

Steps to a World-Class University through Global Network Construction Promotion of International Exchange

Becoming a member of The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU,) International University Consortium

Tohoku University has become a member of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU,) an international consortium of advanced universities in September 2008. APRU was established in 1997, and its main office is at National University of Singapore (NUS.) The membership of APRU helps construct a global network for research and education that is an important measure in Inoue Plan. Tohoku University has first participated in the Annual Presidents Meeting of APRU that was held at California Institute of Technology (CALTECH) in the U.S. in June 2009. President Inoue has presented important measures to be a World-Class University in the Presidents Open Forum.



Signing Ceremony for France-Japan Joint Laboratory and Workshop



Tohoku University, Ecole Centrale de Lyon (ECL) and INSA de Lyon, French famous universities in science, agreed on establishment of a joint laboratory in December 2007. The first workshop to present research results from the joint laboratory was held at Sakura Hall at Katahira Campus on December 1 and 2, 2008. On the second day, the signing ceremony for a cooperation agreement was held after that the laboratory was accredited as Associated International Laboratory (LIA) by Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS.)

Tohoku University-York University Joint Research Seminar

A joint research seminar with York University in the United Kingdom, one of the members of the Inter-university Academic Exchange Agreements was held at the 2nd Auditorium at the Institute of Materials Research on January 19 and 20, 2009. The seminar aimed to further develop research exchange and mutual cooperation.

Both universities presented their current education and research activities, and held sectional meetings in chemistry, education, and electronic engineering/physics.



Meeting on International Student Exchanges among Pacific Rim Universities (PRUM)



A meeting on International Student Exchanges among Pacific Rim Universities (PRUM) was held on February 16 and 17, 2009 in Tohoku University with the attendance of staff for international exchange at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UCLA, UC Riverside, UC Santa Barbara, and the University of Sydney. The PRUM meeting was on the promotion of Program to Promote Internationalization of University Education supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Staff for international exchange at Tohoku University and other participant universities has discussed the future direction of international joint education in graduate schools and international student exchanges among undergraduates.

Tohoku University Forum in Beijing

Tohoku University Forum in Beijing and a general meeting of Tohoku University Alumni in China were held on December 13, 2008 in Beijing, China.

The forum, with assistance of Peking University, Tsinghua University, and Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Beijing Office aimed to further develop mutual cooperation with the Chinese universities and also to publicize Tohoku University with professors, administrative staff, and students at the Chinese universities.

Delegates of Tohoku University, Peking University, and Tsinghua University have given speeches, and Distinguished Professors of Tohoku University have presented their researches.



Tohoku University-Osaka University Joint Forum "Innovative Research and Philosophy of Science"



A Tohoku University-Osaka University Joint Forum titled "Innovative Research and Philosophy of Science" was held in San Francisco on September 18, 2008. The joint forum was planned to promote student exchange and joint research between West Coast areas of the United States and the two Japanese universities, and to present the most advanced researches. The forum was in the collaboration with the Consulate-General of Japan in San Francisco, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS,) Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO,) Japanese University Network in the Bay Area (JUNBA,) Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California (JCCNC,) and Japan Society of Northern California.

Topics! 11 more universities have signed agreements on Inter-university Academic Exchange Agreements which makes a total of 136 universities (as of July 1, 2009)

Country	Name of University	Date of Conclusion	Country	Name of University	Date of Conclusion
Indonesia	Institut Teknologi Bandung	June 4, 2008	U.S.A.	Syracuse University	November 19, 2008
France	Institut d'Études Politiques de Lyon	June 6, 2008	India	Indian Institute of Science	December 18, 2008
China	Yangzhou University	June 20, 2008	U.S.A.	Institute of International Education	January 27, 2009
France	Ecole Normale Supérieure Lettres et Sciences Humaines A de Lyon	August 11, 2008	Taiwan	National Chung Hsing University	March 30, 2009
China	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	October 15, 2008	Canada	University of Ottawa	June 26, 2009
			China	Southeast University	June 29, 2009