Rethinking International Educational Marketing:

Lessons learned from remaking the Ritsumeikan University English homepage

> Chris Malcolm Administrative Staff International Center at Biwako Kusatsu Campus

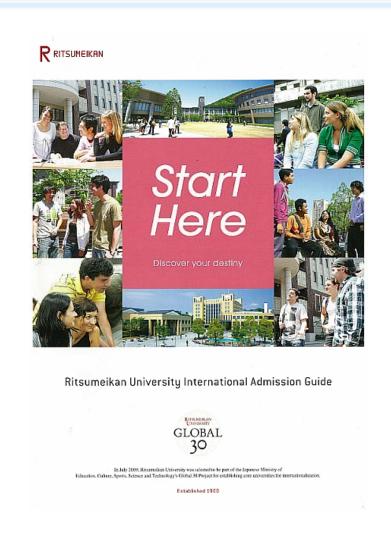


WHAT'S THE POINT?

What is it advertising?

Who is it for?

What are the returns?



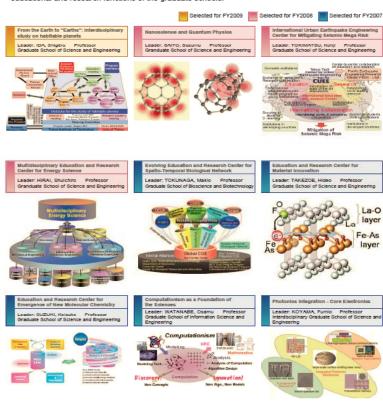
IS IT CLEAR?

TOKYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Outline 2010/2011

Research Programs

Global COE Program

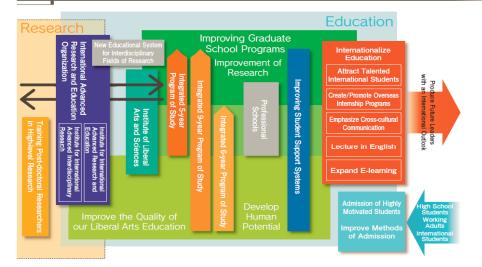
Based on assessments of the "21st Century COE Program," the Global COE (Center of Excellence) Program was established by MEXT in 2007. The program aims to strengthen and enhance the educational and research functions of the graduate schools.

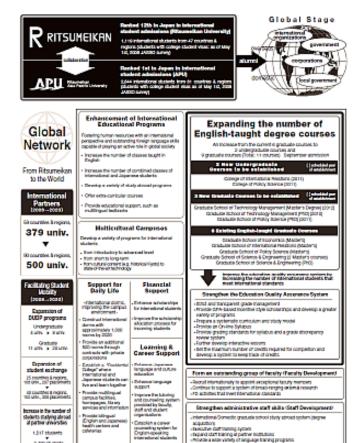


IS IT TOO MUCH? Where do I start?

Education

As a "Transmitter of knowledge," we will restructure the system of instruction we use to pass along our store of accumulated wisdom, and as a "Creator of knowledge," we will strive to produce future leaders with a strong liberal arts background, specialized expertise, and an international outlook.





2,400 (\$40H)

Less is more.

Goal 1: Transmit Knowledge

Restructure the system of instruction we use to pass along our store of accumulated wisdom

Action Plan

Internationalize Education

- Attract Talented International Students
- Create/Promote Overseas Internship Programs
- Emphasize Cross-cultural Communication
- Lecture in English
- Expand E-learning

Admissions Goals

- Increased Acceptance of High School Students, Working Adults, and International Students
- Admission of Highly Motivated Students
- Improve Methods of Admission

Goal 2: Create Knowledge

Produce future leaders with a strong liberal arts background, specialized expertise, and an international outlook.

Action Plan

Educational Restructuring Goals:

- Improve Graduate School Programs
- Improve Research
- Improve the Quality of Liberal Arts Education
- Develop Human Potential
- Improve Student Support Systems
- Implement Professional Schools
- Implement integrated 5-year, 6-year, and 9- year Programs of Study
- Establish Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Train Post-Doctoral Researchers in High-level Research
- Establish International Advanced Research and Education Organization
 - > Institute for International Advanced Research and Education
 - > Institute for International Advanced Interdisciplinary

Education

Produce future leaders with an international outlook

Goal

1 Enrich the lives of graduates through a deeper connection to UBC, and help the University achieve its vision.

Action

Create opportunities for alumni to connect intellectually with the University.

Develop volunteer opportunities that are valuable for alumni and the University.

Partner with students and graduates to build highly engaged alumni communities.

2 Increase alumni commitment to UBC through an expansion of opportunities for lifelong engagement. Expand University-wide efforts to engage alumni.

Build positive regard for UBC through inspiring events, effective communications and outstanding services.

Build a new Alumni Centre that will serve as a dynamic welcome centre on the Point Grey campus, bringing together all members of the campus community.



ARE WE CONNECTED?



500 million users.

70 languages



2 billion views/day

IS IT WORTH THE \$\$\$?

Paper-based



CD/DVD



Digital



The bad:

- •Design
- Printing
- Shipping
- Updating
- Availability

- •Design
- Printing
- Updating
- •Shipping •DVD player?
- •Design
- Compatibility

The good:

- •Eye catching
- •Easy to read
- •No technology required

- •Impressive
- •Better Visualization

- •Easy updates/fixes
- •Global reach
- •Eye-catching
- •No data limit

IMAGE?

Modern?

Coherent?

Reliable?







SPECIALIZATION

Devotion

Negotiation

Language

QUALITY CONTROL: Design



International Program for Advanced Industrial Technology (Master's)



Master's Degree Program on Regional Policy and Planning



International Program for Advanced Industrial Technology (Doctoral)









QUALITY CONTROL: Flow

Example University 1: Bad

- 1. Japanese Page
- 2. English Page
- 3. For Prospective Students
- 4. Admissions for International Students
- 5. Admissions
- 6. Courses in English
- 7. International Advanced Degree Program in (___)
- 8. Advanced Degree Program Top Page

?? But how do I apply ??

- 9. Return to Advanced Degree Program Top Page
- 10. Graduate Admissions
- 11. Master's Program Application Outline
- 12. General Entrance Exam. Overseas Application
- 13. Application Guidebook
- 14. Application Forms

Example University: Good

- 1. Japanese Page
- 2. English Page
- 3. For Prospective Students
- 4. Admissions for Undergraduate Students
- 5. Graduate School Homepage Admissions Information
- 6. Information on Overseas Admissions (15pg PDF)

INEFFICIENCY

Repetition

Amount





?

Resources



DEFINE THE PURPOSE

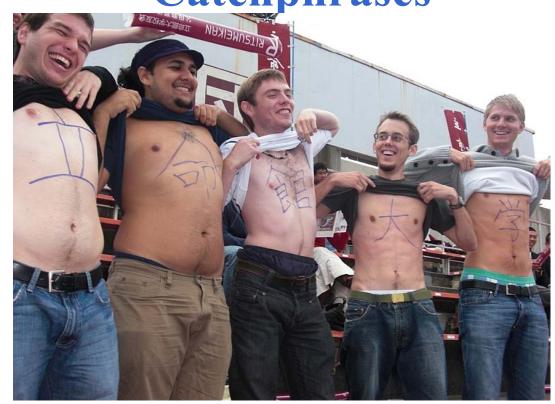
Recruit people to support your cause.

Advertise a new program or idea.

GET THEIR ATTENTION

Catchphrases

Provoking Ideas



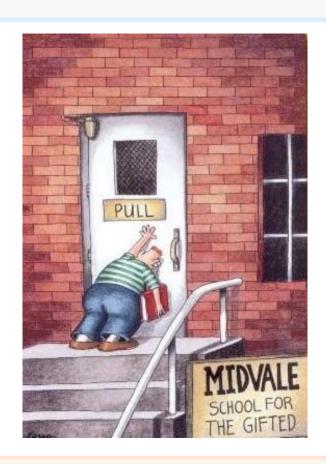
Images and Colours

MAKE IT EASY

Contact Information

Action Plans

No clutter



IMAGES - TITLES - CAPTIONS - BODY

COMMUNICATE CLEARLY

Easy to read font

Guide the reader

Narrow columns

High quality images

Captions as sales pitches

Benefits, not features



"One must try to leave out the parts that people skip"



O Purpose:

-Graduate School Summary

X Communicate Clearly:

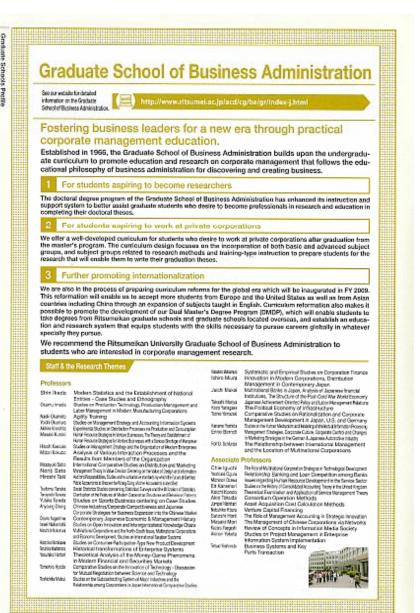
- -Paragraph style.
- -Overwhelming.

X Make it Easy:

- -Too much, too small.
- -Where do I start?

X Get attention:

-Nothing stands out.



REQUESTS

1. Continued Move to Online Media

2. Quality Control of Marketing Materials through centralized management

Benefits of moving to online media

- Modern Image
- Cost effectiveness
- Worldwide access
- Stable location for information
- Unlimited quantity

Benefits of a Quality Control System

- Standardization \rightarrow Image \uparrow , easy of use \uparrow
- Fewer Errors → Image/reputation ↑
- Specialization → efficiency ↑ savings ↑

OUT WITH THE OLD...







IN WITH THE NEW.







Hits and a few misses

"I saw a lot of websites in my search for a short-term program in Japan and few websites are comparable to yours in clarity and usability. My sincere compliments."

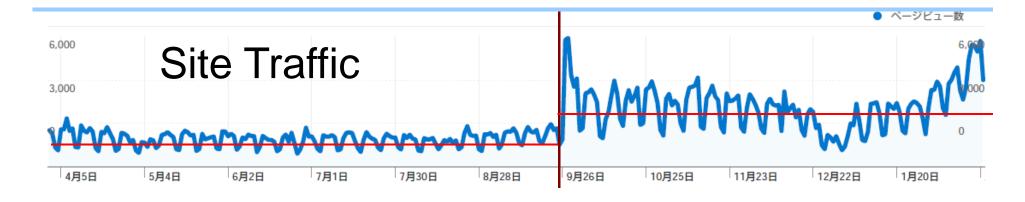
2011 SKP Applicant

Netherlands

"It is now easy to get an overview of the different programs, requirements, syllabi, housing etc. This is exactly the information that our students ask for. It looks very appealing to study at RU."

Head of Asian Affairs Linnaeus University "The only confusing thing: Each of the main pages has its own structure. This makes orientation a little bit difficult - at least for me; but at 49 years old I am not a "digital native" but a "digital immigrant"

Intercultural Program Coordinator
University of Tuebiingen



A question for later...

How do promotional materials differ across cultures?

Thank you very much!