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.
Internationalization of Universities through University Associations

2nd University Administrators Workshop
February 1, 2007 Kyoto University

Satoru Endo,
Director, Division of International Affairs
Kyoto University

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.

Kyoto University’s Strategic Plan for Internationalization

Fundamental Principles
- Contributing to the fulfillment of "Kyoto University Mission Statement"
- Global outlook and respects regional cultures
- Exchanges building upon the rich cultural heritage of Kyoto city

Two Main Target Areas
- Human Resource Development
- Formation of Research Cores

Focused support for exchange activities in specially designated fields

Reinforcement of international exchange platform

After the Strategic Plan for Internationalization has been implemented
- Lower language and cultural barriers
- Enhanced international students and researchers’ career development
- Increased numbers of students and staff studying or researching overseas
- Increased publicity for Kyoto University’s research achievements
- Better relations between the Kyoto area and Kyoto University

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
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

Participation to the International University Associations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Universities</th>
<th>Mission/Objectives</th>
<th>Examples of member univs.</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IAU (International Association of Universities)</td>
<td>National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>* To promote the principles of freedom, democracy, human dignity &amp; solidarity. * To contribute to the development of material and intellectual assistance.</td>
<td>Kyoto U., Osaka U., Hokkaido U.</td>
<td>Conferences, Scholarly publications, Policy statements, Online databases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities 21</td>
<td>National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>To facilitate collaboration and cooperation between the member universities and institutions</td>
<td>Franco-Dutch U., Korea U., China U.</td>
<td>Conferences, Summer school, Scholarly publications, Online databases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AC21 (Academic Consortium 21)</td>
<td>National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>To encourage the further advancement of global cooperation through the benefit of higher education to the people of the world as a regional society.</td>
<td>ANU, NUS, Peking U., UCB, U. of Cambridge, U. of Oxford, U. of Tokyo, Yale U.</td>
<td>International Forum, Student World Forum, (Student exchange, information sharing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WUN (Worldwide Universities Network)</td>
<td>National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>To create a worldwide partnership to generate significant advances in research, graduate training, education and knowledge transfer.</td>
<td>G. Zurich U., U. of Cambridge, U. of Tokyo, U. of Sydney</td>
<td>Research networking, The Global Exchange Program (IEP), Scholarship Program, Student World Forum, Information sharing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IARU (International Alliance of Research Universities)</td>
<td>National University of Singapore, Peking University, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>To share a similar vision and have a commitment to educating future leaders.</td>
<td>NUS, NUS, Peking U., UCB, U. of Cambridge, U. of Oxford, U. of Tokyo, U. of Sydney</td>
<td>Scholarships, Conferences, Student exchange, Joint degree programs, Knowledge exchange</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University Associations in the World

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Establishment</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Examples of member univs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### University Associations - Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Mission/Objective</th>
<th>Examples of member univs.</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coimbra Group</td>
<td>To creating special academic and cultural ties into the framework of internationalization, academic collaboration, excellence in teaching and research, and service to society.</td>
<td>U. of Cambridge, U. of Oxford, U. of Birmingham, U. of Sussex</td>
<td>Task forces, symposia, scholarship, networking program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LERU (League of European Research Universities)</td>
<td>- Education for the enlightenment of the citizens of the union - Creation of new knowledge through basic research - Promotion of research across a broad front</td>
<td>U. of Cambridge, U. of Oxford, U. of Hamburg, U. of Milan, U. of Strasbourg</td>
<td>Advocacy committees, working groups, collaboration across disciplines, digital resources, regional education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CESAEER (Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research)</td>
<td>To provide &quot;High Quality&quot; Engineering Education in Europe, and to improve links between its members in Research as well as in undergraduate and Continuing Education.</td>
<td>T.U. Munich, Imperial College London, National Institute of Science and Technology, Strasbourg</td>
<td>Consultations among the members, cooperation with governments, exchange of information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.I.M.E. (Top Industrial Managers Europe)</td>
<td>To furthering high level educational programs for engineers and industrial executives, preparing them to function across national borders in the European Community and the world.</td>
<td>T.U. Munich, Ecole Centrale Paris, Polytechnic Institute, Louvain</td>
<td>Double degree programs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### University Associations - other areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>East Asia</th>
<th>Mission/Objective</th>
<th>Examples of member univs.</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Rim</td>
<td>Mission/Objective</td>
<td>Examples of member univs.</td>
<td>Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA &amp; Canada</td>
<td>To improve links between its members in Research as well as in Postgraduate and Continuing Education.</td>
<td>UC Davis, UCB, ANU, UC Berkeley, Hopkins U., Harvard U., MIT, Stanford U.</td>
<td>APRE Enterprise Program, Research Symposiums, Fellowships Program, Doctoral Students Conf. AIB.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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, Spintronics.

- **CESAEER (The Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research)**
  "CESAEER 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 transnationally and in trans-cultural environments."

#### Educational Programs

Examples are;

- **CESAEER (The Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering and Research)**
  "CESAEER 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 transnationally 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’ Assembly. 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.

1. Kyoto University will generate world class knowledge through promoting autonomy in research that conforms to high ethical standards.

2. As a university that comprehensively publishes results of research in human and nature, Kyoto University will strive for the advancement of knowledge and applied research by undertaking, in a systematic manner, research and development aimed at integrating the sciences and promoting harmonious coexistence within human and ecological community.

3. Kyoto University will aim at promoting and integrating research and teaching methods that will contribute to the advancement of knowledge and promote a broad-based thinking and multidisciplinary perspectives.

4. Kyoto University will promote the establishment of a research and teaching environment that will encourage students’ and researchers’ freedom in knowledge and pursuit of truth.

5. Kyoto University will promote the development of educational programs that will provide opportunities for students to pursue their individual and research interests.

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