Presentation of Japan
NTUT

Mrs. Mariko Takamura:
A lecturer of English and ASL
at the Tsukuba University of Technology,
Teaching through Japanese sign language.
Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

Education TV program,
“Hello to Deaf People“
Representative of deaf support group,
“WE”＝World Exchange of culture project
A sign language song dancer duo,
“Soul Rainbow.“
Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

Born profoundly deaf and wore a hearing aid in her daily life.
Working at a hospital as a nutritionist, went to California State University, Northridge at the age of 25 to study (CSUN)
Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

4 years later, in Japan worked for an English newspaper and an advertisement agency, and established WE to support the deaf and HH, hard-of-hearing. Returned to USA to marry American boyfriend.
An author
“American Sign Language Broadened My World!”
“Learning Sign Language in America”

Translator
“Yes, You Can.”
“Signs for me—Basic Sign Vocabulary for Children, Parents & Teachers”
Example of how Mrs. Takamura has influenced us.

• Some deaf and HH students went USA to study with her support.

• A wonderful lecturer in English and ASL based on her experience.
Why did we choose Mrs. Takamura as a leader?
Mrs. Mariko Takamura who influenced many people by overcoming deaf and lived positively.

But she died of cancer.

The too early death is regretted.
Vision of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

Always keep in mind “Try!” and “Can!”
Her Dreams...
Familiarize the Japanese people with ASL.

“Learning ASL will help you communicate with people from other countries while respecting their cultures.”
Support Indonesian deaf children’s efforts to become self-sustaining and receive a college education.
Teach children expressing themselves through sign language, music and poetry.
Invite Wild Zappers and other great deaf performers to Japan.
Her Words...
“I hope to see deaf and HH children being positive about their lives, knowing they have a language
“I think that Japan has a role to play in guiding and leading other Asian countries, with a mind to cooperate with and strengthen one another.”
“The United States has the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) which bans discrimination because of physical and mental disabilities”
“I strongly believe Japan should have a law like the ADA.”
What kinds of changes will such a leader bring to the deaf community?
Many deaf and HH people involved in various activities, sign language performances etc.

More Internationally-minded deaf and HH persons, promoting international exchange and globalization.
Promoted friendship among deaf and HH people.

Broader understanding of hearing disabilities among hearing people.

Thank you for your attention!