**![C:\Users\Jess\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\6AED71SJ\MC900053182[1].wmf]()Welcoming Speech**

* **This is a short welcoming speech I wrote for a speech writing class.**
* **The assignment was to write a speech as if you were representing the student body and welcoming Kyoto University to the University of North Carolina Wilmington in hopes to establish an exchange program with them.**
* **Being able to write and speak eloquently is a very big part of having a career in any sort of Communication/Public Relation field. I believe this speech showcases my talent of being able to write proficiently and I feel confident in my ability to deliver it in a composed manner.**

**Welcoming Speech**

 Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, and welcome. My name is Jessica Marsh and I am so honored to have been chosen by Chancellor Depaolo to represent the student body today. I would especially like to extend my warmest welcome to the delegation from Kyoto University. We are so fortunate to have you here all the way from Japan to discuss the possibility of an exchange program.

 The University of North Carolina at Wilmington prides itself in our large array of abroad and exchange programs and we are thrilled at the prospect of adding Kyoto to our curriculum. It is my understanding that the mission of Kyoto University is to sustain and develop its historical commitment to academic freedom and to pursue harmonious coexistence within human and ecological community on this planet. Here at UNCW, we strive to do the same. Our University may not have the historical background Kyoto does but it is one of the fastest growing universities in the state of North Carolina.

 Kyoto University is ranked as one of the top 25 universities in the World. The University has expanded its campus to ten Faculties, sixteen Graduate schools, twenty-one research and Educational centers, and thirteen research institutes. The students of UNCW would be so grateful to have the opportunity to study at such a prestigious and well known university.

 While UNCW is not nearly as large as Kyoto University, about half the size actually, we still have plenty to offer. The location of the university is definitely an amazing benefit. Wilmington is placed right by the coast, while Kyoto is placed directly beside the mountains. This alone would be a huge adjustment for most students during their experience studying abroad. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington’s location offers benefits beyond a sun tan though. Our campus offers bachelor’s degrees in 52 majors, 35 master’s degrees, but unlike most universities, UNCW offers a doctorate in marine biology. There are not many universities placed by the coast so we take great pride in our marine biology program.

 Despite the learning opportunities at UNCW, the people here are truly wonderful. The atmosphere is very laid back and everyone is quite friendly. Since Wilmington’s population is around half the size of Kyoto’s it should not be too difficult to get to know your peers and make friends. With that said, please do not hesitate to ask any student or faculty member any further questions you may have about the university.

 The fact that Kyoto University and The University of North Carolina at Wilmington are so different but share such common goals and expectations for their students makes us all the more excited and hopeful about this program. It has the potential to change the lives of students by broadening their horizons in ways they never thought possible. As Frank Herbert once said, “The beginning of knowledge is the discovery of something we do not understand.” Thank you so much for your time and interest today. I will now turn it over to Chancellor Rosemary Depaolo.