

HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

HUE

January 21, 2021

Dear Exchange Partners sending students to the HUE Short-Term Exchange Program:

At the end of October of last year, we opened up the application process for our Short-Term Exchange Program 2021 Spring Semester in the hope that the situation with the COVID-19 would improve. However, and unfortunately, the situation has not improved, but in fact has become worse with a new wave of infections developing all over. Our International Exchange Committee has decided today that we should suspend our program for the Spring and hope that we will be able to open up for the Fall/Winter Semester 2021. This decision is based on the students' health and safety in the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Therefore, we regret to inform all of you that we will have to suspend our program again.

In looking forward to the Fall/Winter Semester 2021 (from September), if we are put in another similar situation where mobility becomes difficult, we will try to organize an online program that can be utilized by your students desiring to study about Japanese culture, economy and business matters. So far, internal infrastructure and faculty consensus in switching over to online "in English" have been the main barriers in not being able to continue the STEP program. We are sorry for causing any inconveniences in your academic programs because of this suspension. In the meantime, we hope that the vaccines will provide an improvement in the battle against this pandemic and establish an environment where we can resume person-to-person engagement again. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely yours,


George R. Harada



Professor of Law & Director,

Center for International Education Exchange
Hiroshima University of Economics

E-mail: int-sc@hue.ac.jp

Tel: +81-82-871-1002