

Inter Cultural Studies of Architecture (ICSA) in Istanbul 2023

The Architecture Major and the Department of Architecture at Mukogawa Women's University (MWU) were certified by the Japan Accreditation Board for Engineering Education (JABEE) as an authorized Architectural Education Program, marking the first such certification in Japan. Subsequently, the six-year Master's Program of the Architecture Major and the Department of Architecture was formally certified as a program recognized as meeting the UNESCO-UIA Architectural Education Charter. The program is designed to cultivate architects who possess a profound understanding of the diversity of lifestyles and cultures, both locally and globally, and to develop professionals capable of operating effectively on a global and international scale. As an integral part of this educational approach, and building upon the general exchange agreement established with Bahçeşehir University (BAU) in Turkey in December 2008, we initiated an exchange program in FY2010. This program facilitates reciprocal visits between graduate students and faculty members to undertake 'Practice in Architectural Design I' and 'Internship in Building Conservation,' offered as part of their respective curricula. Although the program was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, its implementation recommenced in FY2023.

This year, seven second-year Master's program students experienced training from October 29 (Sunday) to November 11 (Saturday), 2023, as part of their overseas conservation and restoration training course.

Participants

Leaders: Associate Professor Tomomko Uno

Students: Architecture Major; Iwamoto Amika, Uchida Mana, Kamata Ayana,
Daidai Mami, Nakamura Narumi
Landscape Architecture Major; Nakatani Yui, Masaki Sakura

Schedule

October 29	Departure for Istanbul
October 30	Visit to Topkapı Palace, Basilica Cistern, Sultan Ahmed Mosque, Hagia Sophia in Sultanahmet Area
October 31	Visit to Süleymaniye Mosque and Hagia Sofia, and Lecture by Prof. Demet at BAU
November 1	Visit to St Pierre Inn, Church of Saint Anthony of Padua, Atatürk Cultural Center, the Galata Tower
November 2	Visit to Conservation and Restoration Workshops in Yıldız Palace, Courtesy Call on President of BAU
November 3	Visit to Conservation and Restoration Workshops in Dolmabahçe Palace, Practice on Textile Laboratory at BAU
November 4	Visit to Edirne
November 5	Visit to Kariye Mosque, Tekfur Palace Museum, Cruise on the Bosphorus Strait
November 6	Visit to Bursa
November 7	Visit to Eyüp Area and Eminönü Area
November 8	Courtesy Call on Rector of BAU, and Visit to Grand Bazaar, Historical Museums
November 9	Visit to Büyükada Island
November 10	Sketch Exhibition and Departure from Istanbul
November 11	Arrival at Kansai International Airport

October 29, Sunday: Day 1

Departing from Kansai International Airport on the early morning of Saturday, October 29th, we arrived at Istanbul International Airport in the evening after approximately 20 hours of connecting flights via Incheon International Airport in Seoul. At Istanbul International Airport, Prof. Murat Dunder, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Design at BAU, and Dr. Ayşe Eda, the assistant at BAU, met us. We traveled by bus to the BAU Future Campus and checked into the dormitory.



Upon arrival at Istanbul Airport, we were met by Prof. Murat and Dr. Eda. Despite the long flight, all students are doing well.



Arrival at the dormitory in BAU Future Campus. One-week stay.



Entrance of the dormitory in the BAU Future Campus.



Dormitory room. Shared by two students.

October 30, Monday, Day 2

After leaving the dormitory in the morning, we visited Topkapi Palace (Topkapı Sarayı). Afterward, after lunch, we traveled to the Sultanahmet area to visit Basilica Cistern (Yerebatan Sarayı) and Sultan Ahmed Mosque (Sultanahmet Camii).

Topkapi Palace, the construction of which began in 1453 and continued for approximately 400 years, served as the residential palace of the Ottoman rulers and the administrative center of architecture

within the Ottoman Empire. Since the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, it has become a popular museum. During our visit, we viewed the Harem, a space for holding ceremonies, and the treasury, among other areas.

We then had lunch and made sketches on the terrace adjacent to the Harem. Afterward, we visited the Basilica Cistern and the Sultan Ahmed Mosque. The Basilica Cistern, also known as the Underground



Breakfast at the café, BAU Future Campus. Students chose their preferred foods.



Daily schedule confirmation with Professor Murat at the dormitory hall. Start time: 10:40 am.



Arrival at Sultanahmet district. Brief lecture by Professor Murat on the area's information in front of Hagia Sophia.



Beginning our tour at Topkapı Palace. Prof. Sinem and Dr. Eda joined.



Model of Topkapı Palace complex.



Explanation of the palace complex.

Palace, was built during the Byzantine period (4th-6th centuries). This facility served as a subterranean reservoir in ancient Istanbul, which had water supply issues. Its ceiling is supported by 336 marble columns from various regions. It reopened to the public in 2022 after gallery renovations were completed. The Sultan Ahmed Mosque, commonly called the Blue Mosque, was built over seven and a half years, starting in 1609. We observed its exquisite blue tiles and the impressive central dome, flanked by six minarets and supported by four large pillars.



Visiting the Harem for the sultan and his family.



Sketching at the Harem terrace.



Enjoying the beautiful weather and views from the terrace.

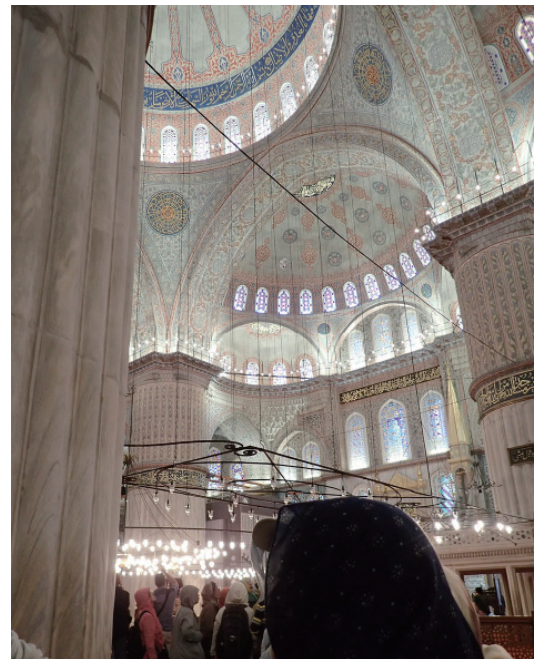


Student sketches of Harem terrace.





Basilica Cistern which is known as the Underground Palace.



Sultan Ahmed Mosque. Its dome with blue tiles is amazing and considered a masterpiece of Ottoman architecture.



Student sketches of Sultan Ahmed Mosque.

October 31, Tuesday, Day3

In the morning, we visited the Süleymaniye Area, an area with a significant number of traditional timber-framed buildings. Prof. Demet Sürücü, former head of KUDEB (Koruma Uygulama ve Denetim Büroları), a municipal organization in Istanbul primarily involved in the preservation and restoration of timber structures, explained the characteristics of the wooden buildings in the district



Study tour of Süleymaniye's architecture led by Prof. Demet. The conservation project started in 2008, and over 250 historical wooden buildings have been restored to date.



Süleymaniye Mosque by architect Mimar Sinan.



Sketches of Süleymaniye Mosque



Inside Süleymaniye Mosque. The dome reaches a height of 53m, making it the largest dome of the Ottoman Empire.

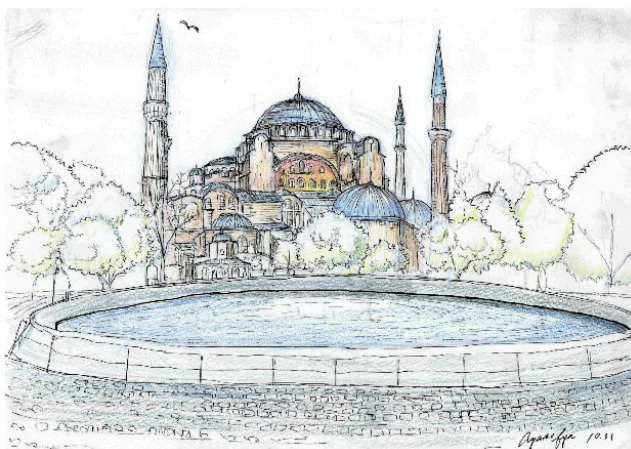
and the conservation and restoration plan. Following this, we visited and sketched the Süleymaniye Mosque (Süleymaniye Camii), designed by the renowned Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan. In the



Student sketch inside Süleymaniye Mosque



Inside Hagia Sophia. Hagia Sophia was initially built as a church, then converted into a mosque, later a museum, and is now used as a mosque again.



Student sketches of Hagia Sophia.



evening, we visited the Hagia Sophia Mosque (Ayasofya Camii), originally constructed as a Byzantine cathedral in 537 AD. It was subsequently converted into a mosque and then a museum, and has been used as a mosque again since 2020. Later in the evening, we attended a lecture by Professor Demet entitled “Turkish Timber Architecture” at the north campus of BAU.



BAU North Campus, architectural and design



Dinner at the BAU cafeteria.



Lecture by Demet Sürücü at the BAU North Campus.



November 1, Wednesday, Day 4

In the morning, we visited the St. Pierre Inn. The St. Pierre Inn, whose construction was completed in the 1770s, the Ottoman period, formerly served as a complex housing the architectural offices of architect Alexandre Vallauray and banks. The building underwent numerous extensions and renovations over 250 years. It is as a valuable building showing the condition of the time, and currently being conserved and restored by BAU. We received an explanation of the project and participated in a practical training session on preservation and restoration techniques. In the afternoon, we explored the architecture of the İstiklal area, which flourished as a trading hub in the 18th and 19th centuries. Subsequently, we visited the Atatürk Cultural Center (AKM), designed by architect Hayati

Tabanlıoğlu. The AKM is a complex comprising a concert hall and a library. It was renovated due to its age and reopened in 2021. Afterward, we visited Galata Tower (Galata Kulesi), which was constructed in the 6th century and served as a watchtower in the 14th century. We learned about the history of the surrounding area.



Preservation and restoration practical training in St. Pierre Inn. The building, originally constructed in the 1770s, has undergone repeated expansions. Consequently, various structural methods were employed, resulting in its complex form.



Historical buildings along Istiklal Street.





The Atatürk Cultural Center, originally opened in the 1960s, has recently reopened after technical restoration that preserved the original design by architect Murat Tabanlıoğlu, son of Hayati Tabanlıoğlu, the original design architect.



Library in the Atatürk Cultural Center.



View from Galata Tower



Student sketch of Galata Tower

November 2, Thursday, Day 5

From morning until afternoon, we received training in conservation and restoration at the workshops of Yıldız Palace (Yıldız Sarayı). Within the workshops, we observed the restoration of textiles, ceramics, carpets, furniture, and paintings. In the wooden furniture workshop, the conservator demonstrated the conservation process for creating missing wooden components. They explained that conservation was conducted based on international methodologies, while adapting several methods according to specific circumstances. In the afternoon, we visited the offices of Assist. Prof. Sinem, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Design at BAU, and Prof. Murat. Subsequently, we paid a courtesy call on Mr. Enver YÜCEL, the President of the Board of Bahçeşehir University. We expressed our gratitude for his support of the conservation training in Turkey.



Conservation and restoration workshops at Yıldız Palace. There are 19 workshops, including ceramics, textiles, metalworks, furniture, and more.



Wooden sculpture workshop at Yıldız Palace. The conservator explains the conservation process and principles.



Wood lathe workshop at Yıldız Palace. The conservator demonstrated how to make the missing parts.



A courtesy call on President Enver at BAU.



At BAU's architectural design office, Professor Sinem explained the students' work.

November 3, Friday, Day 6

From morning until afternoon, with a lunch break, we visited Dolmabahçe Palace. Dolmabahçe Palace exhibits an eclectic design, blending Ottoman and Baroque styles, and was constructed over a decade, beginning in 1843. With permission, we made sketches in the ceremonial hall, notable for its opulent decoration. During our visit to the palace, Ms. Kesar, who participated in the iCSA in Japan 2021 online, accompanied us.

Subsequently, we observed the conservation workshops at Dolmabahçe Palace, focusing on metalwork, glassware, and ceramic stoves. After dinner at the BAU campus cafeteria, we visited the studio of Professor Flatts, a fashion technology specialist at BAU, for a practical weaving workshop. Professor Flatts is an artist who creates innovative designs while respecting traditional techniques and materials. During the practical training, the students were instructed on how to produce textiles by hand using recycled materials.



At Dolmabahçe Palace, featuring a student who participated in the iCSA 2021 online program.



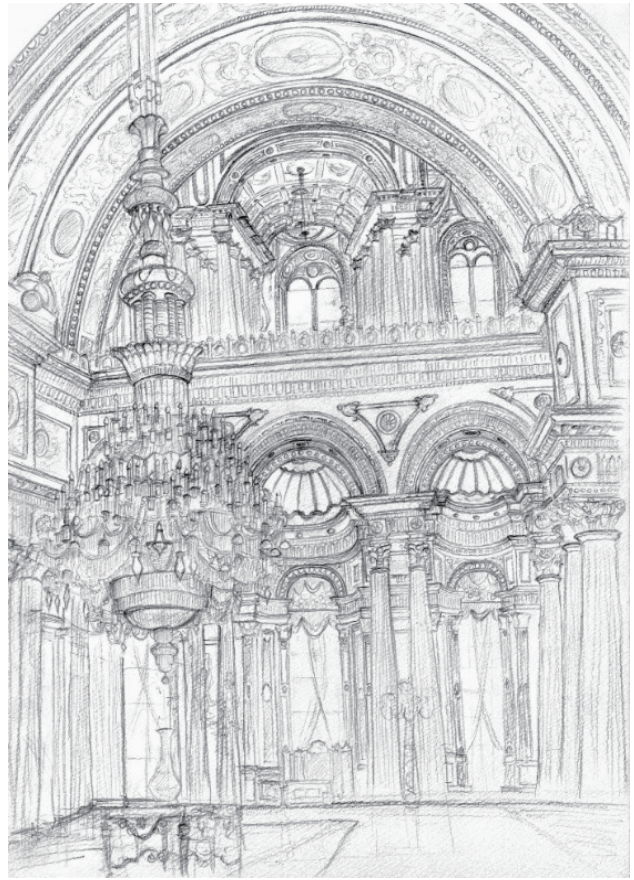
Students sketching at the ceremonial hall in Dolmabahçe Palace with special permission.



The ceremonial hall in Dolmabahçe Palace. The palace features a composite design with Baroque and Ottoman



Sketching outside at Dolmabahçe Palace.



Student sketches: outside the palace and ceremonial hall.



Visiting the ceramic stove conservation workshop at Dolmabahçe Palace. The conservator explained that although ceramic stoves are not in current use, the goal is to restore them to a functional state comparable to their original condition.



Visiting the office of internationally famous textile designer Prof. Flatts. He taught us how to weave with recycled materials. We experienced sustainable textile making by tearing used fabric into strips to create yarn for weaving.

November 4, Saturday, Day 7

Approximately three hours west of Istanbul, we visited Edirne, a town situated on the border with Greece. Edirne served as the Ottoman capital until 1453 and boasts numerous Ottoman-era buildings. In Edirne, we visited the Selimiye Mosque (Selimiye Camii), constructed in 1575 and considered the masterpiece of architect Mimar Sinan. The Selimiye Mosque features a dome that surpasses the height of the Hagia Sophia's dome. In front of the Selimiye Mosque, Professor Murat elucidated the history of Edirne and Sinan's architectural achievements. As the entire Selimiye Mosque complex was undergoing restoration, the students made exterior sketches. Subsequently, we visited the Old Mosque (Eski Camii), Edirne's oldest mosque, before proceeding a short distance to the Medical Museum (Sağlık Müzesi), where we observed aspects of life during the Ottoman period. The Old Mosque (Eski Camii) was also constructed by architect Mimar Sinan. The mosque has nine domes, all of which feature different decorations. The Medical Museum is a complex comprising a hospital, school, and mosque, completed in 1488 and now functioning as a cultural museum; it reopened as a museum in 2020. In Edirne, a first-year ICSA student who had previously studied in Japan kindly invited us to dinner at a hotel owned by her family. Following our visit to Edirne, our accommodation was relocated to a dormitory in Istanbul.



Selimiye Mosque. A masterpiece by architect Mimar Sinan. Prof. Murat explained the types of its dome, comparing it to the Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosque in Istanbul



Student sketch of Selimiye Mosque.



Old Mosque (Eski Camii) in Edirne: the oldest mosque in the city.



Inside the Old Mosque: Prof. Murat explained the mosque's features and the historical development of dome styles.



At the Medical Museum. It was the complex including medical school in 15 century.



November 5, Sunday, Day 8

Due to the Istanbul Marathon, which resulted in city-wide traffic restrictions, the morning was spent in the dormitories. After lunch, we visited the Kariye Mosque (Kariye Camii) and the Tekfur Palace Museum in Istanbul. The Kariye Mosque, originally constructed as the Chora Church, contains numerous significant mosaics within its structure. The building is currently undergoing restoration work in preparation for its use as a mosque. Consequently, our visit included an examination of the exterior and an explanation by Dr. Murat regarding the history of its restoration, from the discovery of the mosaics to the present day. Proceeding on foot, we visited the Tekfur Palace Museum (Tekfur Sarayı Müzesi), a Byzantine-era structure opened in 2021. We observed the remnants of kilns and the İznik tile production process, and made sketches of the old city walls. In the evening, we were invited to partake in a pleasure cruise on the Bosphorus Strait, travelling towards the vicinity of the Black Sea aboard a vessel owned by BAU.



The Kariye Mosque recently underwent renovation.



Tekfur Palace Museum: site of a former Byzantine palace.



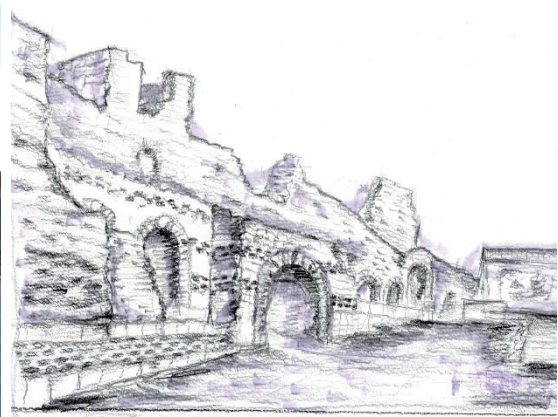
Iznik tile exhibition: remains of a kiln used for Iznik tiles.



Exhibition of the city wall.



City wall and student sketch.



Students enjoyed the cruise.



A cruise ship owned by BAU



Bosphorus Strait: embarking on a cruise along this vital link between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.

November 6, Monday, Day 9

We traversed the Gulf of İzmit and visited Bursa, often referred to as the ‘Green City’. In Bursa, we



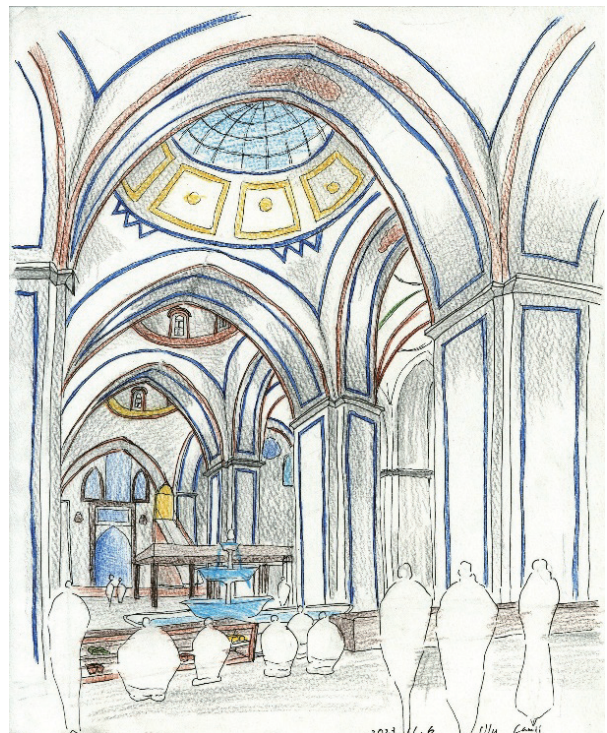
Car ferry crossing the Gulf of İzmit to Bursa, which was the first capital of the Ottoman Empire and is known as "Yeşil Bursa (Green Bursa)" for its abundant nature.



Grand Mosque in Bursa



Grand Mosque in Bursa with many domes



Student sketch, fountain is in the Grand Mosque in Bursa.

visited the Grand Mosque (Bursa Ulu Cami), Koza Han, and the Green Tomb (Yeşil Türbe) before proceeding to Cumalıkızık. The Grand Mosque in Bursa is the oldest extant grand mosque in Turkey and was the largest mosque of early Ottoman architecture, featuring a space composed of 20 smaller domes. Koza Han is a historic covered market that has been in continuous use since its construction. Its courtyards are particularly noteworthy.

In the afternoon, we traveled to Cumalıkızık, a small village situated to the east of Bursa, where we visited and sketched the traditional houses that have been preserved and **are still in use**. The village derives its name from the large number of people who historically visited it on Fridays (Cuma) for prayers.



Koza Han: a caravanserai famous for its silk trade. Beautiful inner courtyard garden at Koza Han.



Green Tomb: featuring a hexagonal plan and turquoise blue tiles.



Student sketch of Green Tomb.



Cumalıkızık: the traditional houses feature a stone structure for the first floor and a wooden structure for the second floor.



Street in Cumalıkızık



Short break at an open-air café in Cumalıkızık.



Students Sketch

November 7, Tuesday, Day 10

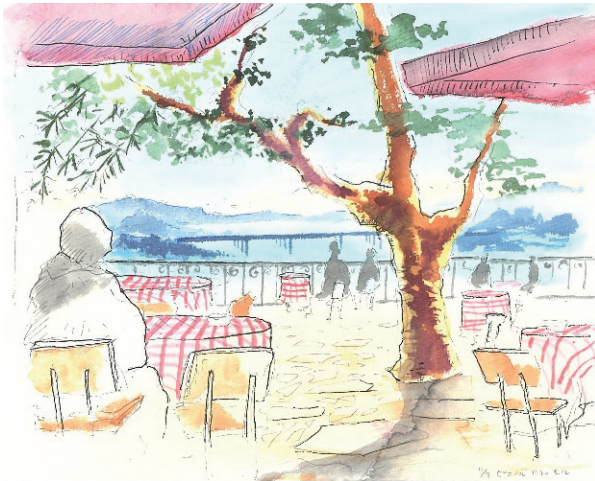
We visited the Eyüp and Eminönü districts in Istanbul. In the Eyüp area, we ascended Pierre Loti Hill via cable car and took tea at the Turkish café, where we sketched the scenery overlooking the Golden Horn (Haliç). Pierre Loti was a 19th-century French writer who held a great affection for Istanbul and frequently composed his novels in this very café. Subsequently, we proceeded to the Eminönü district to visit the Rüstem Pasha Mosque (Rüstem Paşa Camii), the Spice Bazaar (Mısır Çarşısı, also known as the Egyptian Bazaar), and the New Mosque (Yeni Camii). The Rüstem Pasha Mosque was situated on the second floor of the bazaar and presented a beautiful space adorned with İznik tiles. At lunchtime, we reconvened with Ms. Gizem, who participated in the 2019 ICSA in Japan. Following the 2019 ICSA in Japan, the students participating in this training program in Turkey have maintained contact with one another to the present day.



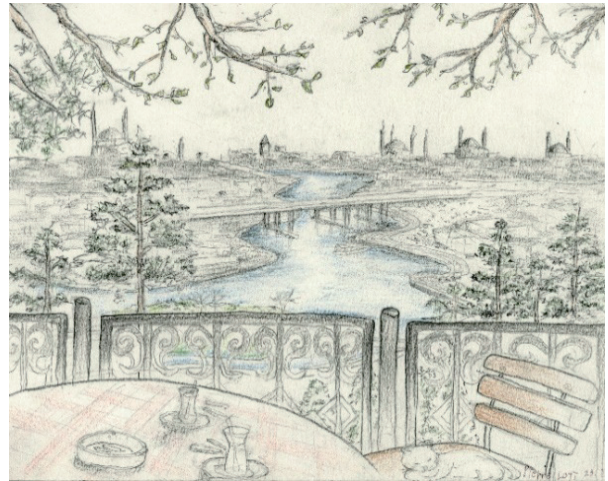
View from Pierre Loti Hill, named after the French writer who loved Istanbul and wrote at its café.



View from Café (Çayhane).



Sketches from the Pierre Loti Hill.



Rüstem Pasha Mosque: constructed on the second floor above the bazaar, it features beautiful Iznik tiles.





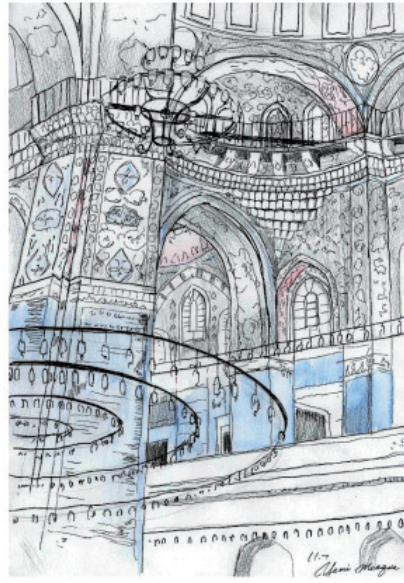
Sketch of the Inside New Mosque, Istanbul.



New Mosque, Istanbul (Yeni Camii) has amazing exterior façade.



Sketch of the Inside New Mosque, Istanbul.



November 8, Wednesday, Day 11

Following this, we paid a courtesy call on Professor Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, the Rector of BAU. Subsequently, we visited the International Office on the south campus of BAU, where we received information regarding BAU's international exchange activities. We then proceeded to visit the Nuruosmaniye Mosque, an example of Ottoman Baroque architecture completed in 1755, and the Grand Bazaar (Kapalıçarşı), one of the world's largest covered markets, which resembles a labyrinth.

Our itinerary also included visits to the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum and the Istanbul Archaeology Museums, providing insights into Turkey's historical connections between West Asia and Europe. In the evening, we joined Professor Shigeyuki Sato and Lecturer Tomomi Honda, from the School of Food Sciences and Nutrition, for dinner.



Courtesy visit to Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, president of BAU



Nuruosmaniye Mosque: built in the 18th century, it exemplifies Ottoman Baroque architecture.



Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum



Istanbul Archaeology Museum

November 9, Thursday, 9 Day 12

We visited Büyükada, the largest of the Princes' Islands in the Sea of Marmara and home to numerous historical buildings. The journey to Büyükada island was undertaken by ship, and travel on the island was by electric vehicle and on foot.



Traditional ship to Büyükada which retorted recently.



Büyükada island



Prinkipo Greek Orphanage (Büyükada Rum Yetimhanesi): the largest wooden building in Europe, it was built in the late 19th century as a hotel and later served as an orphanage.



Prof. Polydis explained the history of the Prinkipo Greek Orphanage. The building has been deteriorating since its decommissioning in 1964. Although the current owner hopes to restore it while preserving its current state as much as possible, this has not been realized due to cost issues.

We visited the Prinkipo Greek Orphanage (Büyükada Rum Yetimhanesi), which is the largest timber-framed building in Europe, and received an explanation from the architect, Dr Polydis. The Prinkipo Greek Orphanage is believed to have been designed by Alexandre Vallauray and was constructed around 1895. It served as an orphanage for the Greek Orthodox Church until approximately 1964, after which it fell into disuse and is now in a state of disrepair, rendering its future conservation a matter of concern.



Student sketches of Prinkipo Greek Orphanage and site view.

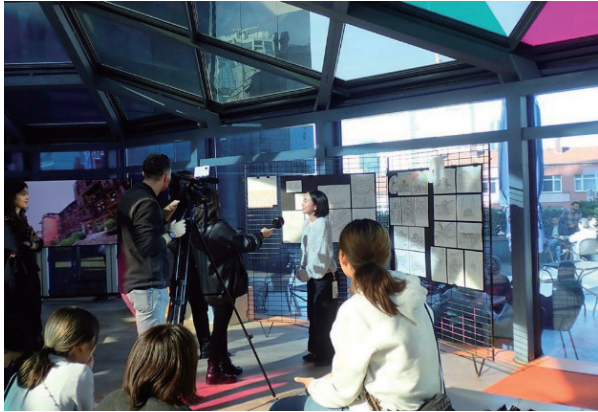
November 10, Friday, Day 13

The students held an exhibition of sketches produced during their visit to Bahçeşehir University. In the morning, they prepared and displayed their sketches in the entrance lobby of BAU's ground floor. The exhibition was a considerable success, attracting numerous visitors, including Rector Esra, many Bahçeşehir University professors, and Turkish students who had participated in ICSA in Japan. Subsequently, they departed from Istanbul in the evening and arrived safely at Kansai International Airport on the evening of Saturday, November 11th.



Preparation of Sketch exhibition

Throughout the 14-day training period, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Murat, Prof. Sinem, Dr. Eda, President Enver, Principal Esra, Prof. Demet, Prof. Flatts, Prof. Polydis, Mr. Başak, the Restoration Workshop members at Yıldız Palace and Dolmabahçe Palace all those who visited the sketch exhibition, and the many other individuals whose kindness was greatly appreciated.



Student interview by Turkish media before sketch exhibition.



Prof. Uno introduced the ICOSA program in Istanbul and the long-term relationship between MWU and BAU.



President Prof. Esra and the students participated in ICOSA in Japan.



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone attending this exhibition.