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ISANA Session Abstract

New Ways of Engaging International Students

The International Center at Osaka Gakuin University is presently working on original innovative ideas to effectively engage and challenge international students. At Japanese universities, the conventional path of offering Japanese language and subject-based courses pertaining to Japan and instructed in English, proves to be insufficient in meeting the needs of today's international students. Classes often fall short of providing the level of stimulation necessary to reach the real life needs of such global individuals.

This session will introduce the various efforts of Osaka Gakuin and other universities in Japan that try to fulfill the needs of international students coming to Japan. Examples will include work-study opportunities through university and private sector collaboration, service learning involving academic classroom curriculum with service in the community by partnering Japanese students with international students to volunteer in "machi tsukuri (town development)" projects, and others. The contents will focus on positive approaches to truly "engage students" backed by education purpose.