



2024FALL *ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE/AWARD AWARDEES*



MUHAMMAD AJNAS AHMED

ANDO Momofuku
Honor Prize Awardee

College of International
Management
8th semester
From India

When did you first learn about the Ando Momofuku Scholarship?

Since my first year was entirely online, I only became aware of the scholarship in my second year. At first, I just knew the name "Ando Momofuku Scholarship" from seeing photos of past recipients on campus. I actually applied for the award in my fifth semester but didn't make it to the final selection. There were three reasons I decided to try again in my eighth semester. First, I wanted to use the prize money to fund my project, GENECT. Second, I hoped to get advice from Nissin representatives about my project since Nissin Food Holdings, a major corporation, sponsors the scholarship. And third, I wanted to give a speech as the class representative at the graduation ceremony to share with my parents.

Please tell us about your project, GENECT that you have been focusing on.

One of the key experiences that inspired me was an internship at a senior care facility during my second year. I couldn't forget the smiles of the seniors and their words, "Please come back again." It resonated with me, especially since I care deeply about my grandparents back home. I also noticed how much joy it brought to the fellow students interning at the facility. That's when I thought—what if students visited elderly people who can't easily go out? It could create something really meaningful. I've always wanted to contribute to society, and I saw this as an opportunity to help address a social issue.



You have a strong desire to work towards solving social issues, don't you?

Yes, I do. I think my upbringing strongly influenced this mindset.

I come from a family of six—my parents and siblings, as well as uncles, aunts, and cousins. Both my grandfather and father had jobs similar to social work, always dedicating themselves to helping others. From a young age, I would accompany my father to help with donation drives and support work for those in need.

Coming from such a strongly connected family environment, life as a student in Beppu must be a big change, right?

Yes, studying abroad was a big change, but I've always had a curious personality and was excited to take on the new environment. From the moment I enrolled at APU, I had a clear goal: to overcome my fear of public speaking. I made a lot of mistakes and felt embarrassed plenty of times, but I kept pushing myself because I knew I wouldn't grow if I stayed in my comfort zone. Eventually, I had the opportunity to give a speech at a TED Talk. After I successfully gave the speech, I felt such a huge sense of accomplishment.

It is great that you overcame your weaknesses. There are probably many students who lack confidence or have things they're not good at. Do you have any advice for them?

There's a part of me that works hard and a part that stays optimistic, believing that everything happens for a reason. Based on that, what I would really like to convey to everyone is that rather than competing with others, I think what's really important is facing yourself and striving to become a better version of who you were yesterday. The Ando Momofuku Scholarship was truly special to me because it encouraged me to keep improving. Working toward this scholarship gave me even more motivation to push forward. Moving ahead, I want to give back to society and make the most of the opportunities and environment I've been given.





2024 FALL

Shape your world



JHA ASHMI

ANDO Momofuku Award

College of International Management
5th semester from India

I understand you transferred to APU. Could you tell us why you chose APU?

APU appealed to me because it offers various opportunities for international students. I wanted to be in an environment where I could actively participate in activities and bring my ideas to life. So far, I've participated in eight case competitions and was also appointed as a Future Visionary Vice President. APU is truly a unique place—an international environment in Beppu, a city that isn't particularly large. I feel like I'm able to study business management at a high level here.

You are actively involved across multiple activities, how do you manage your time?

I like staying busy, so I rely heavily on my calendar app to keep track of everything. When something interests me, I give it a shot, and if I feel like it's not for me, I think it's okay to move on. At APU, I've learned how to approach various activities more professionally. I've also developed a mindset of engaging in inclusive activities—not just for myself, but for the benefit of everyone. Moving forward, I want to continue seeing things from a global perspective.

What motivated you to apply for this award?

I knew about this award even before applying to APU. My goal wasn't necessarily to win, but to challenge myself and see how much I could prepare and accomplish within a limited time. For this award, I had to present and analyze myself, which felt like a case competition about my own life. The process taught me a lot about myself and was a great opportunity for self-reflection.

Do you have any future goals?

I want to keep participating in business case competitions and also support my juniors. Additionally, I'd love to write a book about studying in Japan—specifically about the experience of being an international student at APU. I want to write it in English to showcase APU's diverse and dynamic environment to people around the world.

Do you have any advice for your juniors?

I believe it's important to focus not just on winning, but on doing your best and growing as a person. Every day, I reflect on what I did that day, and what I want to achieve tomorrow. I try to step out of my comfort zone, think big, and set long-term goals. I always keep in mind: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

THE ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE / AWARD

<https://www.apu.ac.jp/student-support/scholarship-tuition/ando-momofuku/>



**IDOS JOHN REY
SADANG****ANDO Momofuku Award**

College of Asia Pacific Studies
5th semester from Philippines

**What motivated you to apply for this award?**

I knew this was a prestigious award from the moment I entered APU, which is why I also knew it would be really tough to get. But I decided to try for it anyway—because if you don't challenge yourself, your chances are zero. I didn't want to look back and regret not trying. I really want to convey that I've always had a desire to help people, and at APU, I've been involved in various volunteer activities, as well as RA and TA work.

So you have a desire to volunteer and help people?

Yes, I became an RA and TA because I wanted to support those around me. Dr. Ando Momofuku also helped many people by inventing cup noodles, and in a way, I really relate to him. Wanting to express these ideas was one of my motivations for applying.

Was there anything particularly challenging about the application process?

When I was preparing for the public presentation, I felt a lot of pressure comparing myself to other candidates. But over time, I started believing in myself and focused on finding what made me unique, focusing on my strengths, instead of what I lacked. I realized that rather than doing things just because everyone else was, it was more important to stay true to myself. I kept reminding myself: "Be Unique." So, in my presentation, I included a lot of personal stories that really reflected who I am.

Being yourself. It's difficult but important, isn't it? Were you able to convey your true self during the interview?

Yes, I think so. When I first heard the interview would be 18 minutes long, I thought, "That's a long time..." But once it started, I found myself thinking, "I wish they'd ask more questions!" There were some unexpected questions, but since I was clear on my belief in "wanting to help people," I was able to answer on the spot.

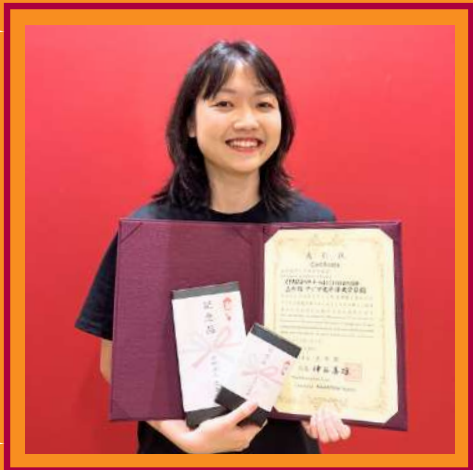
Do you have any advice for future applicants?

My advice? Just do it. If you don't try, there's no chance. Everyone has their own unique stories, so believe in your strengths and be true to yourself. And also—know your priorities. For me, academics came first. For others, it might be extracurricular activities or part-time jobs. Once you figure out your priorities and give them your all, you'll feel motivated to take on new challenges.



MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE / AWARD

2024 SPRING
RECIPIENTS



NGUYEN KIEU CHI
APM 8TH SEMESTER

❖ **AY2024 SPRING Honor Prize** ❖

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
College of International Management
8th Semester

Since entering APU, Chi has actively participated in various business case competitions in Japan and around the world, and has received several awards for her outstanding achievements. In this way, she has gained experience in applying the knowledge she learned at APU in practical situations. She has also demonstrated leadership by taking the lead in organizing events for entrepreneurship and community building. Her consistency and leadership skills were highly evaluated. After graduation, it is expected that she will use her experience at APU to pursue her goal of contributing to society in the fields of finance and education.

What made you to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

Actually, I knew about the ANDO Momofuku award even before I enrolled at APU by researching scholarship opportunities and always recognizing it as a prestigious award. As my senpais, whom I admire, got nominated for the ANDO Momofuku award, I always wanted to aim for it.

What I like about the ANDO Momofuku award is that it focuses on both academic and extracurricular activities. I believe that learning can be wide-ranging, and both what we learn in the classes and what we experience in activities can affect and boost each other.

I tried for the ANDO Momofuku award in my 5th semester but couldn't proceed to the final presentation. Even after that, I kept joining case competitions or organizing events such as Vietnamese Week. Now, as an 8th-semester student, I am at the point of preparing for the future after graduation. Through the preparation for the ANDO Momofuku application this time, I could reflect on my four years at APU and also analyze myself as a person.

How was the preparation for ANDO Momofuku application?

What I kept in mind during essay preparation was to deliver my message to readers through the essay. I tried to connect all the dots of my experiences into one line to tell my story.

Case competitions are one of the highlights of my activities. I was surprised when I listed my activities on paper and found how many case competitions I had attended. When I was doing it, I didn't look back at how much I had done but just enjoy doing it. By looking back what I have done now, I could see the result of my activities.



How was the public interview?

I was very nervous since I was the last presenter. But I decided to speak from my heart and try not to give correct answers but to answer with passion. I wanted the judges and audience to feel the same passion I have towards the activities I have done.

This interview experience was different from what I experienced in case competitions. This is because, in case competitions, I presented the results of my research for companies, but at the ANDO Momofuku presentation, I presented myself.

There were some unexpected questions during the Q&A session, but I didn't feel hesitant. Instead of just giving answers, I tried to discuss to show my awareness of things.



Do you have any messages for future ANDO Momofuku candidates?

For 8th-semester students, the ANDO Momofuku Honor Prize is a good opportunity to wrap things up at APU in a meaningful way. I could reflect on my four years and also plan for my future concretely. If you have your own story to tell and want to be a storyteller, you should apply for the ANDO Momofuku Honor Prize. It is also a learning experience, and you can open yourself up to new things.



2024 SPRING

RECIPIENTS



TABASSUM ZAHIN
APM 5TH SEMESTER

RY2024 SPRING AWARD

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
College of International Management
5th Semester

TABASSUM has studied the importance of marketing and consumer behavior at APU, and has set herself the goal of furthering her knowledge and building a wide network during a planned exchange program in Australia in the near future. Her systematic efforts towards her dream of obtaining a doctoral degree and contributing to the economic growth of the Asian region through digital marketing in the future were highly evaluated.

What made you to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

Since my first semester, I knew about the ANDO Momofuku Award as a prestigious award at APU. When my senpai won the award last year, it became much closer to me, and I felt this award was something I could challenge myself to apply for. I realized that I have already done a lot at APU which I can be proud of, and I thought, "Why not challenge myself for this award?" It's okay if I don't receive the award; it's worth it to challenge myself.

I like to challenge things. I think it's because I'm always curious and enjoy seeing how things go. I believe I have always kept myself busy at APU and experienced a lot of things.

How was the preparation for ANDO Momofuku application?

The whole process of preparation for the application was really valuable for me, and I learned a lot throughout this journey. While researching Dr. Ando Momofuku, I learned how he finally invented chicken ramen after many failures and how he embodies the spirit of "keep trying." This really motivated and encouraged me to keep learning and trying many activities I am interested in. It was very interesting, and I also got a clearer picture of my future plans through the application process. I had a much vaguer idea of my future before, but through the preparation, I could review myself and what I am passionate about, and could found this future goal to pursue a doctoral degree and establish a platform to connect investors, entrepreneurs, and policy makers to contribute to economic growth in the Asia region.

How was the public interview?

It was an honor for me just to stand in front of the judges and present myself. If I looked calm and confident, it might be because I have experience in discussions at my seminar where students exchange opinions. I like how there is no right or wrong for each opinion, and I have learned many different perspectives through these discussions. During the Q&A session, there were some questions I didn't expect, but I understood that I am still in my fifth semester and still on the way to learning and experiencing, so I tried to be honest and express what I know at this moment without embellishing myself.

Do you have any messages for future ANDO Momofuku candidates?

First, I recommend everyone to have TA experience. Even though some classes are not directly connected with my academic goal of Marketing, I have learned a lot and met many people through TA.

Secondly, I want to share what a professor advised me when I consulted about the ANDO Momofuku Award preparation. The professor told me that even if I am not selected, it is not the end of the world. So, I should make the most of this opportunity and enjoy it. Regardless of the result, this experience of selection surely motivated me to keep trying.

Shape your world

APU

Ritsumeikan
Asia Pacific University



THE ANDO MOMOFUKU
HONOR PRIZE /AWARD

https://www.apu.ac.jp/studentsupport/scholarship_tuition/ando_momofuku/

2024 SPRING RECIPIENTS



**YOKOYAMA
SHINNOSUKE**
APM 5TH SEMESTER

AY2024 SPRING AWARD

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
College of International Management
5th Semester

SHINNOSUKE was recognized for his strong interest in capitalist and planned economies, his active learning, and his experience fostering mutual growth through exchanging opinions in a multicultural environment during seminar and RA activities, as well as his growth in both his studies and extracurricular activities. In the future, he is expected to continue to learn, take action and be a good leader, contributing towards his goal of the realization of a fair and equitable society at an international organization.

Shape your world

APU

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Asia Pacific University



**THE ANDO MOMOFUKU
HONOR PRIZE /AWARD**

https://www.apu.ac.jp/studentsupport/scholarship_tuition/ando_momofuku/

What made you to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

I applied because I thought it would be a good opportunity to have my efforts, such as my academic work and activities, directly evaluated by academic professionals such as professors and staff with a variety of experience, and to learn about my current level. I like to take on challenges that might be a little difficult to begin with, and I was willing to take on this challenge as well.

How was the preparation for ANDO Momofuku application?

Actually, I like to think about various things in my mind on a regular basis. I think about things like, "Why are people alive? Sometimes I like to question the people around me and take in new ideas from others. This habit of thinking worked in the right direction, and I was able to write down the ideas I had in my mind to the best of my ability in the documents.

How was the public interview?

Especially when I first enrolled at APU, I rarely had experiences of standing up in front of a crowd and making a presentation, so I was afraid of making mistakes in front of others. I was scared this time, too, but before the actual presentation, I had all kinds of people, including my friends, family, and relatives, watch me practice my presentation and give me their opinions. The questions I didn't expect were good practice for me to organize my opinions.

On the day of the event, I was quite nervous at first, but I gradually calmed down and was able to catch up with the judges during the Q&A session, which I enjoyed myself. By the end of the session, I felt like I wanted to tell more and to be asked more questions.

Do you have any messages for future ANDO Momofuku candidates?

Time is limited, so I think it's best to start with what you can do right now. Everyone has talents in different fields. I would like you to find your own thing which you feel "this is it!" The best way to find it is to keep trying until you do so, And if it doesn't work after 100 tries, try again for the 101st time.

For those who are striving towards something they believe is "it," there's a great opportunity like the Ando Momofuku Award waiting. I want to convey that it's right within reach and it would be a shame not to try. And once you decide to do it, give it your all as if you're aiming to win that award! It will surely be a valuable experience.



MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE / AWARD

MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE /AWARD



Q. What made you to apply for ANDO Momofuku scholarship? How did you know about this scholarship?

I noticed that one of my classmates had won the ANDO Momofuku Award during his fifth semester. Though I was hesitant about applying, I felt a sense of regret about not having gone through with it in the end. During my eighth semester, I focused on creating opportunities for international exchange for APU students and the local community. Based on my experience through these exchange activities, I decided to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Honor Prize. I wanted to send a message to other students about the importance of believing in oneself and their goals while not being afraid to try.

Q. What was challenging for you during preparing for application survey or preparing for the interview. Did you learn something from that experience?

When I was filling out the application, I had a difficult time trying to convey my thoughts in the limited number of characters and figuring out which words to use to express myself. For the presentation video, I tried to create a structure that would communicate my message as powerfully as possible. Moreover, I spoke in English during the first part of my video, my self-introduction, to showcase the work I had put into my English communication skills and international exchange activities.

I used to play baseball in junior high and high school, and I found the thinking skills I learned there and the practice of organizing my thoughts in notebooks every day to be extremely helpful in my preparation for the scholarship screening.



DOI KODAI



AY2023 FALL Honor Prize
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
College of Asia Pacific Studies
8th Semester

Kodai began his university life during the coronavirus pandemic. While people's interactions with others were limited, he continuously organized activities to create opportunities for students to interact with each other at APU, and further extended these activities to the local community. He was highly praised for his consistent action and the significant progress he has made toward the goals he has set for himself. After graduation, he is expected to continue to apply his experience and work to create a better society through his efforts to encourage diverse connections.

Visit APU Student Office scholarship website for more information





MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE / AWARD

MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE /AWARD

Q. How was the public interview? What was difficult for you or what were the lessons you learned?

I remember feeling nervous about the interview, but more than that, I was excited to see what kind of questions they would ask me. I practiced answering potential questions in various ways, and I felt confident going into the interview that I had done all that I could to prepare. Although there were some unexpected questions, I was able to answer them on the spot because I had thought deeply about my past experiences and activities while preparing for the interview. I enjoyed the unexpected twists and turns of the interview.

After completing the interview, I felt a sense of accomplishment and confidence. I was proud that I was able to convey my thoughts during the public interview, and this gave me even more confidence in myself.

Q. Do you have any messages for future ANDO Momofuku candidates?

I believe that the Ando Momofuku Scholarship is a great opportunity for individuals who are passionate about their aspirations or have already achieved something significant to inspire and motivate others. For me, it was not just about saying, "Look, I accomplished something." Instead, it was more about being able to accomplish something that I'm proud of.

The scholarship selection process allowed me to reflect on the last four years of my life and gave me an opportunity for introspection and to think more concretely about my future. Winning the award has given me a sense of responsibility in a positive way. I want to keep sharing my experiences with others, especially with my juniors, to help them achieve their goals.



Visit APU Student Office scholarship website for more information





MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE / AWARD

MY STORY OF ANDO MOMOFUKU HONOR PRIZE /AWARD

Q. What made you to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship? How did you know about this scholarship?

I became aware of this scholarship after a senior student applied for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship. I even went to see him at the public interview. In my second semester, I participated in an international business case competition and won the first prize. This gave me confidence and the desire to challenge myself in any platform which led me to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship. Rather than wanting to win an award, I wanted to know objectively where I was at in my self-growth.

Q. What was challenging for you during preparing for application survey or preparing for the interview. Did you learn something from that experience?

Having been involved in so many different activities over the past two years, it was not easy to create my own story and what I should focus on. However, the answer became clear when I considered not only what I had achieved so far in my time at APU, but also the connections to my future after graduation. Through my preparation, I was able to understand my own strengths and weaknesses. In addition to what I have done, I have also been able to see what I have not yet been able to do. This gave me a good opportunity to think about what I should do in the future.

Q. How was the public interview? What was difficult for you or what were the lessons you learned?

I did a lot of preparation for the public interview. I also prepared and practiced my answers in both English and Japanese, although I am English-based. I prepared with three strategies for answering the interview questions, which are making answers specific, concise & personalized. These strategies benefited from the knowledge I had gained in previous classes, business case competitions, and scholarship interviews.

In the course of my preparation, I also learned about Dr. Momofuku Ando, founder of Nissin Foods Holdings Ltd. I found that I have some things in common with his experience, such as the fact that I have not given up and continue to try, even though I have unfortunately not been selected in some of the scholarships and other competitions I have attended in the past. I look forward to learning more about Dr. Momofuku Ando at the CUPNOODLES MUSEUM, which the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship recipients are scheduled to visit in March.

Q. Do you have any messages for future ANDO Momofuku candidates?

A 5th-semester student means that you have only been studying and working on activities at APU for only two years. However, if you can find something you like or something you want to dedicate yourself to, and if you can act on it, I believe you should apply for the ANDO Momofuku Award. You have nothing to lose by challenging yourself and I hope you will enjoy the challenge. During the application process for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship, you can look back at what you have done and find out what you need to do in the future. If you haven't found what you want to do yet, I think you should just try various activities and find out what you like. And if you find something that you are passionate about and that you can put your energy into, then that is what you should focus on.



ISTESHAM FARHAN

AY2023 FALL AWARD
Ritumeikan Asia Pacific University
College of International
Management
5th Semester

Farhan has participated in various business case competitions and has been published in a journal. He was highly evaluated not only for his vast experience competing in case competitions, but for the academic output he produced as a result. In addition, Farhan showed that he has clear learning goals and is systematically working toward his dream of being active on the world stage as a consultant, and is expected to play an active role as a future leader.



Visit APU Student Office scholarship website for more information



KARINA Viella Darminto



2023 SPRING Honor Prize
College of Asia Pacific Studies
Indonesia

What made you decide to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

I applied for the ANDO Momofuku in my 5th semester, but did not win the award. Since then, I have engaged in many activities, such as studying abroad and Project B. So this time, I wanted to try again as me as an 8-semester student. I felt disappointed when I did not win the award in my 5th semester, but later, after studying abroad, I began to rethink the definition of "success" for me. I have come to think that winning an award is not the only kind of success, but that what I have accomplished is also important.

What makes this scholarship special is its openness. It is publicized on campus that I applied and made it to the final screening which is also open to the public. I received words of support from many of my friends in this process. I think the fact that it is open to the public put good pressure on me.

What were some of the difficulties you experienced in preparing your application documents and getting ready for the final screening and what did you gain from this process?

I put a lot of effort into putting my past activities into my own words and preparing how I would describe my activities in the limited time of 18 minutes for the Q&A session. The questions were not asked by supporters who had known me for a long time, but by the judges who I met for the first time. It was really difficult to communicate in a limited time. Since I missed the award in the 5th semester, I started keeping a journal to reflect on my activities. It has been a great opportunity to regularly reflect on my activities and was very helpful in preparing for the screening.

How was the open interview?

I was nervous about the fact that it was a public screening, but I knew I just had to do my best. I was calm once I arrived at the venue. I think this was because I had prepared well and was confident in my activities.

Since it was a public screening, I felt that other students were paying attention to me. I was anxious, but I knew that a leader is someone who is seen by others in good times and bad times, and this was a situation where my leadership was being put to the test.

The judges asked questions that I had not anticipated, but I was able to calmly answer them from the knowledge I had learned. I would not have been able to do this in my 5th semester.



How do you think this scholarship selection experience will help you in the future?

It gave me an insight into how well I can do under pressure. When I lose confidence in the future, I believe this experience of winning this prize will give me strengths. I was not confident when I applied, but the fact that I prepared well for it gave me confidence. Even if I encounter difficult situations in the future, I believe I will be able to handle them by making use of this experience.

Do you have any message for younger students who are thinking of applying for this scholarship in the future?

There are two pieces of advice I can give you.

One is to learn to look at yourself objectively. The ANDO Momofuku Scholarship is a prestigious award on campus and only one person can win it. This means that if there are 100 students, you need to do something that the other 99 students are not doing. I think it is important to be active to the best of one's ability.

The second is to visit the Cupnoodles Museum. You can learn a lot more about Momofuku Ando's personality and thoughts than just reading books. When I went to Yokohama, I visited the museum and learned a lot there.

PUTRI NAILA DIRA



2023 SPRING Award
College of Asia Pacific Studies
Indonesia

Do you have any message for younger students who are thinking of applying for this scholarship in the future?

There is no need to compare yourself to other applicants or previous winners. What is important in the screening is to tell your story. By applying for this award, you can learn more about yourself and challenge yourself. I believe that you are never in competition with others.

What made you decide to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

A friend of mine said to me "You should apply!", and I decided to try, even though I was a little scared to do so. I wanted to know what I had accomplished so far, and I wanted to challenge myself.

What were some of the difficulties you experienced in preparing your application documents and getting ready for the final screening and what did you gain from this process?

It took me a long time to reflect on my past activities and create a story of my activities. I know what I like and why I am motivated to do what I do. However, it was the first time for me to explain it in words to someone who does not know me, and it was very difficult. I had had experiences of making a presentation in class, but this was the first time for me to talk about myself. Reflecting on myself, I felt like I regained the motivation I had when I started the activity. It was a good opportunity of self reflection on why I am doing this activity.

How was the open interview?

I was very nervous. If I seemed calm, it was because I had prepared a lot to know myself better. I feel that the questions from the judges gave me an opportunity to "look at myself" rather than "be evaluated". In fact, some of the questions had ideas that I had not thought of before, so it was a new discovery for me.

How do you think this scholarship selection experience will help you in the future?

Since the screening process is open to the public, more people got to know. I think it will be a good opportunity to build a larger network and I would be happy if more people come to support my activities. I would like to share this experience of the screening with the people around me. Now that I have received the award, I feel a responsibility to continue my activities in the future.

NAKAYAMA MIHO



2023 SPRING Award
College of Asia Pacific Studies
Indonesia

Do you have any message for younger students who are thinking of applying for this scholarship in the future?

Until now, I have not had a very good impression of being evaluated. Perhaps I thought that it was enough if what I was doing was good for myself. However, through this screening process, I came to have a positive view of "being evaluated. It was a good experience to have my activities and opinions evaluated objectively. I would like to encourage everyone to take on this challenge. I was anxious and scared when I applied, but I am glad I took the plunge.

What made you decide to apply for the ANDO Momofuku Scholarship?

A senior international student recommended me to apply. I knew about the Ando Momofuku Award, but I thought it was in another world. But when someone close to me told me to apply, I thought I could do it.

What were some of the difficulties you experienced in preparing your application documents and getting ready for the final screening and what did you gain from this process?

Since my enrollment until now, "just do it" was my motto and have been putting my all on my activity. This time, writing the essay for the document screening and making the video for the second screening gave me a good opportunity to pause and reflect on my past activities. While I had an enormous amount of things I wanted to tell, compiling them into an essay with a word limit and a video made me feel a sense of gratitude to the people who have supported me again. I also began to think about what the core of my activity is and what I want to accomplish in the future.

How was the open interview?

I was very nervous during the Q&A session with the judges. I was asked questions that I did not expect, and I could not answer some of them well. However, the final screening was not the end of the process. It took a few days, but I thought about the questions I was asked. I then began to think about what I wanted to accomplish in the future and the goals of my circle, "pospos," rather than engaging in the activity based on my own "love" to the activity. During the Q&A session, I learned the ability to crawl out of shock, tolerance, and how to receive critical questions.

How do you think this scholarship selection experience will help you in the future?

I have always been an action-oriented person, but this screening process taught me the importance of going back and forth between "action" and "thinking/reflecting". From now on, I will take action while thinking about the image of myself that I want to become and what I want to challenge in the future, rather than just looking at "the present moment".