

The 30th ASEACCU Conference 2024 in Sydney, Australia

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The theme of the 30th ASEACCU Annual Conference 2024, "What makes a Catholic University Catholic? Expressing and Integrating Identity and Mission", stimulated me to reflect deeply on the significance of studying at a Catholic university. It also reignited in me a sense of awareness, responsibility, and pride as a student of Nanzan University.

During the conference, we discussed the role of Catholic universities in secular societies to address various kinds of global issues and explored how universities and students can take an active role in social contribution activities. The majority of the participating students were Christian, so I learned a lot from their Christian ways of thinking, which made this experience full of new insights for me.

One of the most significant realizations I took away from the conference is that the mission of a Catholic university goes beyond academic success. The individuals I met were not only knowledgeable and ambitious students, but they were also caring, compassionate, and thoughtful in spirit. Their actions, often small, but always meaningful, reflected the core values of Catholic education. Whether it was through their willingness to listen, their empathy in discussions, or their commitment to making the world a better place, I was continually inspired by their examples. Witnessing their commitment to living out their faith and beliefs made me realize that fostering a spirit of respect for human dignity is the true mission of a Catholic university, and this is what Nanzan University's motto, "Hominis Dignitati (For Human Dignity)", truly means.

I am sincerely grateful that in the last year of my school life I received this opportunity to reflect on my learning at Nanzan University so far. I intend to cherish the experiences and friendships I have gained through ASEACCU and to continue being a

person who embodies the spirit of "Hominis Dignitati."