

University Consortia

APRU: Association of Pacific Rim Universities

APRU was established in 1997 with the aim of fostering cooperation in education and research contributing to the economic, scientific and cultural advancement, and has grown rapidly to become a reputable international organization of leading research universities in the Pacific Rim. It organizes student-centric, research-centric and human capital development activities, and holds annual meetings for presidents and senior staff of the member universities to discuss and plan its future activities. It is now composed of 45 universities; Tohoku University joined it in 2008.

Starting April 2013, Tohoku University functions as a regional program hub for APRU's Multi-Hazards Program in the next three years. Through training programs, summer schools, workshops and other activities provided within its framework, we will take a leading role in proposing countermeasures against low frequency high-impact disasters, making further contributions.

<http://www.apru.org/>

AEARU: The Association of East Asian Research Universities

AEARU was established in 1996 with the aim of forming a forum for the presidents of leading research universities and carrying out mutual exchanges between the major universities in East Asia. Expectations are that this regional consortium, on the basis of common academic cultural backgrounds among member universities, will contribute not only to the development of higher education and research but also to the opening up of a new era leading to cultural economic and social progress in the region. It organizes workshops, student summer camps, student sports competitions and international symposia, promoting mutual exchanges of ideas and information and developing close bonds between the member universities. It is now composed of 17 universities from China (6), Japan (6), South Korea (3) and Taiwan (2); Tohoku University joined it in 1998 and serves as a board member from January 2012 for a term of two years.

<http://www.aearu.org/>

T.I.M.E.: Top Industrial Managers for Europe

T.I.M.E. was established in 1989 as an international network of leading higher educational institutions which specializes in engineering. Its door has been open for non-European institutions since 2005 and Tohoku University was accepted as the first Asian member together with Keio University in 2007. It is now composed of 56 member institutions from 22 countries. Its main focus is on master-level Double Degree Programs and it now has over 2,500 bilingual, bicultural engineer graduates. T.I.M.E. launches other innovative exchange programs through task forces formed by member institutions to foster internationally competitive engineers for tomorrow's world.

In July 2008, Tohoku University was selected for the Support Program for International Cooperation and Collaboration - support for comprehensive strategy - by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), for unprecedented large-scale exchange programs with T.I.M.E. member institutions.

<https://www.time-association.org/>

HeKKSaGOn : A network of six leading universities from Japan and Germany: Heidelberg, Kyoto, Karlsruhe, Tohoku (in Sendai), Göttingen, Osaka – network

The Japanese-German University Consortium HeKKSaGOn founded in 2010 is a bilateral university network composed of three Japanese and three German major universities with the aim to promote exchange between Japan and Germany through activities such as research staff/student exchange, joint research, workshops and summer schools. The Japanese member universities are Kyoto University, Tohoku University and Osaka University, and the German member universities are Heidelberg University, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and the University of Göttingen.

RENKEI: Japan-UK Research and Education Network for Knowledge Economy Initiatives

RENKEI, the Japan-UK Research and Education Network for Knowledge Economy Initiatives, is a bilateral consortium that was formed in 2012 by leading universities from Japan and the UK under the support of the British Council. Its aim is to encourage knowledge transfer and research collaboration not only between the two countries but also between the higher education and industry sector. The participating universities in RENKEI are forming pilot projects for collaboration in three main areas: technology and knowledge exchange with industry, student mobility, and universities' social engagement. It is now composed of 11 universities from Japan (5) and the UK (6).

Students Exchange Programs

Tohoku University Junior Year Program in English (JYPE)

The main purpose of this program is to offer international students an opportunity to take science, engineering, and agricultural science courses at Tohoku University, without having to attain proficiency in the Japanese language that would be necessary when taking the same courses in Japanese. All lectures are held in English and the course awards the same credits as equivalent courses offered in Japanese.

The core (required) course of this program is the Individual Research Training course, where students will research, with the support of research groups to which the students are assigned, in a current topic that is related to their field of studies.

The program also offers courses on the Japanese language, culture and society aimed at promoting understanding of Japan's language and its social customs. Cultural and intellectual exchange with professors and students is an integral part of this program and will be accomplished through class work as well as participation in the activities of research groups.

The one-year course commences on October 1st admitting 30 students. Applicants are recommended to take the one-year course, since most classes are designed for one full year. However, some students are admitted to a 6-month course if requested.

<https://www.cefix.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/ASEP/JYPE/index.html>

Students Exchange Programs

Cooperative Laboratory Study Program (COLABS)

COLABS is a graduate-level research oriented program which offers an opportunity for Tohoku students and international students from partner universities to take scientific research training in the assigned research laboratory as well as to take basic education courses taught in English at our partner universities throughout the world and at Tohoku University, respectively. In the COLABS, there is a wide range of research topics in all natural science fields on offer and students are encouraged to conduct their researches in new, interdisciplinary, scientific fields.

<https://www.cefix.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/ASEP/COLABS/index.html>

Tohoku University International Program in Liberal Arts (IPLA)

IPLA provides an opportunity for students at our partner institutions to study a variety of Liberal Arts classes taught in English, including Economics, Management, Education and Literature at Tohoku University, Japan.

The program also offers Japanese language and culture classes in order to assist students in understanding Japanese language and customs. Along with these classes, participating students will take liberal education classes offered in English. Some advanced students may take graduate level classes offered at Tohoku University.

Students who have attained adequate Japanese proficiency may take advanced Japanese language classes taught in Japanese or regular classes with Japanese students.

Cultural and intellectual exchange with Japanese students is an important part of the program and is achieved through group activities and interaction with local Japanese students, both in classes and in extracurricular activities.

<http://www.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/cms/index-e.cgi?pg=100915141356>

Double Degree Program with Overseas Institutions

As society becomes increasingly globalized, Tohoku University is conducting master's level double degree programs with elite institutes of higher education in France, Sweden and China to develop the next-generation of human resources. In fiscal year (FY) 2006, the Écoles Centrale Group (composed of five Écoles Centrale [Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nantes, Paris]) and the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon (INSA-Lyon) became our program partners in France, both of which are grandes écoles, leading institutes which attract top students from France and other countries around the world, offering the finest in education. KTH (Royal Institute of Technology), Sweden and Tohoku University signed their MOU for Double Degree program in March, 2009. KTH is a leading technical institution in Europe and conducts extensive international student exchange. Our partner in China is Tsinghua University, an institute of higher learning which is presently attracting much international attention. The Double Degree Programs of Tohoku University deal with the fields of science, engineering, agricultural science, information sciences, and environmental studies.

Summer Programs

Tohoku University Science Summer Program (TSSP)

TSSP is a summer program designed for undergraduates majoring in science and engineering from partner universities. The main feature of TSSP is our cutting edge lecture series in advanced science and engineering. It aims to provide students with insight on what world society needs based on advanced science and technology in the future and how they can contribute to society through research.

Tohoku University Arts and Letters Summer Program (TASP)

TASP is a summer program that was launched in 2011. It is designed for (but not restricted to) undergraduates majoring in liberal arts and social sciences. It aims to provide students with comprehensive analytical skills, and to contribute to new growth and development in the areas of the humanities and social sciences.

Tohoku University Engineering Summer Program (TESP)

TESP is designed to inspire graduate level (MSc and PhD) students or young professionals in the fields of Engineering. This program started in 2010. In 2013 the program provides a series of lectures and hands-on activities on the advanced topics of Robotics. In addition the program includes various activities that expose the participants to Japanese culture and enrich their academic experience and network.

Tohoku University Japanese Program (TUJP)

TUJP is a newly launched program in 2013 for undergraduates who have strong interest in Japanese language and culture. It consists of two different Japanese language courses (for beginner and for intermediate) and related lectures. In addition, to know Japan and Tohoku well it provides some practical trainings on Japanese culture, site visit, home stay and volunteer activities in 3.11 disaster affected area.

Special Japanese Language Program for International Students and Scholars

This program is open to the international students and scholars at Tohoku University. It aims to improve the students' ability in practical Japanese and basic academic skills in Japanese and to help them to adapt to their new living environments.