

Visit of Fashion Institute Vienna

Machiko MURAKAMI and Hiroo IMAI

Abstract

In this paper we report how students who had visited the Fashion Institute Vienna felt about exchanging abroad program. Our students visited there as one of our oversea school tour. Department of Apparel and Interior Designs have been exchanging professors and works of our students since 2004, this was the first time that our students visited there and exchanged by themselves. After this tour we asked them some questions to investigate how they felt and what they learned by this visit. We understand that all of them were satisfied with the visit of the institute because they recognize the value of the mutual exchange and spending time together. We find that this program is very efficient to raise the motivation of students and should keep on this program.

Keywords : Fashion Institute Vienna, oversea school tour, exchange programs

1. Introduction

Oversea school tour has been held every year since 2000 in the Department of Apparel and Interior Design. But this is the first time to visit the institute which has some relationship with our department. Thirty six students with two professors visited Vienna and Paris in February 2006. We visited Fashion Institute Vienna during our stay in Vienna. We have been exchanging professors and students' costume and drawing works each other between two schools since 2004. In October 2004, two professors visited the institute to investigate the details of the education system and to prepare for the international exchange program¹⁾.

2. Outline of School Tour

Tours were made from 16th to 24th February. We stayed in Vienna for two days, and then we removed to Paris and stayed for three days there. We visited some museums and historical heritages during our stay but our main purpose was visiting Fashion Institute Vienna.

Figures 1 to 4 show photographs of the visit. In the institute two interpreters and two institute students guided us which were divided in two groups. We stayed in the institute for about 2 hours and toured classes; which were drawing, knitting design, graphic design using personal computer, textile design (dyeing), fashion trend research, shoes making, bag making, head dress making and dress making. Finally we watched video movie of the annual fashion show held in June. In some classes professors explained what students

studied, while in other classes students presented what they designed, how they made and what they emphasize in their works by showing their products. Our students asked some questions to the Vienna students.

Schoolhouse of the institute was reused the palace of the mother of the Maria Theresia of the Habsburg Family. This institute was established in 1857 as an academy of art for women. It consists of two different types of schools. One is five years fashion school after graduating junior high school, and other is three years fashion design school after graduating high school. The latter became university in October 2006. Details of the Fashion Institute Vienna were described in the Kubomura report¹⁾.

3. Investigation

I asked the participants about the school tour. They were divided into two categories in their majors; 27 students in apparel design and 9 in interior design majors. 7 students of the apparel design major and one student of interior design major were the second (20 years old) years. Totally 28 were the first (19 years old) years. Questions were shown below. Some questions were concerned about the visit of Fashion Institute Vienna. We sent them question papers by mail on 28th February and had sent them within ten days. Questions were consisted of five chapters dealing with planning, visiting Vienna, visiting the fashion Institute Vienna, visiting Paris and personal items. We will mention limiting the results about the visiting of the institute and

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Figure 1 Entrance of Fashion Institute Vienna



Figure 2 Drawing Class



Figure 3 Head Dress Making Class



Figure 4 Dress Making Class

some relating matters.

4. Results

Figure 5 shows an answer against the question about the most interesting matter during the stay in Vienna. The answer of visiting the institute reached 74% following the visit of Palace Schönburn (56%) in apparel design major. In interior design major both places were major answer (67%). Figure 6 shows the answer against the question about the impression of the visit of the institute. We realize that all of the students were interested in the exchanging with same generations and major and over 10% students wanted to stay there for longer time. Students of the interior design major had been nervous that what they could get from visiting of the fashion institute before visiting. But they said in their reports that they could find the constructive manner towards design from the institute students. Figure 7 shows the result against the question as to “Which major did you interested in?” in which question two answers were available. All

students in interior design major were interested in the shoes making class then bag making were follows as 56 %. Students in apparel design major interested in the shoes making, head dress making and costume making. They have never seen the processes of making up these products. And for head dress making institute students made very interesting shapes which were out of the general idea of “hat” or “cap” for Japanese students. Our students were deeply impressed the manner of the design. We could find our students who tried to ask and discuss in this class shown in Figure 3. Figure 8 show the result against the question “Did you talk with the institute student by themselves?” 33% of the students talked to the institute students and approximately 3% of the students talked to them through interpreter. In a fashion trend research class professor asked my students how to get world wide fashion trend information and suggested to get it by using internet. Figure 9 shows the result against the question “Do you want to exchange with the institute student using internet and mail?”

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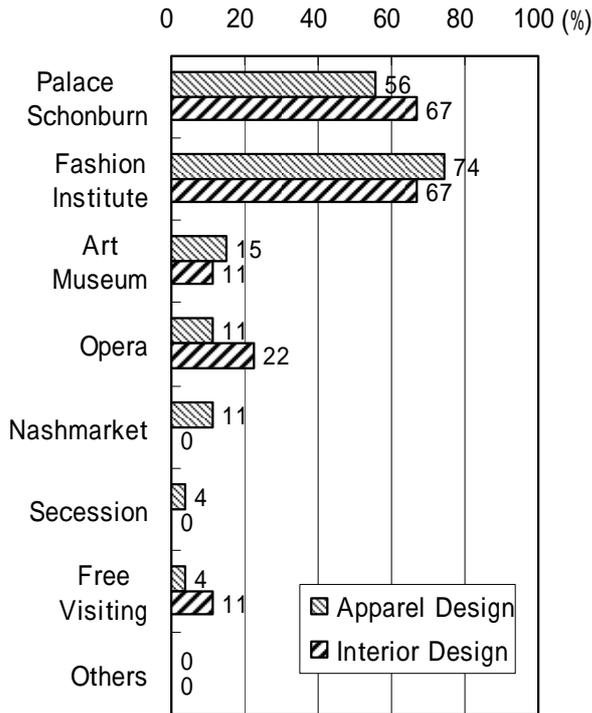


Figure5 Q. Which spot are you impressed in Vienna?

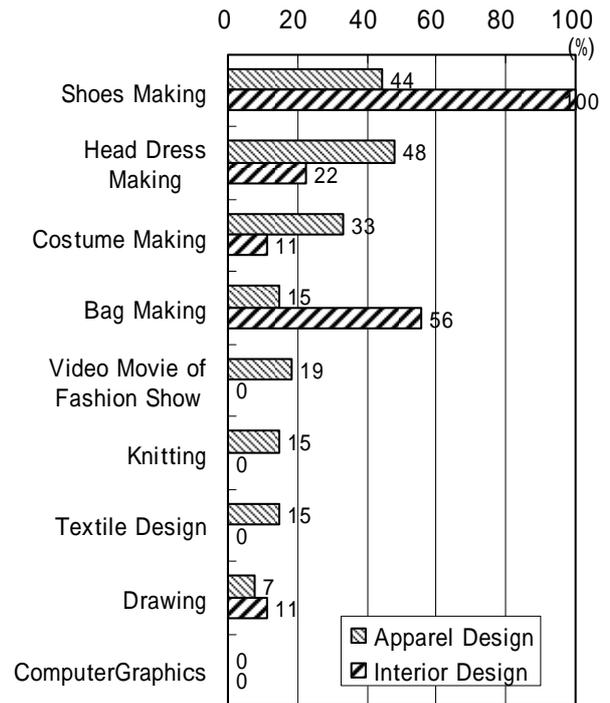


Figure7 Q. Which major are you interested in?

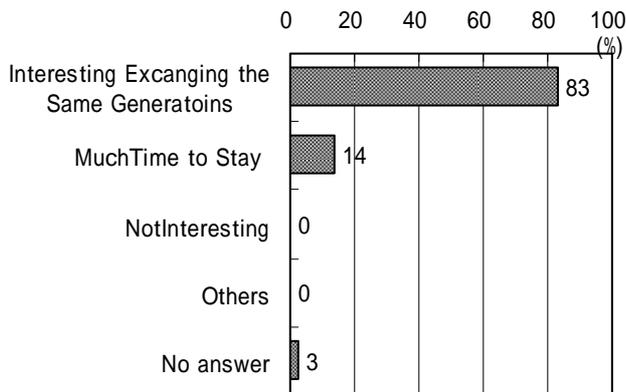


Figure6 Q. What the impression of the institute?

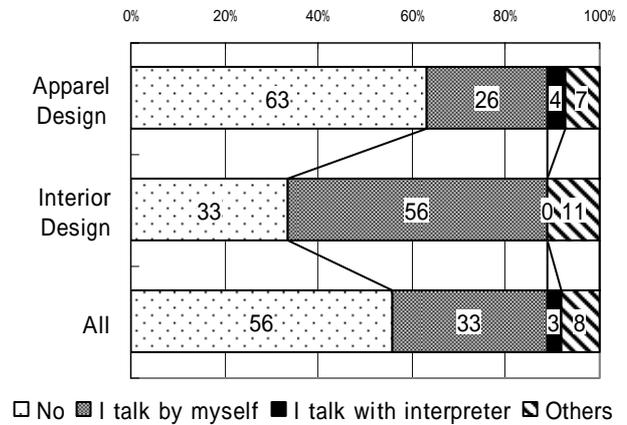


Figure8 Q. Did you exchange to institute students?

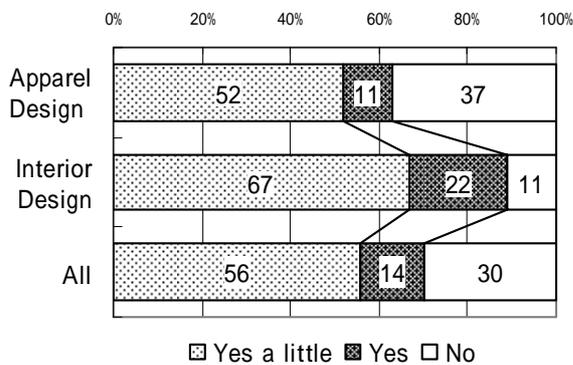


Figure 9 Q. Do you want exchange to institute students?

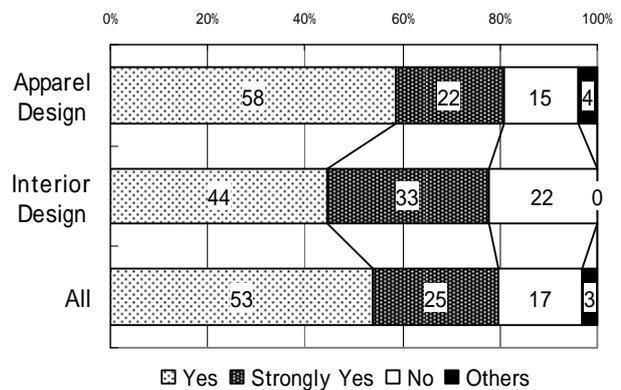


Figure10 Q. Do you want to study at the institute?

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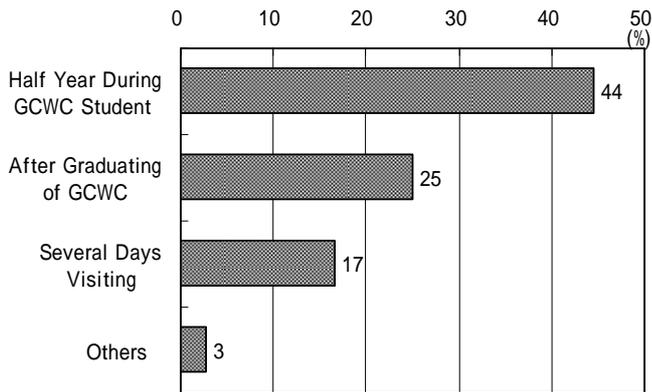


Figure11 Q. When do you study at the institute?

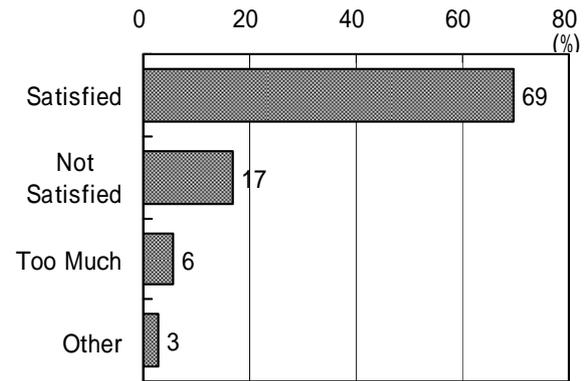


Figure13 Q. Were you satisfied in the study in Vienna?

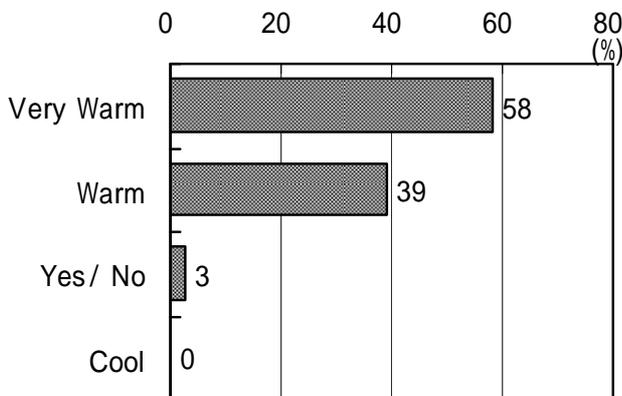


Figure12 Q. What is hospitality of the institute?

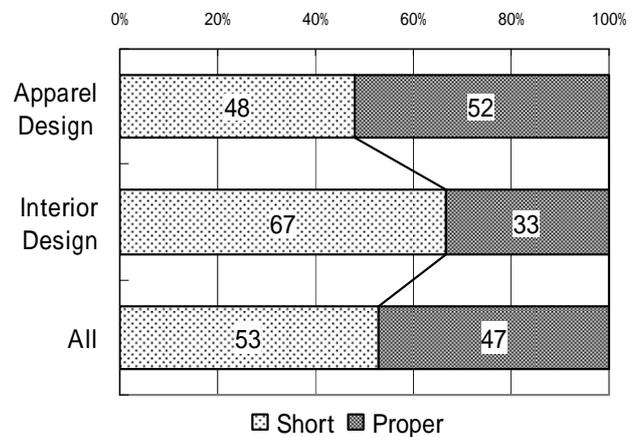


Figure14 Q. Were you satisfied in the days of stay?

Approximately 70 % students answered as “Yes”. Some students wrote in their reports that they should study English to communicate overseas students. I think that they felt happy communicating with foreign same generations. Figure 10 shows the result against the question “Do you want to study in this institute?” 75% of the students answered “yes” and 2/3 of them answers strongly. I asked the students who answers “yes” in the previous question what chance they want to have. The result was shown in Figure 11. Half of them answered “half of the year during GCWC student”, a quarter of them answered “after graduating GCWC” and others were “a few days visiting”. We would like to propose the institute to prepare the short term seminar to GCWC students to extend the exchanging program and satisfy the students desires. Figure 12 shows a result about

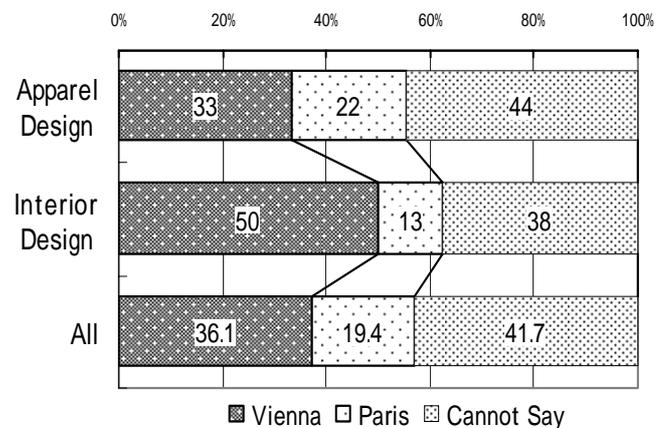


Figure15 Q. Which city were you impressed between Vienna and Paris?

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the hospitality of the institute. Almost of the students felt that it was very warm.

Figure 13 shows a result against the question about the satisfaction in the studies in Vienna. 70% of the students answered as “satisfied” while 17% were “not satisfied”. There were many study points in Vienna in a short stay as to two days and third morning. We visited Palace Schönbrunn, Fashion Institute and Art Museum in a day time and Opera in the night. Staying time in each place were very short and students might not be able to enjoy deeply in each spots. Figure 14 shows a result of the question about the staying time in Vienna. 53% of the students answered as “short”. In these answers seven students required as four days, six students required as three days. Five students (14%) wanted to stay in Vienna over five days. We understand that they wanted to stay longer in one place. Figure 15 shows an answer against the question as to which city they were interested in between Vienna and Paris. 36% of the students answered as Vienna but 40% were not able to answer which had been interested in. In this report we don't mention about the tour in Paris. They were also interested in museums and temples in Paris. They evaluated their impressions of the cities by not only the famousness or number of the visiting spots but also the exchange between peoples lived there, hospitality of the hotel, circumstance of the city and security of it. The result of Figure 15 shows the good impressions of the students. Vienna is not a big city but it bring us most of the conditions of the good impression.

5. For the Progress of School Tour

We understand that most of the students who attend the school tour satisfied it especially visiting Vienna from this investigation. We must make some improvements to be more effective. Vienna is a very suitable city to visit for the school tour in many reasons. That is, the reasons are because not only that there is a fashion institute but also circumstance is very quiet and beautiful, city is not so large and we can go around in a walking distance or loop tram, students can exchange to Vienna students in their artistic interest and raise their motivation to the creative activities. Secure circumstance of Vienna is also important factor for students. In this visit to fashion institute, we look around many classes and listen the presentations of the students. We would like to ask the fashion institute to open a short term seminar during visiting as a second step solving the problem of language.

Furthermore, we must produce another program to receive Vienna students to GCWC to develop the relationship between two schools.

6. Conclusion

We, students and professors, visited Fashion Institute Vienna as one of the events of school tour and exchange with Vienna students. From the results of the research after the tour we understand that GCWC students were very attractive in exchanging with them. We must inspect the effect of the exchanging through their activities and progress the exchanging as to having a chance to have a lecture of professors of Fashion Institute Vienna during their stay in Vienna.

Acknowledgement

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We thank to the GCWC students who attended the school tour, had useful and delightful time with us and answered the questions for the investigation.

Reference

- 1) Risei KUBOMURA and Machiko MURAKAMI, “Partnership between Public Higher Education Organization and the Regional Community –Investigation Report of Fashion Institute Vienna–”, Bulletin of Gifu City Women's College No.54, pp169-181.

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