

Internationalization of Universities through University Associations

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ABSTRACT

International university associations are a very effective tool for member universities to promote their research and educational activities. Kyoto University is a member of AEARU (The Association of East Asian Research Universities) and APRU (Association of Pacific Rim Universities), and hosts such programs as research symposiums, and participates in various programs hosted by other member universities.

The experiences of participating in the international university associations have brought many benefits to Kyoto University. The significant one was that the participating faculties and students could have international, interdisciplinary, and inter-cultural experiences. At the same time, the international university associations contributed to the enhancement of bilateral and multilateral collaboration among each of member universities.

However, the merits of university associations may not be limited to these experiences. If we look at regions outside Asia, the university associations, especially in Europe, take on broader roles and greater responsibilities in its educational and academic community. For example, various significant educational programs such as credit transfer and double degree programs within the framework of Bologna Process are being implemented by some international university associations. Furthermore, some associations are making a variety of efforts to enhance the environment for universities through outreach, policy recommendation and advocacy.

These activities of international university associations will help us to think how our universities could work together to enhance research, education and outreach within the region of Asia.



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through
University Associations**

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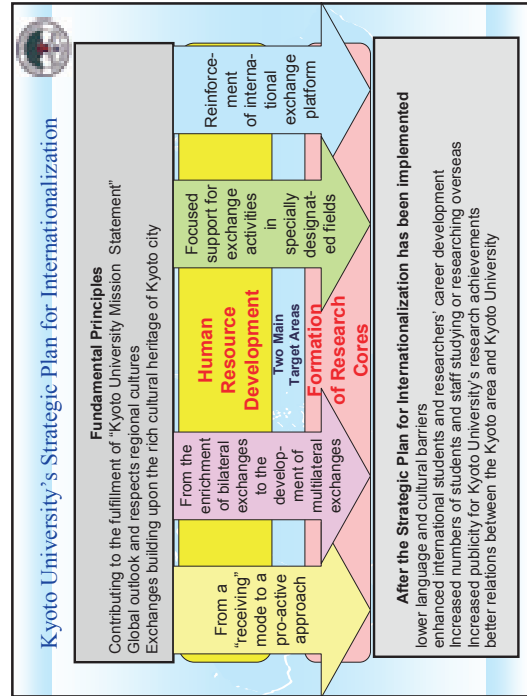
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The Organization for the Promotion of International Relations (OPIR) of Kyoto University was established on April 1, 2005 to improve mutual benefits between Kyoto University and its partners.

**The Organization for the Promotion
of International Relations**
京都大学国際交流推進機構

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Realizing the strategy through AEARU and APRU programs

- for the development of Human Resources
Examples are;
APRU Graduate Summer Program
AEARU Student Summer Camp
- for the strengthening of Research Cores
Examples are;
APRU/AEARU Research Symposium
AWI Workshop

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Benefit that can be obtained through university associations

- Development of **multilateral research collaborations**
- Fostering the **multidisciplinary research collaborations** (from research on single discipline to university-wide, multidisciplinary subjects)
- Promotion of **student exchanges**
- **Cost sharing** (budgetary burden of host institution may be heavy, though)
- Strengthening the **networks** (that will enable more information exchange, participation to the program, etc.)
- **Bilateral partnership** will also be enhanced

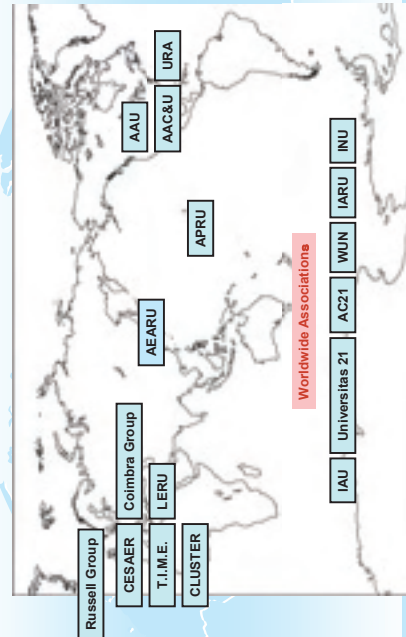
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Participation to the International University Associations

AEARU	Fudan University, Peking University, Tsinghua University-Beijing, University of Tokyo, KAIST, POSTECH, Tohoku University, Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu, HKUST, Seoul National University, University of Tsukuba, Taiwan University, Kyoto University
APRU	Chulalongkorn University, Fudan University, National University of Singapore, Peking University, Tsinghua University-Beijing, University of Tokyo, HKUST, Keio University, Seoul National University, Taiwan University, University of Malaysia, Kyoto University
IAU	Chulalongkorn University, Hokkaido University, University of Tokyo, POSTECH, Tohoku University, Keio University, Kobe University, Nagoya University, University of Tsukuba, University of Malaya, Kyoto University
IARU	National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo
Universitas 21	Fudan University, National University of Singapore, Peking University, Kasetsart University
AC21	Chulalongkorn University, Fudan University, Peking University, Nagoya University
INU	Ritsumeikan University

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University Associations in the World



University Associations – Worldwide

Name	Mission/Objective	Examples of member univs.	Activities
IAU (International Association of Universities) established in 1950 60 member univs.	* To promote the principles of freedom and justice, of human dignity and solidarity. * To contribute to the development of material and moral assistance.	POSTECH Kyoto U., Osaka U., Tohoku U., U of Tokyo, U of Tsukuba	Conferences Reference publications Scholarly publications Policy statements Online databases
Universitas 21 established in 1997 20 member univs.	To facilitate collaboration and cooperation between the member universities and To create opportunities	Fudan U., Peking U., Shanghai Jiao tong U., Korea U., U of Virginia U. of Birmingham	Conferences Summer school
AC21 (Academic Consortium 21) established in 2002 25 member univs.	To encourage the further advancement of global cooperation to the benefit of higher education and to contribute to world and regional society.	Fudan U., Peking U., USTC, Nagoya U., Chulalongkorn U., U. of Sydney	International Forum Student World Forum (student exchange, information sharing)
WUN (Worldwide Universities Network) 16 member univs.	To create a worldwide partnership to generate significant advances in research, graduate training, education and knowledge transfer.	U. of Bristol Nanjing U. Zhejiang University U. of Wis., Madison	Research e-learning The Global Exchange Programme (GEP)
IARU (International Alliance of Research Universities) established in 2006 10 member univs.	To share a similar vision and have a commitment to educating future leaders.	ANU, NUS, Peking U., UCB, U. of Cambridge, U. of Oxford, U. of Tokyo, Yale U.	Summer internships Conferences Student exchange Joint/individual degree arrangements Faculty exchange.

Name	Mission/Objective	Examples of member univs.	Activities
Coinbra Group established in 1985 37 member universities	To creating special academic and cultural ties in order to promote internationalisation, academic collaboration, excellence in learning and research, and service to society.	U. of Cambridge U. of Oxford U. di Bologna Uppsala U. U. of Heidelberg	Task Forces Symposia Scholarship Visiting program
LERU (League of European Research Universities) established in 2002 20 member univs.	- Education through awareness of the frontiers of human understanding - Creation of new knowledge through basic research - Promotion of research across a broad front	U. of Cambridge U. of Oxford U. of Heidelberg U. of Milan U. of Saar Strasbourg	Advocacy (committees and working groups) Collaboration (e-learning, digital resources, medical education)
CESAER (The Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research) Established in 1990 Nearly 60 member univs.	To provide "High Quality" Engineering Education in Europe, and, To improve links between its members in Research as well as in Postgraduate and Continuing Education.	Tech. U. Muenchen Imperial College Sorbonne Indian National Institutes Sciences Appliquees de Toulouse	Consultations among the members Cooperation with governments Exchange of information
T.I.M.E. (Top Industrial Managers Europe) established in 1989 46 member univs.	To furthering high-level educational programs for engineers and industrial executives, preparing them to function across national borders in the European Community and in the world	Tech. U. Muenchen Ecole Centrale Paris U. de Louvain Louvain	Double degree Programs

University Associations – Europe

Activities of university associations in Europe - Research collaborations

Examples are:

- LERU (League of European Research Universities)
"The EUREA feasibility project aims to determine the best conditions of implementation, commercial operating and perpetuation of a European cross-border, mutualisation system of academic e-resources of the highest quality." (9 out of 12 members joined)
- WUN (Worldwide Universities Network)
"Research activity is at the heart of what WUN does. The alliance aims to bring together the best people and the best ideas from the member institutions to solve global problems."
Topics are: Attitudes about Science and Technology, BIOTRACS, Green Chemistry, Horizons in Bioinformatics, Intelligent Uninhabited Aerial Vehicles, Nanomanufacturing, Nuclear Science, Spintfrontes

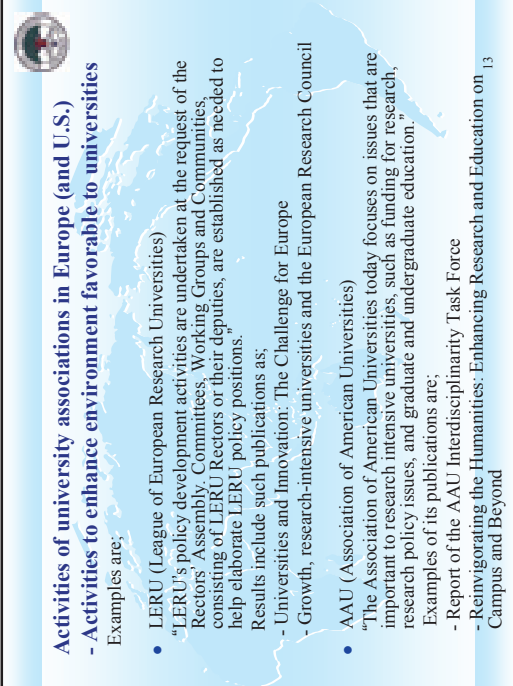
Name	Mission/Objective	Examples of member univs.	Activities
AEARU (Association of East Asian Research Universities) established in 1997 17 member univs.	To explore and identify areas of mutual interest for collaboration	Fudan U., Nanning U., Peking U., Tsinghua U., Tsinghua U., Tsinghua U., Waseda U., Teikyo Univ. U-Hiroshi, KAIST, POSTECH, SNU, Osaka U., Tohoku U., TIT, UT, Fukuoka U., Kyoto U.	Student Summer Camp Research Symposium Workshop on Network Education
APRU (Association of Pacific Rim Universities) established in 1997 37 member univs.	To foster cooperation in education, research and enterprise thereby contributing to the economic, scientific and cultural advancement in the Pacific Rim.	ANU, Fudan U., Osaka Univ., Tsinghua U., Hokkaido U., Keio U., Kyoto U., Osaka U., U. of Tokyo, SNU, NUS, UC Davis	APRU Enterprise Research Symposiums Fellows Program Doctoral Students Conf. AWI
AAU (The Association of American Universities) established in 1900 62 member univs.	# developing national policy positions * discussing a broad range of other institutional issues	UC Davis, UCB, Harvard U., Hopkins U., UPENN, Stanford U.	Annual membership meeting Advocacy Policy Issues

University Associations – other areas

Activities of university associations in Europe - Educational Programs

Examples are:

- CESAER (The Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering and Research)
"CESAER pursues its aims through development and implementation of programmes of multinational engineering education at undergraduate, postgraduate and professional levels"
- T.I.M.E. (Top Industrial Managers Europe)
"Through its double degree activities, T.I.M.E. promotes high-quality engineering education and produces graduates who are able to work transationally and in trans-cultural environments."



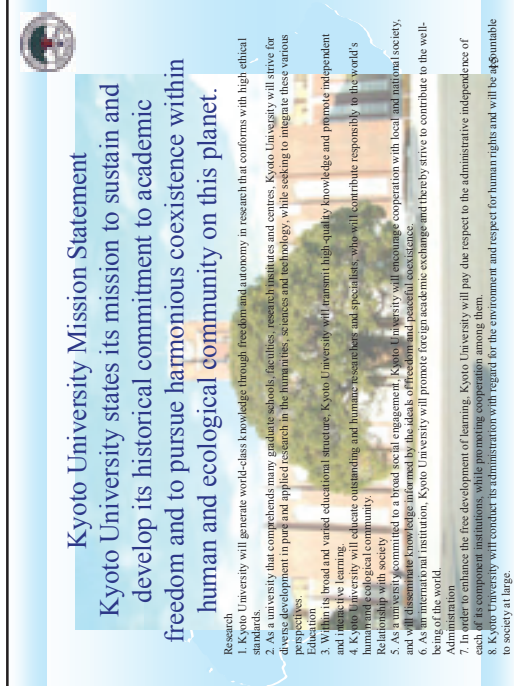
Activities of university associations in Europe (and U.S.)
- Activities to enhance environment favorable to universities
 Examples are:

- LERU (League of European Research Universities)
 "LERU's policy development activities are undertaken at the request of the Rectors' Assemblies, Committees, Working Groups and Communities, consisting of LERU Rectors or their deputies, are established as needed to help elaborate LERU policy positions."
 Results include such publications as:
 - Universities and Innovation: The Challenge for Europe
 - Growth, research-intensive universities and the European Research Council
- AAU (Association of American Universities)
 "The Association of American Universities today focuses on issues that are important to research intensive universities, such as funding for research, research policy issues, and graduate and undergraduate education."
 Examples of its publications are;
 - Report of the AAU Interdisciplinarity Task Force
 - Reinvigorating the Humanities: Enhancing Research and Education on Campus and Beyond



Possible new directions of university associations in Asia

- for the strengthening of research collaboration
 - to hold academic meetings and exchange information on multidisciplinary and multicultural research issues
- for the promotion educational programs
 - to support bilateral (and multilateral) education programs such as student exchange program and double degree program
 - to exchange information on education system, which will contribute to the improvement of quality of education
- for the enhancement of the environment
 - to implement research on common issues
 - to accommodate dialogue with policy makers



Kyoto University Mission Statement
 Kyoto University states its mission to sustain and develop its historical commitment to academic freedom and to pursue harmonious coexistence within human and ecological community on this planet.

Research University will generate world-class knowledge through freedom and autonomy in research that conforms with high ethical standards.

1. As a university that comprehends many graduate schools, faculties, research institutes and centres, Kyoto University will strive for diverse development in pure and applied research in the humanities, sciences and technology, while seeking to integrate these various perspectives.
2. Education
 - 3. With its broad and varied educational structure, Kyoto University will transmit high-quality knowledge and promote independent and interactive learning.
 - 4. Kyoto University will educate outstanding and humane researchers and specialists, who will contribute responsibly to the world's human and ecological community.
3. Relationship with society
 - 5. As a university committed to a broad social engagement, Kyoto University will encourage cooperation with local and national society, and will disseminate knowledge informed by the ideals of freedom and peaceful coexistence.
 - 6. As an international institution, Kyoto University will promote foreign academic exchange and thereby strive to contribute to the well-being of the world.
4. Administration
 - 7. Kyoto University will enhance the free development of learning. Kyoto University will pay due respect to the administrative independence of each of its constituent institutions, while ensuring cooperation among them.
 - 8. Kyoto University will continue its administration with regard for the environment and respect for human rights and will be accountable to society at large.