

## Report from Special Research Student

Nationality: German

Department: Mechanical Engineering

Period: April 2019 – September 2019

What motivated you to study at TUT?
I found Japanese culture fascinating, but did not have any first-hand experience, so I thought it would be the perfect opportunity to get to know the country and its society by spending one semester at a Japanese university. Toyohashi is located nicely in central Honshu, and my home university already had connections to TUT. I also prefer living in a small city over a densely populated metropolis, making TUT a good choice for me.
What kind of studies and research did you do at TUT? How much progress?
I came to TUT to conduct research in the systems engineering laboratory and write a thesis on the results. I worked on a project dealing with an outdoor cleaning robot, specifically on the detection and tracking of pedestrians from a camera that is mounted on the robot. I implemented the algorithm in Python and had my labmates' help for testing its performance in experiments.
Fun memories at TUT
The CALL club organized a really cool welcome party and a BBQ in the park. Also playing football with other students every Friday after work was a lot of fun. And of course an endless number of trips to the conbini on campus whenever someone in the lab was bored.
Message to future visiting students
Try to buy a bicycle as soon as possible, as it facilitates grocery shopping and getting into the city a lot. Also, some coupons for free bus tickets are available for international students at the Toyohashi International Association near Toyohashi station. Otherwise enjoy your time in Toyohashi, try travelling through Japan and don't be afraid to ask your labmates, neighbors & tutors in the dormitory for help!