

## スロバキア大使が人文学部で講演



赴任されて間もない Kottman スロバキア駐日大使が 22 日、人文学部を訪問し、母国のスロバキアなどについて約 1 時間半講演しました。その時の様子を、異文化コミュニケーションコースの糟谷先生と、大使招致に尽力されたシュミット先生にご紹介いただきます。

2013 年 11 月 22 日金曜日 2 時間目、教養科目授業比較文化論「異文化とはなんだろう」のゲストスピーカーとして、駐日スロバキア大使コットマン氏による特別講義があった。会場の人文学部講義棟 10 番教室には、受講生 130 名ほどの他に教職員の参加もあり盛況であった。

伏見人文学部長による挨拶とスロバキアに対する基本情報の説明の後、コットマン氏による約 1 時間半の講義があった。

講義は英語で行い、パワーポイントを利用した大変興味深いものであり、スロバキアの歴史、風土、文化、社会、政治経済、食文化など多岐にわたり、スロバキアに対するイメージと理解を深めることができた。この特別講義を機会に、本学とスロバキアとの交流が進展することを期待したい。



(糟谷先生)

On November 22nd, Ibaraki University was honoured by a special lecture by Slovak Ambassador Michal Kottman. Ambassador Kottman is the new Slovak Ambassador to Japan. He began his post in September this year. As the new Ambassador, he met Emperor Akihito on October 10.



Ambassador Kottman gave a very informative presentation about Slovakia. He described the historical roots of Slovakia, the formation of Czechoslovakia, to more recent

historical developments such as the 'Velvet Revolution' in 1989 when Slovakia broke free of communism to the 'Velvet Divorce' of Czechoslovakia, where in 1993 the Czech Republic and Slovakia became independent nations.

The Ambassador described Slovakia's strong economic growth as part of the EU where Slovakia is the world's largest producer of cars per capita in the world. Slovakia manufactures cars for Volkswagen, PSA Peugeot-Citroën, and KIA.

Ambassador Kottman gave interesting information about Slovak culture and food such as 'Bryndzove Halusky' which are potato dumplings with sheep cheese and bacon. He showed many photographs of Slovak cultural items such as folk costumes as well as Slovakia's abundance of World Heritage Sites and beautiful nature.

At the end of the presentation Ambassador Kottman provided students with pamphlets, maps, and other informative material which students eagerly took away with them.

This year is a very special year for Slovakia as it celebrates its 20th anniversary as an independent nation. Ambassador Kottman wishes that although students may not remember all the facts of his presentation, that he has at least planted a seed of interest in Slovakia. I believe that he has been very successful in his aim.

A series of posters about Slovakia is currently on display in the Student Center until November 30th. Everyone is encouraged to visit the Student Center to see them.

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