

**October, 2016**

**Shihori Matsui chosen as Miss Universe Hokkaido**

Shihori Matsui, a third-year student of the School of Cooperative Veterinary Medicine, participated in the 2017 Miss Universe Japan (MUJ) Hokkaido Pageant. She was one of the 14 people who passed a document screening and the second screening, and was ultimately chosen as Miss Universe Hokkaido after a swimwear contest and interview.

Ms. Matsui applied for MUJ because she thought that this would allow her to become influential and get her message across to society. At the interview, she made a speech in English using language skills acquired in her 10 years overseas, including time in the U.S. and Singapore. She talked about what she had learned overseas, her ability to question things that are taken for granted and her hope to become a bridge between the world and Japan so she can convey the concept of animal protection that she wants to promote.

After being chosen as Miss Hokkaido, Ms. Matsui said that she would also like to promote Japan and veterinary care to the world, and that she would learn a lot and do her best for that purpose. Ms. Matsui is now working hard in the gym, dieting and walking, and polishing her speaking skills in preparation for the national pageant (Tokyo) in July 2017. We hope she will play a greater role in the future.



Shihori Matsui after winning the Grand Prix at the Miss Universe Hokkaido Pageant.