

Japan Sports Agency (JSA) – November 30th, 2020 : Meeting with the Commissioner of JSA, Dr. Koji MUROFUSHI

November 30th 2020, TIAS program visited the **Commissioner of the Japan Sports Agency Dr. Koji MUROFUSHI** (https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/en/about_us/choukan/index.htm) in Tokyo, led by Prof. Hisashi Sanada (along with Prof. Randeep Rakwal, Researcher Dr. Takuya Tsukamoto, and Administrative Staff. Mr. Tetsuhiro Sugaya) to request the presence and a **'key address/speech'** by the JSA commissioner for the up-coming Sport for Tomorrow Academy Legacy Project Showcase Conference entitled: **International Academy Conference -Achievements, Legacy and Continuity 2020-**, and update about the **TIAS program and continuity via the TIAS 2.0** degree program at University of Tsukuba.



The meeting lasting around **45 minutes**, well over the appointed time where **graciously Dr. MUROFUSHI** interacted with us, exchanging views on the value of **Olympic movement, Olympic history and the Olympic spirit and the era of Jigoro Kano sensei** and the linkages between **ancient to modern Olympics**, and the meanings therein from physical to mental to community influences, and sport for life. The importance of internationalization as initiated in sport by Kano sensei more than 100 years ago, and the current SFT academic legacy program at TIAS and other university partners (NCDA and NIFISA) due to the Tokyo 2020 Games were also discussed, and where the **diverse international student's** had a wonderful opportunity to learn not only the **sport culture of Japan but also the Japanese way of life and cultural context**. Moreover, the legacy of the TIAS program was also presented through the student's current works at their countries back home, such as in India and East Africa. **Dr. MUROFUSHI** also inquired on how the present Covid-19 pandemic have affected the **student's classes** at TIAS and also at the **newly started TIAS 2.0 program**, where TIAS is carefully conducting a 'hybrid' teaching system through both face-to-face (with precautions and current regulations by University of Tsukuba) and **'ONLINE'** systems. Finally, the commissioner took great interest in the published reports on **External Activities of TIAS including the Study Tours in context of 'recovery Olympics'**. Altogether, it was an honor meeting **Dr. MUROFUSHI**, which combined with his **humility and genuineness to talk 'sports' in life context was an unforgettable impression for us that evening**. We greatly appreciate the time and wonderful interaction, Thank You.

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