

International Relations at Kyoto University

International cooperation and exchange is an indispensable component of Kyoto University's operations as a world-class higher education and research institution seeking to make a significant contribution to a stable and harmonious global society.

SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Sweden-Kyoto Symposium, 11–12 September 2014



As the result of a unique collaboration between Kyoto University and four universities in Sweden — Stockholm University, Uppsala University, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, and Karolinska Institutet — the inaugural Sweden–Kyoto Symposium was held on 11–12 September 2014.

The symposium was designed to foster new friendships, strengthen existing partnerships, and promote

future collaboration. As Kyoto University had previously established agreements for academic exchange and cooperation with three of the four Swedish universities, the event enabled all parties to deepen ties and explore new possibilities.

More than sixty researchers from Kyoto University joined academic sessions held at each of the four university campuses.

On the first day, Stockholm University hosted an inauguration session attended by H.E. Mr. Seiji Morimoto, Ambassador of Japan to Sweden, and executives from the five universities. Dr. Michiaki Mishima, executive vice-president for international affairs and hospital administration, Kyoto University, expressed his gratitude to the Swedish hosts for their warm welcome. The Swedish universities were represented by Prof. Astrid Söderbergh Widding, president of Stockholm University, Prof. Kerstin Tham, vice-president of Karolinska Institutet, Prof. Peter Gudmundson, president of KTH Royal Institute of Technology, and Prof. Eva Åkesson, vice-chancellor of Uppsala University. A presentation was also given by Dr. Hideo Akutsu, director of the JSPS Stockholm Office.

Keynote lectures were delivered by Prof. Gunnar Andersson and Assistant Prof. Livia Sz Oláh of Stockholm University, Prof. Mathias Uhlén, director of SciLifeLab, and Prof. Susumu Kitagawa, director of Kyoto University's Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences (iCeMS).

In the evening, delegates attended a reception hosted by the Embassy of Japan in Sweden and JSPS Stockholm.



At parallel sessions held on the second day, participants discussed issues ranging from smart energy systems to technologies focusing on human-centered design. Each session representative reported on their discussions and directions for future collaboration. The symposium was brought to a close at Piperska Muren.

The event would not have been possible without the generous support of the Embassy of Japan to Sweden, the JSPS Stockholm Office, Secretary General Edvard Fleetwood of the Japan-Sweden Foundation, and Associate Prof. Atsuto Maki of KTH Royal Institute of Technology.

SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Kyoto University and National Taiwan University hold second joint symposium, 1–2 September 2014



The second joint symposium between Kyoto University and National Taiwan University was held on the 1–2 of September, aiming to build on the success of the inaugural meeting that took place in Taiwan in December 2013.

Over 300 researchers from numerous fields participated in the 2014 symposium. Based on the special relationship between the two institutions, the symposium brought leading researchers together with the intention of promoting international collaborative work and disseminating research findings across diverse fields, as well as raising the global profile of both universities.



Symposium participants at the opening ceremony

The first day of the symposium opened with welcome addresses by President Hiroshi Matsumoto of Kyoto University and President Pan-Chyr Yang of National Taiwan University. These were followed by overviews of both universities, presented by Executive Vice-President Michiaki Mishima of Kyoto University and Dean Luisa Shu-Ying Chang of NTU. A signing ceremony of two memoranda of understanding followed, after which keynote speeches were delivered by Prof. Susumu Noda of Kyoto University and Prof. K. Arnold Chan of NTU Hospital. At the end of the day a special lecture on Kyoto University's research history in Southeast Asia was delivered by Prof. Yasuyuki Kono.



The two presidents shaking hands at the MoU signing ceremony

The results of two days of discussions in fourteen parallel sessions, each dedicated to different fields of research, were presented at a wrap-up session at the end of the second day.

The symposium was then officially brought to a close with addresses by Vice-President Liang-Gee Chen of NTU and Executive Vice-President Kiyoshi Yoshikawa of Kyoto University. It is expected that this meeting will strengthen the partnership and collaborative research activities between the two institutions, and promote the strategic exchange of knowledge, skills, and ideas into the future.

WEB www.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/symposium/ku-ntu-symposium2014/en/ (Symposium website)

SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Diversity and Conservation of Asian Primates, 18–21 May 2014



21st Kyoto University International Symposium.



The symposium participants

The 21st Kyoto University International Symposium: Diversity and Conservation of Asian Primates was held at the IPB International Convention Center of Bogor Agricultural University (IPB), Bogor, Indonesia on 18–21 May 2014. Over 150 people from eleven countries including Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, the US, and the UK attended the symposium. The Kyoto University delegation comprised approximately thirty members including Dr. Michiaki Mishima, executive vice-president for international affairs and hospital administration, Prof. Hirohisa Hirai, director of the Primate Research Institute, and faculty and staff members from the Primate Research Institute, the Institute for Virus Research, the Wildlife Research Center, and the Research and International Affairs Department.

Since 2000, Kyoto University has hosted international symposia in different fields and at different venues around the world to actively promote international cooperation on creative and advanced academic research. The latest symposium is the 21st in the series. The symposium aimed to promote a new comprehensive understanding of primate evolution and protection, and develop improved measures for environmental preservation and primate protection through the application of knowledge gained from research and clarifying the correlations between conservation measures and political and economic factors.

The symposium's four-day program featured a broad range of presentations and poster sessions covering topics such as genomes, infectious diseases, ecology, conservation, human culture, morphology, and phylogeography. The various sessions provided an opportunity for primatologists, field scientists, and various parties involved in environmental and primate conservation in Japan and other countries to share the latest research developments in primatology and plant and environmental ecology. The symposium provided participants with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the evolution and current situation of primates in Asia, and to explore new possibilities for protection and preservation measures. Excerpts from the symposium's presentations are publicly available on the Science and Development Network website.



Executive Vice-President Michiaki Mishima and Dr. Sri Nurdianti, dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Bogor Agricultural University exchange Commemorative gifts

WEB www.sea-primate.org

SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Challenges for University Museums, 20–23 May 2014



Report on the 2nd APRU Research Symposium on University Museums.



Following the success of the 1st Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) Research Symposium on University Museums, which was held in 2012 at the Kyoto University Museum (KUM), the 2nd symposium, titled “Reshaping Outreach Services of University Museums through Innovation and Partnership,” was held at National Taiwan University on 20–23 May 2014. The symposium included three keynote speeches and forty-six oral and poster presentations from thirteen countries.

Universities are now gradually recognizing the importance of “outreach services” in generating interest in academic research, gaining support from society, and recruiting talented students. University museums are regarded as a center of such activity. Participants in the symposium exchanged their ideas, achievements, and challenges concerning this new and important activity of university museums.

The KUM sent a delegation of seven people—the largest delegation among the participating institutions. Dr. Terufumi Ohno, director of the KUM, was one of the keynote speakers. In his presentation, he stressed the importance of developing communication ability in school children through university outreach activities, particularly by their museums. Other members of the delegation presented recent examples of KUM outreach activities. The special exhibition of “Diversity of Ocean Research at Kyoto University” held in 2013 was based on research results in both natural science and humanities fields. The exhibition raised the participating researchers’ awareness of the importance of interdisciplinary research. The Weekend Children’s Museum is a learning program for children that has been operated every weekend by the university’s students for over ten years. The students introduce children to interesting learning activities based on their research. The program also benefits the students by improving their scientific communication abilities.

These examples demonstrate that outreach services are an important element of university museum activities, not only in terms of their contributions to society, but also in promoting the further development of the museums in both practical and conceptual terms.

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SYMPOSIA & WORKSHOPS

Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership Workshop, 1–2 July 2014

The Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL) Workshop was organized by Kyoto University and held at the Kyoto University Tokyo Office on 1–2 July 2014. Over fifty participants from sixteen institutions joined the workshop. APWiL is a major initiative launched by the Association of Pacific Rim Universities

(APRU), an association of forty-five leading research universities in the Pacific Rim region.

The first day of the workshop began with a welcome address by the APWiL Program chairperson, Prof. Masako Egawa, executive vice-president of the University of Tokyo. An overview of the workshop was then provided by Prof. Yasuko Takezawa of Kyoto University, which was followed by a discussion on institutional strategies and issues in advancing the participation of women in universities.

The second day of the workshop opened with remarks from Prof. Kayo Inaba, executive vice-president for gender equality and director of the Gender Equality Promotion Center of Kyoto University, which was followed by an address by guest of honor H.E. Ms. Kumiko Bando, deputy minister of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan. Prof. Jeanette Takamura, dean of the Columbia University School of Social Work, then delivered her keynote speech, in which she described the current situation in US academia with regards to leadership by women, and spoke encouragingly about potential developments in Japan.



Executive Vice-President
Kayo Inaba



Vice-President for
International Relations
Junichi Mori



Prof. Yasuko Takezawa,
Institute for Research in
Humanities

The participants then discussed various issues surrounding the workshop's theme during group and plenary sessions, and the results of the workshop were formalized in an official proposal. The next APWiL workshop is planned to be held at the University of Auckland in 2015.

FRIENDSHIP & COOPERATION

Education and Research Developments at the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

The Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES), established in 2002, is a small graduate school, but unique in terms of education, activities, and members. Table 1 shows the school's international projects. In its first few years, the school had no such projects, but in 2007 it launched the Asian Platform, using its own budget. The project was carried out in Hue, Vietnam, and subsequently expanded to Danang. The achievements of the Asian Platform not only stimulated the international activities of GSGES, but also facilitated the acquisition of external research and education funds for projects relating to ASEAN countries. The JICA Grass-Roots Project was the first project based on the Asian Platform, and the Environmental Management Project (EML), which spanned the period 2008–12, significantly expanded international education collaboration with Vietnam and other ASEAN countries.

Table 1 ♦ GSGES History of main international Projects

	2002	2005	2008	2011	2014
Asian Platform*	X R				
MEXT Practical Human-resource Creation*	V				
JICA Grass-root (Phase1 & Phase2)*	R				
MEXT SFC (Env. Leader, EML)*	X R V				
GCOE (HSE) [†]	X R V				
Graduate School Good practice*	V				
Kyoto University Global 30	X				
Government Special budget (Life & Green)	S				
CoHHO Unit	X V				
JSPS Core-to-Core(B)*	X				

*GSGES only, [†]GSGES representative
 X : Researcher exchange, R : Research collaboration, V : Student dispatch, S : Student initiation

Table 2 ♦ Performance of GSGES on education and research collaboration with ASEAN universities**Workshops** (Date, joining countries/universities/participants)

1 st Hue, Vietnam (6-7 Mar 2010, 4/10/42)	4 th Siem Reap, Cambodia (9 Mar 2012, 4/5/62)	7 th Kyoto, Japan (25 May 2014, 7/10/39)
2 nd Kyoto, Japan (24 May 2010, 5/7/43)	5 th Kyoto, Japan (7 Mar 2013, 5/8/53)	8 th Bangkok, Thailand (27 Jun 2014, 5/11/21)
3 rd Hue, Vietnam (7 Mar 2011, 4/6/51)	6 th Hoi An, Vietnam (16 Sep 2013, 5/13/99)	9 th Can Tho, Vietnam (27 Sep 2014, 6/18/88)

Countries (internship students[#]/enrolled MC students[#]/enrolled DC students[#]–Travel days, day*person[†]/Travel times[†]); [#]FY2002-13, [†]FY2010-12**Burma** (0/0/0 – 49/8)**Cambodia** (3/0/2 – 552/32)

Royal Univ. of Agr., ▲ Royal Univ. of Phnom Penh ●

Indonesia (2/4/3 – 978/57)

Bogor Agr. Univ. ☆

Laos (2/0/0 – 428/23)

Champasak Univ. ▲

Malaysia (6/4/8 – 1354/65)

Univ. of Technol. Malaysia ▲

Philippines (5/6/5 – 613/22)**Vietnam** (41/5/23 – 6396/230)

Danang Univ., ☆ Hanoi Univ. of Sci. and Technol., ☆

Hanoi Univ. of Civil Engineer., ▲ Hue Univ., ☆

Vietnam Acad. of Sci. and Technol. ▲

Singapore (1/1/0 – 218/18)**Thailand** (23/3/5 – 2015/107)

Asian Institute of Technol., ▲ Chulalongkorn Univ., ●

Kasetsart Univ., ● Khon Kaen Univ., △ Mahidol Univ., ☆

☆☆university level MOU proposed by GSGES, ●other university level MOU, ▲school level MOU by GSGES, ☆●▲student internship activities, ☆△others

Campus and Office

Hanoi Field Campus, Hue Field Campus, Danang Satellite Office

These international projects have yielded substantial education and research outcomes in collaboration with ASEAN countries, as shown in Table 2. Notable achievements include: (1) Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) initiated by GSGES (five university-level and six faculty-level MOUs); (2) Regular Indochina workshops conducted with ASEAN universities (nine held since 2009); (3) Three overseas offices established in Hanoi, Hue, and Danang, Vietnam; (4) Eighty-three internship students dispatched to ASEAN countries; (5) Thirty-eight master's and twenty-three doctoral students hosted from ASEAN countries. The school intends to further expand its international collaboration in the ASEAN region.

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www2.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp/members/fujii-shigeo/



Experimental Station for Medicinal Plants

The Experimental Station for Medicinal Plants operated by Kyoto University's Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, cultivates and manages a large assortment of valuable medicinal plants, including specimens obtained by researchers during overseas field research. The plants are used for education and research in pharmaceutical science fields. The station cultivates 300–400 varieties of natural medicinal plants in an area of approximately 700 square meters, including greenhouses. The station is located next to the Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Building, and is closely involved in its education and research activities. Among the specimens being cultivated at the station are medicinal plants collected in Vietnam and Laos by the station's manager Associate Prof. Michiho Ito, which are not being cultivated anywhere else in Japan.

Once a year the station opens to the public. This year's open days were on 24 and 25 October. The open days were blessed with good weather, and four groups comprising a total of 170 visitors enjoyed guided tours led by Prof. Ito. The open days will be held again next year, and we invite you to join us.



WEB www.pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/research/facilities/esmp/ (Experimental Station for Medicinal Plants)
www.pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp/shoyaku/members.html (Michiho Ito, PhD)