



DAY-3 24rd December

Thinking about Sustainable Society

Group: **T**

“Corporate contribution to society”

Today after the morning lectures, we all went to visit the Toshiba Science Museum in Kawasaki. There, we met Dr. Ishibashi who delivered an incredibly insightful lecture about the brief history of technology in the past few centuries. During his lecture, we were specifically intrigued by how a simple mechanism led to the rapid development of technology in which we benefit from today. We then toured around the museum where we learned not only about Toshiba’s fascinating history, but also its technological innovations for the future. We were particularly interested in Toshiba’s efforts to maximize the efficiency of its resources; such as its hybrid power plant where the emission gases from the factory are reutilized as thermal energy. This relates back to a notion set forth by Ms. Edahiro where she explained the need to reduce our desires and demands in order to establish a sustainable society. It was an incredibly enlightening day for all of us and we can’t wait to apply all these new concepts towards our final presentation.

Pictures



Other Unique Findings?

Hafidz

I was especially enlightened by Ms. Edahiro’s module about happiness. I have never really put much thought into all the factors that contribute towards my overall happiness, as well as the happiness of others.

Daow

When I went to the museum today, it felt like I went into a time machine as I saw a lot of the technological creations of the past. I learned about how we can use the lessons learnt from the past to help us with problems in the future.

Taqi

Personally, I am not particularly interested in science but as I visited the museum I acknowledged not only the importance of technology but also its inherent beauty. It was eye opening to me and I appreciate the subject even more now as it can be beneficial to our society.

Yukiko

I was impressed by Toshiba’s attitude for making our society more sustainable and energy efficient through technology because I used to think that technology was something destructive and detrimental to our societal development. I think it is very beneficial that corporations are effectively contributing to our society rather than prioritizing profit.



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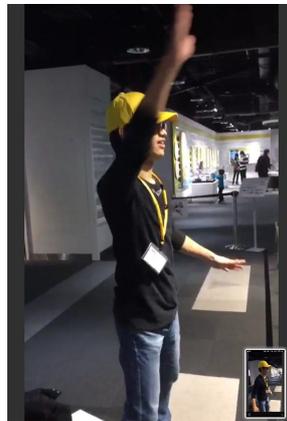
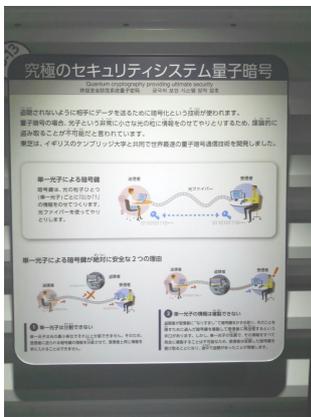
Thinking about Sustainable Society

Group: **Y**

“Focusing on the Future”

Today, we were very fortunate to have Ms. Junko Edahiro and Dr. Naoki Ishibashi share their insights from their respective fields of humanities and science which allowed us to view the world with a new lens. In particular, “backcasting”, a planning method that involves coming up with our desired vision of the future and working backwards to identify specific policies and actions to achieve that greatly inspired us. We think reflecting on our past is essential to shaping the steps we make in the future as individuals, communities, and nations because we can avoid repeating mistakes made by our predecessors. For example, we are very invested in the sixteenth Sustainable Development Goal – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The technologies we saw today at Toshiba Science Museum impressed us because we think they can help us to achieve this goal. Notably, the technique of quantum cryptography that can be used to ensure the confidentiality of information transfer, such as that of governmental data has great potential to be implemented in the near future. However, we also recognize that there is a trade-off between achieving privacy and security which we are interested in discussing in further depth henceforth.

Pictures



Other Unique Findings?

Hiroto

I was impressed by the system of Super Conductor. It offers a lot of possibilities for the realization of a Zero emission society. I hope this method will contribute to the future society and world peace.

Dara

I believe that the Hardware Base Facial Recognition at the Toshiba Science Museum was really remarkable as the camera had the ability to differentiate animals from people and identify vehicles.

Ai

I think we should change to renewable energy because global warming is increasing. I feel that if we continue down this path it will be catastrophic. I would like to increase awareness around me.

Jonina

What really resonated with me was the idea that one nation’s sustainability or gain can and probably will come at the loss of another’s sustainability. I think that this can be carried into my daily life by being more empathetic and considerate of others around me.



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Group: **C**

“From technology to prosperity”

From our visit to Toshiba Science Museum, we learnt that technology can pave the way to sustainability. Yesterday, our team was assigned “Prosperity” out of the 4Ps. What prosperity means is to make our lives and communities resilient. Nowadays, our lives are surrounded by technology. We came to the conclusion that technological advancement is crucial in making a community sustainable and prosperous. However, technologies also have their limitations. For example, we use energy in our daily lives. Today, at the museum, we were introduced to many innovative ways to produce energy using nuclear power. We learnt about nuclear fission energy which is an effective way to produce massive amounts of energy without harming the environment. However, the Fukushima incident in 2011 was caused by leakage of radioactivity by nuclear fission. We also were introduced to nuclear fusion, a more effective and safe way to produce energy. Nuclear fusion is still in the development stage, and we felt that more technological advancement is needed to sufficiently provide citizens with energy.

Pictures



Other Unique Findings?

Dong

I have always wondered how technologies work in daily life because they seem extremely complicated. But today, at Toshiba Science Museum, I have learnt step-by-step the development of technologies which helped clarifying my image of how technologies could become what they are today.

Erika

Quantum Cryptography sounded cool. It made me a little bit interested in computer science now.

Kota

During the morning lecture from Ms. Junko Edahiro, we learned about backcasting. In yesterday's activities, we were forecasting when thinking of ideas. However, today I was able to learn another effective way to produce ideas.

Norika

Today, I learned how to use clean energy. For example, geothermal power generation using magma energy. I am looking forward to develop clean energy in the future.



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Group: **A**

“What goes around comes around”

Today, we had a lecture from Ms. Junko Edahiro. She is the head of many co-operations, such as JFS, Japan For Sustainability. She taught us 5 modules: What to Sustain, Resilience, Backcasting, Systems Thinking, and Happiness. We were inspired the most by the module “Systems Thinking”. In the 1950s, WHO caused a chain reaction to occur when they tried to kill off mosquitos carrying malaria using DDT. Through this, they inadvertently caused the death of other animals in the food chain. This indicates that we need to think how our actions affect everything else. After lunch, we went to the Toshiba Science Museum. We had a lecture about how technology evolved from Dr. Ishibashi who has a Ph.D. in computer science.

After that, we had a very interesting tour around the museum. We were mind-blown by the large array of inventions. We discovered how Toshiba has been leading the world of technological innovation until today.

Pictures



Other Unique Findings?

Ernie

When going to the Toshiba Science Museum, I was mesmerized by how efficient and innovative Toshiba is. For example, in thermal generation plants, they use gas emissions from the plant as another source of energy, making use of the resources they have. This is a step to become a sustainable society in the future.

Jun Lin

Seeing the most optimal way of using energy manifested in the form of Toshiba technology for maximizing the energy production whilst promoting sustainability was very inspiring. It showed how efficient Japanese people do things.

Seira

I was enlightened by Ms. Edahiro’s lecture because before I participated in this program, I was not aware of my way of thinking. I think backcasting that she taught us will help me improve my studies tremendously. I hope I can apply this to broader and more complicated issues as well.