

# 名古屋大学留学生会

## Nagoya University International Student Association (NUFSA) Academic Year 2022 Activity Report

compiled by ANDRIUSKAITE Agne



### 1. About NUFSA

Nagoya University International Student Association (NUFSA) is a diverse student-led organization founded by Nagoya University in 1985. Our primary objective is to bring together all international students enrolled in Nagoya University and visiting scholars. Our mission is to create a sense of community by facilitating intellectual, cultural, and social exchanges among international students, domestic students, faculty, and staff. We also foster understanding of diverse cultures and help to develop a cosmopolitan outlook among foreign

students, and between foreign students and Japanese students. Finally, we serve as support to incoming international students in adjusting to their new cultural setting in Nagoya and creating opportunities for networking.

#### 1.1 Name

NUFSA is short for Nagoya University International Student Association (名古屋大学留学生会). It originally stood for Nagoya University Foreign Student Association. However, in 2015, it was decided that the association would be renamed to Nagoya University International Student Association (while keeping its initial abbreviation – NUFSA) to embrace the global and international student base of Nagoya University.

#### 1.2. Current executive Board

President: Karl Raymond dela Cruz Roque (Philippines)

Vice President: Felicia Cindy Halim (Indonesia)

Secretary: Agne Andriuskaite (Lithuania)

Treasurer: Ngo Gia Linh (Vietnam)

### 2. Membership

NUFSA membership is free of charge and can be granted to any students (foreign and Japanese) enrolled in Nagoya University, regardless of their nationality, major, schools, degrees, etc. To join the group and participate in creating events or to bring new ideas, all is necessary to do is contact us via email or Instagram.

### **3. The structure of our activities**

#### **3.1. Weekly meetings**

NUFSA members have meetings every week. This year, the weekly meeting is held every Tuesday from 12:10 to 12:45. During meetings, members discuss potential activities and plan them out together. The minutes of meetings are written down and shared online by the secretary every week.

#### **3.2. Event planning**

Since NUFSA has many members, we usually divide the projects/events among us. When preparing for an event, there is usually 1-2 leader(s) and a few other members who work as a team to brainstorm and plan out all the activities. Event teams share their progress with everyone during weekly meetings, where they can get ideas and feedback from other members.

#### **3.3. Teams**

Besides the temporary event planning teams, we have Social Media and Human Resources teams that remain more or less constant through the year (the heads of these teams change each semester).

- Social Media Team is responsible for promoting our events and projects on Instagram and Facebook.
- Human Resource Team is responsible for recruiting new members and internal (members-only) events.

### **4. Support and collaborations**

NUFSA is receiving support from various organizations. We are financially supported by Nagoya University Foreign Student Support Association, and we regularly receive technical or organizational support from Nagoya University Global Engagement Center. We also collaborate with volunteer groups (ACE, YWCA, Tomodachi-kai) for organizing activities such as bazaars, welcome parties, etc.

#### **4.1. Japanese Course for Family**

NUFSA has been a collaborator of Japanese Language & Culture course for foreign students' family members since this program started in 1987. We continue to participate in their events.

#### **4.2. Model United Nations (MUN)**

NUFSA also actively supports NUMUN, a conference where students act as a representative of countries all around the world to solve real world global issues. In

2022, the issues discussed were “Mental Health during COVID-19 Pandemic,” “Gender Inequality,” and “Efficient use of Nuclear Energy.” More than 60 participants came, ranging from high school students to graduate students, coming from Kansai, Okayama, Aichi, and Tokyo.



## 5. 2021 Activities

### 5.1. (February) “愛してるかなあ...?”

“愛してるかなあ...?” (eng. “Maybe I *do* love...?”) was a Valentine Day-inspired online event where several members of NUFSA (the love cupids) were answering questions submitted by students, concerning love and relationships. Some participants also engaged in the discussion, which made this event a good opportunity for everyone involved to reflect on and share thoughts about the intricacies and health of relationships.



### 5.2. (May) Welcome Party with ACE

NUFSA x ACE Spring Welcome Party or Sports Events was held face-to-face again after two years. The purpose of the event was to welcome both new international and Japanese students to Nagoya University, to introduce students to Japanese and other countries’ traditional games, and to promote cultural exchange. Around 80 people joined and we all had wonderful times enjoying the sports and meeting new friends!



### 5.3. (May) Back to School SnapSA

SnapSA is an online photo contest series that we started during COVID-19, each time offering a specific topic for picture submissions. This year we asked for a “back to school” shot – a photo taken during the first month of spring semester. We shared the winner’s picture on our Instagram account and rewarded them with a cup of coffee.

Since we repost all the submissions on our Instagram stories as we get them, we feel this



contest is a simple yet effective way for students to see the visual experiences of other NU students, as well as to share their own.

#### 5.4. (June) Mental Health Q&A

Mental Health Q&A session has already become a staple of NUFSA's annual online events. For this occasion, we ask students to submit their questions or concerns via online form, which can cover anything from motivation and studying to difficult relationships. During the event qualified counsellors from NU answer those questions, and sometimes it turns into discussions between counsellors and participating students.

This event is a safe space to ask for advice, since the questions might be submitted anonymously, and students don't need to give their personal information to participate.



#### 5.5. (July) Meidai's Got Talent Season 2 with COFSA

Meidai's Got Talent is a contest where NU students get to show off their skills and hobbies live. This year we had 10 amazing contestants and got to enjoy many musical performances, including not only singing and dancing, but also playing shakuhachi (bamboo flute) and electone.

During the event, judges (a selection of students and professors) give comments after each performance, but the final decision on who is the winner is made by the audience. This year, the electone performance won!



#### 5.6. (July) Water Weekend Event

NUFSA Water Weekend Event (WWE) was an event we organized where participants teamed up to play competitive wet games. This event was held at Kawana Park on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, with the purpose to engage students bonding through fun wet sport activities during the hot summer in Nagoya. We were able to promote the spirit of teamwork and



camaraderie while having so much fun! We plan to do this again next year, as it is a really good way to keep cool during the hot days.

### 5.7. (October) Welcome Party with ACE

Our fall semester Welcome Party was an opportunity for students to gather in a more informal setting and have an actual party. We started the night with several dance performances and proceeded with everyone joining the dance floor. Dim lighting and loud music made it easy for students to dance out all the stress of a newly started semester.



### 5.8. (October) Halloween Movie Night

Halloween Movie Night was a film-showing event held at the GEC Lounge on the 28th of October. Aside from the frights the participants experienced during the film, the participants were also able to bond with other students over their love or interest in film. The 'Best Costume Award' also prompted participants to dress up and express themselves freely in the Halloween tradition. It was a thrilling event for those looking for a spooky escapade.



### 5.9. (November) Thanksgiving

To commemorate Thanksgiving Day in Japan and to show our gratitude to our professors in our university, we gather messages of students to their professors and personally send it to them. However, we didn't get anyone to fill in the form this year. We did the same event last year, and we got a lot of participants, and our professors were very happy! Perhaps everyone was busy during this time – thus we plan to do this again next year, only making the message collection period earlier, to give everyone the chance to write a message.



### 5.10. (November) Board Game Night

NUFSA Board Game Night was a traditional event that we held annually. This time, after 2 years of Covid-19, we finally got to hold the event in person. It is where students of Nagoya University interact and enjoy with each other through board games and chitchatting. All the board games were prepared by our members and we were happy to have received some good feedback from the participants. This time we gathered at Amenity House. We hope that we continue this annual tradition in the future as well.



### 5.11. (December) NUFSA TAA

This year we organized a new event – NUFSA TAA – an opportunity to surprise friends with Christmas presents. Students ordered gifts (cookies, pocky sticks, chocolate) for their friends, then we prepared them and contacted the recipients without mentioning who is the person sending the gift. Sometimes presents were anonymous, though most people got to know who their Surprise Santa was when retrieving the gift. We saw many happy faces during this event, so we might repeat it next year as well!



## 6. Our contacts

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nufsajp/>

Instagram: [https://instagram.com/nufsa.nagoya\\_university/](https://instagram.com/nufsa.nagoya_university/)

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