

## **Daisuke Kishita: University of Miyazaki Student in Australia**

The University of Miyazaki undergraduate Daisuke Kishita is currently studying overseas at the University of New Castle in Australia on the “Tobitate” overseas scholarship program of Japan’s Ministry of Education.

The Tobitate program emphasizes practical overseas experiences such as participating in internships or conducting fieldwork. So far the University of Miyazaki has had a total of 20 students who have received scholarships under the program, and 13 students are currently overseas on the program (including 2 in Australia).



Daisuke was awarded a scholarship related to his activities as an athlete who has been participating in 100-meter and 200-meter wheelchair racing events. He chose the University of Newcastle, which has been a training hub for Australian wheelchair racing.

During his stay in Australia (from October to February), Daisuke will spend the first two months studying English, followed by three months of training. He will be assisted by the five-time Paralympic wheelchair coach Andrew Dawes as well as such Paralympic competitors as Rheed McCracken.



Another important goal for Daisuke is to study issues related to “universal design” in Australia, which is related to his graduation thesis. His research on this issue includes paying close attention to issues related to his own daily life, and making comparisons to the situation in Japan.

Judging from his emails and Facebook posts, Daisuke has been thriving during his first month in Australia and has already made many friends thanks to his outgoing, positive personality.