The dorm was for ERASMUS students so there were many nationalities.

CCI: How did you manage to provide for yourself during the mobility?

...I attended Japanese language class held at the Faculty of Letters. I had friends who had interests in Japan. Also I joined some events which ESN created.

CCI: What do you think of the town? Is Cluj-Napoca a dangerous town?

...I see Cluj as a safe town. I have not experienced any terrorism or accidents here. It would be safe as long as you try to pay attention to Gypsy and avoid walking alone at night. Cluj is a compact city. It is easy to move around by bus or taxi. If you go out of the center of the city a little, you'll find a lot of nature. I did horse riding. My friends did hiking. You can find any activity here. There are few Asians and Africans. Although I have been discriminated a few times, almost everyone is so kind and friendly to me. It is a good opportunity for me to live in such a society where I am a minority. I could learn a lot.

CCI: Would you recommend a mobility to BBU to any other student from abroad? Why?

...I recommend. UBB offers high quality education. Although you have to study hard especially during exam period, you can enjoy at pub or club. I think you won't get bored of study. The only problem is that it is hard to find out right information about change of classroom or schedule online. You can't find some classes' syllabuses online. I missed the first week class and went the second week class, but there was nobody in the classroom written online. I went to the office at the faculty to ask, but even the office people didn't know what happened. (After that, they called the professor and finally I managed to figure out.) So I strongly recommend to arrive one week before classes start. The living cost would not high compared with other European cities. The price would be a half or a third than the price in Japan.