

Creating the future from a worldwide perspective

International exchange to transmit our ideas aiming at great achievements

APRU Multi-Hazards Program

From September 20 through 22, 2012, Tohoku University (headed by the International Research Institute of Disaster Science) organized the 8th APRU Research Symposium on Multi-hazards around the Pacific Rim, based on the subject of "Towards Disaster-Resilient Societies: The Role of Universities in Reducing Risks of Catastrophic Natural Disasters."

Triggered by this symposium, reinforcing the Pacific Rim network in the field of disaster science has even grown in importance, and Tohoku University has been assigned the task of functioning as the hub of the APRU Multi-Hazards Program for three years from April 1, 2013. Tohoku University has taken a leading role in this field globally, providing researchers and students of the member universities of APRU with various programs, such as training programs, summer schools, and workshops, to make further international contributions through the APRU network. The first Summer School was held from July 23 through 25, 2013 as part of this program.



8th APRU on Multi-hazards around the Pacific Rim Research Symposium

Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)

APRU was established in 1997 by major universities in the Pacific Rim area with the aim of increasing exchange among the universities to cooperate in the fields of education and research and contribute to solving important issues. Consisting of 45 universities from 16 countries and areas in the Pacific Rim.



32nd AEARU Board of Directors Meeting

The 32nd AEARU Board of Directors Meeting

Tohoku University has been serving as a member of the AEARU Board of Directors since January 2012, and hosted the 32nd AEARU Board of Directors Meeting on May 10 and 11, 2013 in Sendai (participants: National Tsing Hua University, Nanjing University, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Osaka University, Peking University, Seoul National University, and Tohoku University). The members actively discussed the shape of further collaboration, showing originality and regionality, in the fields of research and education and discussed specific efforts to promote exchange and other activities within the AEARU framework. The next meeting will be held at National Tsing Hua University (Taiwan) in December 2013.

Association of East Asian Research Universities (AEARU)

AEARU was established in 1996 with the aim of creating close relationships among member universities by providing a place for exchange among the heads of major research universities in East Asia as well as among faculty members and students. Consisting of 17 universities in four countries and areas (Japan, China, Korea, and Taiwan)

International symposium and workshop

The Advanced Institute for Materials Research (AIMR) of Tohoku University held an international symposium at the Sendai International Center from February 19 through 21, 2013. The lecturers from around the world included 32 researchers, among Professor Eiichi Negishi, a Nobel prize winner, other invited lecturers, and researchers from AIMR. The 240 participants from 14 countries, including the United States, China, and the United Kingdom, who attended the symposium, exchanged opinions actively. The theme of this symposium was "Challenge for green materials innovation through the fusion of materials science and mathematics." With many mathematicians attending the symposium, the fusion of mathematics with materials science that AIMR has been developing was actively discussed.

On January 15 and 16, 2013, the Research Institute for Electrical Communication (RIEC) of Tohoku University held a Tohoku-Harvard Joint Workshop: "New Directions in Materials for Nanoelectronics, Spintronics and Photonics" together with Harvard University, where researchers from both universities presented research results followed by lab tours at RIEC and AIMR. Tohoku University concluded a Academic Cooperation Agreement with Harvard University to promote further exchange and joint research.



Attendees at AIMR International Symposium (AMIS) 2013



Attendees at Tohoku-Harvard Joint Workshop

Seminars/Forums abroad

On September 3, 2012 Susumu Satomi, President of Tohoku University, was invited and gave a keynote speech at the 2012 Taiwan-Japan Science and Technology Forum. This forum was held on the subject of "Restoration of Japan following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and Cooperation between Taiwan and Japan," so that top leaders in Taiwan and Japan in areas of science and technology are able to share their expertise, and experiences in policies and public administration, in order to help develop strategic plans for leading research, science, and technology. There were more than 400 participants. President Satomi gave a speech on "Tohoku University and the Great East-Japan Earthquake: Our Role, Responsibility and Mission", which was well received. During the forum, he participated in a panel discussion titled "Japan Industrial Restoration Plan: Future of Energy Policies, and Taiwan-Japan Cooperation".

On December 10, 2012, the First Japan-Russia Medical Forum was held jointly in Moscow by Tohoku University and Moscow State University. At this Forum, Victor Sadovnichy, Rector of Moscow State University, and President Satomi signed a joint statement with the aim of promoting further joint research and confirming that the second Japan-Russia Medical Forum will be held in Sendai in 2014.



President Satomi giving a keynote speech at the 2012 Taiwan-Japan Science and Technology Forum



President Satomi giving a speech at the First Japan-Russia Medical Forum

Promotion of international education: the Project for Promotion of Global Human Resource Development

Tohoku University was selected for the Project for Promotion of Global Human Resource Development by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in FY2012. Within that framework, the Global Learning Center launched the Tohoku University Global Leader Program (TGL) to develop and implement a curriculum to prepare students for the global stage in the future. This constitutes a fundamental effort to increase international industrial competitiveness and strengthen bonds with other countries. The University mainly relies on the Tohoku University Global Leadership (TGL) program to send its students overseas.

As a part of this program, Tohoku University established Tohoku University Center at University of California Riverside Extension (UCRE), to expand the "Short Visit Program" and further enhance the environment for overseas study and education.

In addition, Tohoku University provides 16 courses conducted in English in its Future Global Leadership (FGL) program with a subsidy from MEXT under the framework of the "Global 30 Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization" that enables it to accept more excellent students from abroad. Overseas, Tohoku University held the Japan-Russia University Fair at Novosibirsk, Moscow, and Vladivostok, and sent representatives to overseas study fairs and high schools in various foreign countries to provide information about education/research activities and entrance examinations at the University to attract more international students.



Tohoku University Center opening ceremony at UCRE



TGL program seminar