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Summer 2016

### Akita University, Japan

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*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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# Internship in Akita



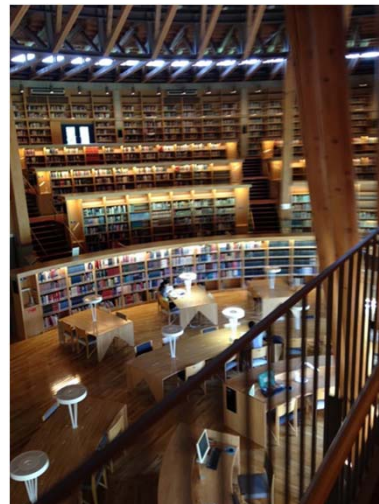
Andrew Litherland

# Akita International University

All students spoke fluent English

Students from all over the world!

Famous library with umbrella design.



The office building where I worked

# Working in Akita

Helped RCOS office (Research and Community Outreach Services) organize events for AIU Students

Included rice planting events, traditional festivals, elementary school visits, and more!

Provided tours for guests, including young Japanese students or locals interested in AIU.

Held English conversation sessions with Japanese students and other Language learners!



# Amazing Culture!

Got the opportunity to meet and have lunch with professional sumo wrestler Takakaze and learn a lot about sumo.

Experienced the local tradition of Namahage, where demons break into homes wearing scary masks, and must be warded off with offerings of food and *sake*!

Japanese Namahage on display at Nyudozaki Cape.



Sumo Wrestler Takakaze with the AIU school mascot, One!

# Beautiful Sights!



A rocky shoreline meeting the Sea of Japan



AIU Students crowding around locally owned Japanese restaurants



A lighthouse which serves as the symbol of Nyudozaki Cape

Everywhere I looked was a photo-worthy sight!

# Thank You!

The internship in Akita was an amazing experience and it has helped me grow as a student and as a person. I met so many amazing people and got invaluable experience from working in a foreign environment. I got the chance to experience a country that I have always had much interest in, and my interest has only grown more because of it. I am very thankful that I was blessed with such an amazing opportunity!