

## **Six Young Specialists of Cultural Properties Preservation from the Kyrgyz Republic and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Visited MWU's Department of Architecture and Architecture Major**

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Six young specialists from the Kyrgyz Republic and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, three persons from each country, visited MWU. They came to Japan to have an induction course for half a month on “the maintenance of historical sites” and “the display” as part of the project "Protection of Cultural Heritage in the Kyrgyz Republic and Central Asia" conducted under the auspices of Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation, an organization of National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo. They visited MWU's Department of Architecture and Architecture Major housed in the Koshien Hall, which makes a case example of a utilization of cultural asset.

They first paid a courtesy call on Chancellor Okawara before visiting the Department of Architecture and the Architecture Major. They were given an explanation by Prof. Okazaki, head of the department and the architecture major, about a planned design of the Bamiyan Museum & Culture Center for People as well as that of the Petra Museum.

In the afternoon, an interchange meeting was held at the Koshien Hall with the attendance of all the students. There was an explication of the project and an introduction of the young specialists from Kyrgyz and Afghanistan by the persons from the organizer, National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo. Then the specialists gave presentations to introduce the natural and cultural aspects of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. We got deeply interested in the various topics such as the mountains where gods are believed to live alike that of Japan, life of nomads who live in the tent and the collections of the National Museums.

After the meeting, the specialists observed the classes such as Practice in Building Materials, Architectural Design Studio and Basic Design Studio, which included various items: fabrication of ‘ger’ with the push-up construction method, that of the vault space with the scissors construction method, a proposed plan designed by students on the stone cave garden planned for the Bamiyan Museum & Culture Center for People. Then, they left the Koshien Hall.

(Reported by Kazuhiko Yanagisawa)



Interchange meeting at the Koshien Hall



Visit to Department of Architecture and Architecture Major: vault space by the scissors construction method