This October is a meaningful month for me. I started my master’s degree to further my study. At this new starting point I have an opportunity to go back to the place that have a deep influence on me, my high school – Shanghai High School (SHS).

It was my great honor to be selected to join the academic communication activity between SHS and the University of Tsukuba. Actually, this communication activity has already been held for three years. It provides a good platform for students from both schools to exchange the latest information about advanced technology.

During this year’s activity, students from the engineering class of SHS delivered presentations on the research projects they are working on now. Professor Nakamura, Professor Yang, Professor Zhang, Professor Yamanaka and Professor Asano from University of Tsukuba listened their presentations and gave some constructive comments. There was a heated discussion between the students and professors. Later, professor Yamanaka and Professor Asano gave lectures about their own study. There were many interesting questions raised by the students. It reminds me that we were always told to ask about whatever we do not know and whatever we are interested in when I was studying in the SHS, because asking is good way to improve ourselves.

After the professors’ lectures, I was so glad to have a chance to present my own study. My research topic is mainly about isolation of bioactive compounds that can treat Alzheimer’s disease. I have started this study from the fourth year of undergraduate school. I belong to
College of Agro-Biological Resource Sciences. The undergraduate students in our major need to enter a lab to do graduation thesis in the last year. Our college provides a lot of options to us. The labs’ research fields vary from applied biochemistry to environmental engineering. We can choose a lab we are interested in, and the professors are always nice and patient to teach you various experimental skills. Furthermore, we also have many opportunities to attend academic symposiums to present our study. For example, I attended the 8th Japan-China-Korea forum this year and I was luck to get a first prize in this forum.

Most of the participants of this activity are from grade 11, and they are going to enter a university in the near future. As some of them are quite interested in University of Tsukuba, Professor Yang briefly introduced the history, the academic atmosphere of our university. Furthermore, professor Yang also introduced the G30 program that provides a good platform for foreign students to study in Japan. As a student in the G30 program, I think this project was not only a good chance to learn about academic knowledge, but also to understand different culture because we can make friends with people from all over the world.

After the activity ended, some students came to ask me more details about the application procedures for University of Tsukuba. As a graduate of SHS, it is such a good news that I may meet more alumni in University of Tsukuba. Finally, I hope that we can have more and more excellent students from all over the world.