

The Letter from Merle Claßen (stay in 26st-Dec ~ 19th-Feb, 2023)

- **What is your studying area?**

I am a German medical student from Erlangen near Nuremberg. I am interested in inflammatory bowel disease, especially in children. But as I am still a student, I love to learn new things and that is why I came to Nara University hospital to learn about surgery.

- *** Why did you choose our University or Hospital?**

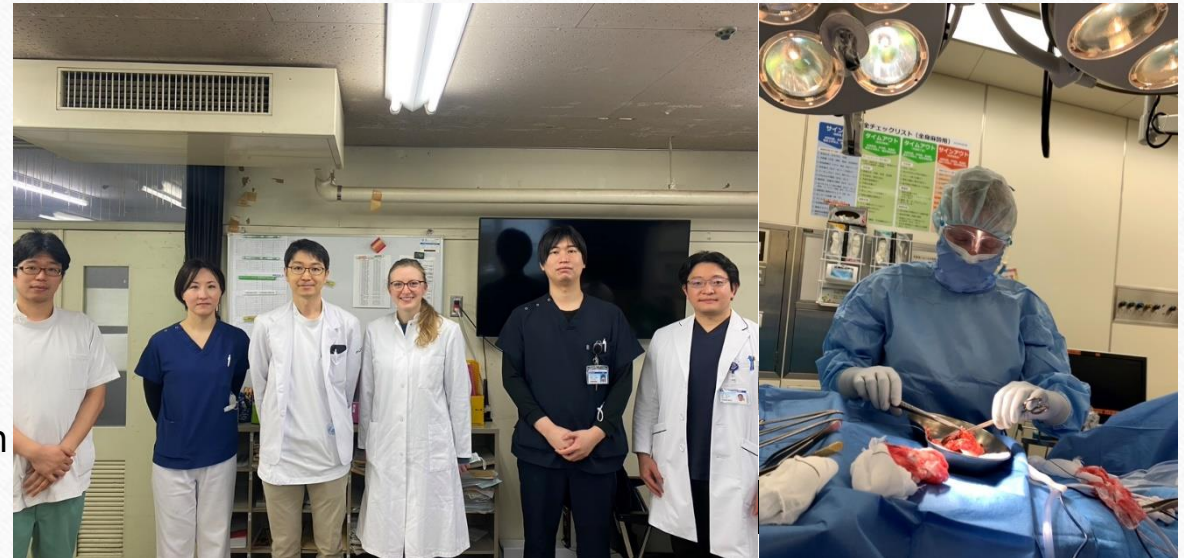
- *** How did you find our university or Hospital?**

I chose Nara Medical University because I wanted to experience health care in Japan. I read some good reviews about Nara University hospital on a German platform for internships abroad. That is where I found the hospital as well.

I really wanted to experience Japan and its culture. An internship seemed like a good opportunity to live in Japan and meet Japanese people.

- *** How is your studying circumstances?**

I spent four weeks in the general surgery department and four weeks in the spine team of the orthopedic surgery department. Both teams were very welcoming and took me in like a member right away. I mainly watched operations during my stay which was very interesting. The doctors explained the procedures and I learned a lot during my stay.





*** How is your private life here?**

*** have you been staying at our Guest House? Yes • No**

I have been living in a private guest house which was a wonderful experience. I had a very generous host who took great care of me. He invited me to dinner with his family, barbecue with his friends and even organized a lesson of Iaido (Japanese sword demonstration). Additionally, I met a lot of very nice people including students and staff of the hospital. It was a lot of fun hanging out with at lunch in the cafeteria or having dinner with them.

*** What is the impression of Japan, Nara Pref.?**

I really liked Kashihara. I loved the landscape with all the Japanese houses with rice fields and all the big mountains around. Kashihara has a lot to offer in terms restaurants and cultural sites. I especially enjoyed the food in Japan. Additionally, it was very easy to get everywhere including the dear park in Nara, Kyoto and Osaka.

*** Please give a message for the coming Students in future !!**

I really enjoyed my time at Nara university hospital because everybody is very kind and respectful.

