

7-7 Extracurricular Activities

During college, the experience of participating in academic, social, artistic, sports, and recreation, etc., activities outside your normal curriculum during time away from studying has significant meaning in developing a rich humanity.

When students enroll, they simultaneously become a member of Ochanomizu University's student body.

The activities of the Ochanomizu University student body include student government activities aimed at improving student life, as well as cultural and athletic activities in which students with shared interests and goals gather from throughout the University and cooperate to achieve those goals. The Student Commons is the central hub for implementing these extracurricular activities.

● Student Government

Ochanomizu University's student government is similar to a high school student council. All students enrolled at Ochanomizu University are part of the student government. The purpose of the student government is to formulate and implement measures to enable the students of Ochanomizu University to have a better and fuller student life. With such purpose for its activities, the student government is divided into three committees: the Student Council, the Kiin Festival Executive Committee, and the New Student Welcoming Committee. Each of the three is further divided into a number of subcommittees and teams.

■ Student Council

The Student Council is the core committee of the student body. A few students are selected as student representatives at the new student class orientation for each division, department, etc., and serve as members of the Student Council. The regular jobs of the Student Council are the secondhand book drive held each year during the Kiin Festival (with secondhand books collected throughout the year using an entry sheet; sales revenues are returned to the individual who entered the books), recruiting members of the New Student Welcoming Committee, providing subsidies to Ochanomizu University's officially sanctioned clubs and circles, and publishing the student newspaper. In addition, planning of events as the Student Council, providing a forum for the exchange of opinions between the University and students, and other such activities are matters that should always be given consideration. Subsidies for clubs and circles and other expenditures for Student Council activities are all funded by the membership fees paid each year by incoming students.

■ Kiin Festival Executive Committee

The Kiin Festival Executive Committee plans and operates the Kiin Festival (the University's school festival). Preparations for the next Kiin Festival begin promptly after the completion of the previous Kiin Festival, and the committee spends the year until the festival putting it all together. The Kiin Festival Executive Committee also functions with several subcommittees working on details.

■ New Student Welcoming Committee

The New Student Welcoming Committee conducts activities to support new students before and after the entrance ceremony, enabling them to start college life with peace of mind. This committee is also divided into three subcommittees, as indicated below.

Class Orientation Subcommittee

The Class Orientation Subcommittee plans and operates the class orientation held for each division, department, etc., immediately after the yearly entrance ceremony. In addition to selecting the committee members and individuals responsible for certain things for each class, members of the subcommittee at the orientation are available to first-year students for consultation regarding putting together their schedules, student life in general, and other aspects of their new lives. Preparations are made in every aspect in order to make the class orientation a lively event.

Circle Orientation Subcommittee

The circle orientation is held every April. Whether officially sanctioned or not, a large number of clubs and circles introduce their activities and recruit members in a variety of locations on Ochanomizu University's campus. In order to enable the participating organizations to participate in orientation smoothly, the Circle Orientation Subcommittee contacts each organization in advance regarding the locations they will use on the day of the event, rental of equipment and supplies, etc. On the day of the event, the Subcommittee handles complaints from individual organizations, cleans up after the orientation has ended.

Pamphlet Subcommittee

The Pamphlet Subcommittee creates *Haru ga kita* ("Spring is Here"), which is sent to new students each year before the entrance ceremony. When creating the pamphlet, the Subcommittee gathers model schedules for first-year students in each division, department, etc. and recruiting manuscripts from each club and circle. It also solicits donations from businesses near the University to finance creation of the pamphlet, puts advertisements for those businesses in the pamphlet, and meets with the printer, etc. Accordingly, the Pamphlet Subcommittee operates with two teams: the Manuscript Team and the Advertisement Team.

● Extracurricular Activities Groups (Circle Activities)

Circle activities are funded by subsidies from the membership fees paid by all students. In addition to officially sanctioned circles, there are also groups conducting activities without belonging to the student government. Each group has its own regular, everyday meetings and gatherings, but in autumn, the entire University hosts the Kiin Festival.

Student Rules have been established to ensure that these campus student activities are each conducted smoothly. When a problem related to the Student Rules occurs, or there is a problem in the student government, the Student Affairs and Planning Office and student body leaders meet to work on a solution.