

## **JAPAN**

### **Friends of AMI NIPPON**

#### **Highlights**

It is our pleasure to report that Friends of AMI NIPPON was given permission by both AMI and Montessori-Pierson Publishing Company, to translate and publish 10 booklets that have never until now, been translated into Japanese, including Mario's "Human Tendencies and Montessori Education", which will be our very first publication. It will be published in June 2016 and we plan to celebrate its promotion after our General Assembly on June 26.

#### **Mission**

Our mission is to maintain, promote and develop the educational theory and practice of Dr Maria Montessori both, in Japan and globally, and will work toward its realisation.

#### **Events and Activities**

- A lecture was held on 28 June 2015, titled "People who grew by growing plants" to which we invited Mrs Ai Mori, a Horticultural Therapist with a Primary diploma. She shared her experiences working at a home for the aged in Kobe, applying both her knowledge of Montessori and her Botanical background in sowing, harvesting vegetables and fruits with people with dementia as well as with young children.
- A seminar was organised titled "Before you stand in front of children: Preparation of adults" given by Maria Matsumoto on 11 November 2015.
- One coin Seminars: 5 times (A promotional seminar on Montessori Theory for anyone interested for only 500 Yen)
- Used Montessori materials were donated to a school in Nepal in December 2015.
- Providing lecturer(s) on call to local seminars

#### **Collaborations and Partnerships**

From April 2015 to February 2016, we supported Judi Orion's Assistant to Infancy course in Osaka with Aiko Matsumoto, and further assisted her with her seminar titled "Class management in the Montessori School" in Osaka November 2015 and in Tokyo January 2016 with Aiko Matsumoto.

#### **Publications & Media**

We have been working closely with a publishing company, Fumeisha Co. in Tokyo for our first booklet series, which is set to be published in June 2016.

E-Mail Magazines, which cover the most recent news on Montessori movement, both at domestic and global levels, were sent out to all members: quarterly in March, May, July and December.

We also translated AMI e-Bulletins into Japanese and these were sent out to all of our members.

#### **Memberships**

The current number of members of Friends of AMI NIPPON is 309.

## **Board and Committees**

This year, we held five Board meetings and the composition of our current Board is:

President: Maria S. Matsumoto

Vice Presidents: Dr Masako Ejima, Takako Fukatsu

Board members: Taro Asahina, Matsuyo Amada, Hiromi Goto, Hiroko Tanaka, Midori Nomura, Kaori Hirotsu, Aiko Matsumoto

Takako Fukatsu

Vice President