

AEARU 34th Board of Directors Meeting

April 4, 2014

University of Tsukuba, Japan

PRESENT

CHEN Jun	Chairperson, President, Nanjing University
IM Junggi	Vice Chairperson, Executive Vice President, Seoul National University
Hong HOCHENG	President, Tsing Hua University – Hsinchu
Kyosuke NAGATA	President, University of Tsukuba
Toshiya UEKI	Executive Vice President, Tohoku University
GAO Song	Vice President, Provost, Peking University
Kar Yan TAM	Associate Provost and Dean of Students, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

SECRETARY

Grace CHEN	AEARU Secretariat, Nanjing University
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IN ATTENDANCE

University of Tsukuba

Caroline Fern BENTON	Vice President, University of Tsukuba
Kazuo AKIYAMA	Vice Executive Director for Global Affairs
Osamu OHNEDA	Director, Office of Global Initiative
Takashi ISHINO	Manager, Office of Global Initiative
Chiho KABEYA	Administrative Assistant, Office of Global Initiative

Nanjing University

JI Dafu	Director, Office of International Cooperation and Exchanges
SUN Wen	Deputy Director, Office of International Cooperation and Exchanges

Peking University

LI Hongquan	Deputy Director, Office of International Relations
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Tohoku University

Sanae AOKI

Special Appointed Professor for International
Planning, Office of the President

Sayaka KOBAYASHI

Staff Member, International Exchange Division

Seoul National University

SHEEN Seong-Ho

Associate Dean for International Affairs

MEETING MINUTES

I. INTRODUCTION REMARKS

The Chairperson CHEN Jun began the meeting by greeting and welcoming BOD members. The Chairperson further introduced new BOD members, President Hong Hocheng of Tsing Hua University - Hsinchu and President Kyosuke NAGATA of University of Tsukuba. Then, the Chairperson delivered thanks to people and institutions that made contributions to the AGM and BOD meetings.

President Kyosuke Nagata of University of Tsukuba delivered brief introduction to the history, honors and status of University of Tsukuba.

II. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 33rd BOD Meeting; December 8, 2013; Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu, Taiwan
2. Minutes of the 19th AGM; December 8, 2013; Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu, Taiwan

The minutes of the above meetings were compiled by the AEARU Secretariat and distributed to all members. With no comments or amendments, the minutes were confirmed.

III. REVIEW OF AEARU ACTIVITIES IN 2013 & 2014

1. AEARU-LERU Presidents' Forum; December 7, 2013; Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu
2. 2nd Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters; December 9, 2013; Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu
3. AEARU 2013 Symposium: Green and Resilient Growth (GRG) of Asian Cities; February 10-12, 2014; Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- *Cancelled*

President Hong HOCHENG reported that the forum was participated by 7 Presidents and Vice Presidents from the League of European Research Universities (LERU). Each LERU representative introduced their respective institution's innovative strategy as well as how they grasp opportunity to enrich

their research and development in the globalizing progress. Aside from LERU speakers, five AEARU representatives also presented in the forum: Tsing Hua University - Hsinchu (Taiwan), Tohoku University (Japan), University of Tsukuba (Japan), Taiwan University (Taiwan) and Nanjing University (China). Each speaker discussed their new educational policy, future challenges and their innovative strategies. This forum also brings thoughts about the future collaboration of the two networks representing East Asia and Europe.

President Hong HOCHENG continued to report that following the 1st symposium in Kyoto University in 2011, this symposium continued to discuss Chinese characters, “kanji”, and its influence on East Asian culture and education, as well as to enhance the understanding of calligraphy art. Speakers included specialists in Chinese language studies, philosophy, Japanese studies, East Asian civilization, anthropology, electrical engineering, letters and history. The event attracted over 100 students and faculty members who participated throughout the day. The symposium included 4 sessions and each session is followed by a discussion session.

Dr. Sun Wen reported on behalf of KAIST: AEARU 2013 Symposium: Green and Resilient Growth (GRG) of Asian Cities the AEARU 2013 Symposium-Green and Resilient Growth (GRG) of Asian Cities was originally planned to be hosted by KAIST in February this year. KAIST has been actively promoting the event, but the symposium was cancelled due to lack of participation. And KAIST has returned the funding from AEARU.

IV. SCHEDULED AEARU ACTIVITIES IN 2014&2015

1. 5th AEARU Advanced Material Workshop; Summer 2014; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
2. 2014 Student Summer Camp; Summer 2014; Osaka University
3. 5th AEARU Energy and Environmental Workshop; October 2014; Taiwan University
4. 4th Science and Technology Parks Workshop; Fall 2014; Nanjing University
5. 3rd Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters; Spring 2015; Peking University

Associate Provost, Dean of Students, Prof. Kar Yan TAM HKUST reported the update information about the 5th AEARU Advanced Material Workshop. He said the progress had been good as the host department had already received applications from both member and non-member universities. The detailed agenda would be circulated once the submission of abstracts was finished.

Secretary Grace reported on the 2014 Student Summer Camp on behalf of Osaka University. The 2014 Student Summer Camp was going to take place in Osaka University during Mid-late August this year. It would last for one week. The students would get exposed to Japanese culture and take part in lectures as well as lab visit. The application for funding was approved at the last AGM and BOD meetings. The funding would be used to support the program and local expenses. Current progress in preparing for the summer camp was that Osaka University had an organization committee for the event, and the detailed program would be announced during middle April.

Secretary Grace reported on the 5th AEARU Energy and Environmental Workshop on behalf of Taiwan University. The 5th AEARU EEW would be held at Taiwan University in Taipei between October 22 and 24 this year. The themes of the workshop included Renewable energies, Energy Technologies and other energy-related topics. The Department of Chemical Engineering was in charge of the workshop.

Dr. Sun Wen reported that the 4th Science and Technology Parks Workshop was originally scheduled in September 2013 but postponed to Fall 2014. The workshop would be hosted in early November this year in Xianlin Campus of Nanjing University. The keynote speeches and discussions would focus on the themes including the contributions of universities, Science and Technology Parks to research development and to improvement of teaching quality, and international technology transform, solutions to the new challenges of Science and Technology Parks in new area.

Dr. Sun Wen reported that the 3rd Symposium on the Culture of Chinese

Character would be hosted by Peking University in Spring 2015. The Chinese Department of Peking University was working on the symposium and we would expect the detailed report at the next AGM & BOD.

V. PROPOSED AEARU ACTIVITIES IN 2014

1. Symposium on Teaching and Learning in East Asian Research Universities; May 21-22, 2014; Nanjing University
2. 3rd Student Physical Competition; July 2014; University of Tsukuba
3. International Symposium on Ocean Engineering 2014 of KAIST - Univ. of Tokyo - Shanghai Jiaotong Univ; July 2014; Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
4. 2014 AEARU Workshop on “R&D Policy and Asian Research Universities”; September 2014; Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
5. CJKT Internet of Things Workshop; October 2014; Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
6. 3rd Medical Center Workshop; October 2014; Fudan University
7. 10th Web Technology and Computer Science Workshop, February 2015; University of Tsukuba

Dr. Sun Wen reported that the symposium on Teaching and Learning in East Asian Research Universities aimed to bring together academics, educators and administrators from home and abroad to exchange their views on improving the quality of teaching and increasing the effectiveness of learning in research universities. This Symposium was jointly organized by Center for Teaching and Learning, and Institute of Education at Nanjing University. Now papers were invited for consideration, in light of (but not limited to) the themes of studies on teaching reform and student learning in research universities.

Vice President Benton reported that, sports could be an excellent tool for building friendship and invigorating relationships across borders, the recently held Winter Olympic Games in Sochi once again reminded people of the power of sports, and their capacity to inspire and encourage. In the field of sports education and research, both academically and in practice, the University of Tsukuba was widely known as one of the top universities in Japan with many Olympic medalists. Basketball was one of the most popular sports among students of the University of

Tsukuba and is also popular among AEARU members. Therefore, the University of Tsukuba would like to use this opportunity to invite students for a friendly basketball competition, in hopes to spark new and refresh old partnerships. Participation from both men's and women's teams were both expected.

The Secretary Grace reported on behalf of KAIST, the International Symposium on Ocean Engineering of KAIST-University of Tokyo and Shanghai Jiaotong University was proposed by KAIST. The event would take place in July, 2014 in KAIST, and last for 3 days. This year, KASIT, Shanghai Jiaotong University and University of Tokyo agreed to have an international symposium to enhance collaboration on ocean engineering. The workshop would be conducted in the form of keynote speeches and poster session. And KAIST would like to apply for funding of USD 10,000 to cover expenses including invitation lectures, venues and other expenses.

The Secretary Grace reported on behalf of KAIST: the 2014 AEARU Workshop on "R&D Policy and Asian Research Universities" was proposed by KAIST. It will take place in September this year. The workshop would include: Keynote speech, Expert roundtables and research panels by graduate students, Policy case sessions with expert-student interactions. KAIST would like to apply for AEARU funding of 10,000 USD to cover expenses include Student Participants (lodging), International experts (air/lodging), Domestic experts (transport/lodging) and Program materials and other fees. You may refer to the detailed budget for more information.

The Secretary Grace reported on behalf of KAIST: the CJKT Internet of Things Workshop was proposed by KASIT. The name CJKT meant that the workshop would have researchers and students from China, Korea, Japan and Taiwan. It would take place in October 2014 on the campus of Fudan University, Shanghai, China. The theme of the workshop was Presentation of state-of-the-art research on the Internet of Things in the categories of Application, Software, Hardware and Business. KAIST would like to apply for AEARU funding of 10,000 USD to cover air fees and stay expenses.

The Secretary Grace reported on behalf of Fudan University: the 3rd Medical Center Workshop was proposed by Fudan University. The proposed date of workshop was October 26, 2014. It would be one-day workshop plus half-day medical center tour. The theme was “Developing and Positioning Strategy of Medical Center of 21st Century Research-oriented University”. The target participants were: (1) Research oriented University’s Medical center\Medical College leaders, and administrators of universities under AEARU framework responsible for medical education; (2) Professors in related research area; (3) PhD students from AEARU universities. To encourage students from Taiwan, Hong Kong and non-Chinese students to participate in this workshop, Fudan University would like to apply for USD 10, 000 to cover their international flight and accommodation fees.

Vice President Benton reported that the 10th Web Technology and Computer Science Workshop was planned to focus on presentations and discussions of cutting edge research results by representatives from member universities, along with the involvement of selected graduate students through a poster session. Reception would be host on the 1st day evening. The workshop would include four oral sessions with two sessions being held on each day. The poster session would be held on the 1st day in the afternoon, and it would include approximately 50 posters from AEARU graduate students. On the 2nd day, an award would be given to the best student poster presentation. External keynote speakers would also be invited.

Budget Issue

President CHEN stated that it was very glad to see BOD members were quite supportive of organizing AEARU activities and before this meeting the Secretariat had received 7 proposals. But budget was limited to sponsor all the activities. So BOD members were asked to give any requests.

No requests from the BOD members.

President CHEN stated that as the funding was supposed to encourage students’ participation in AEARU activities, so full support was supposed to be given to the

3rd Student Physical Competition, which was 10,000 USD. For the rest 5 proposals from KAIST, Fudan and Tsukuba, more consideration about the tight budget should be taken into account. Currently, there was about 58,000 USD in the account, and in the end of this month, AEARU would have membership fee 34,000 USD. So he supposed 5,000 may be given for each of Item 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. That was to say KAIST in total 15,000 USD; Fudan 5,000 USD; Tsukuba 15,000 USD in total. By adding up these numbers, a total funding of 35,000 was granted at this BOD Meeting, and this was about the number of the annual membership fee ($2000 \times 17 = 34,000$ each year). In this way, the funding for future activities could be ensured.

Suggestions

President Hong HOCHENG suggested that by looking at the history in the past, for example the AEARU activities last year, the third symposium was cancelled, five proposals were hold then. This time there were seven proposals, and the budget was limited, it would be better to pick up two or three proposals.

Vice President GAO Song agreed with President Hong HOCHENG. He suggested some principles for the proposals. If the application number was large, maybe we firstly consider one proposal each year for each member.

Executive Vice President Toshiya UEKI agreed with President Hong HOCHENG and Vice President GAO Song. In his personal opinion, specially the No.3 proposal, only based on four universities, not for all the 17 AEARU members as a whole, so if it can have the fund as a whole, our support for KAIST should be the No.4 or No.5 proposal, not the No. 3 proposal.

President Kyosuke NAGATA responded to the suggestion from Vice President GAO Song. He fundamentally agreed with Vice President Gao for limiting the number of proposal. For proposals like the No. 3, we should support them through AEARU network but we did not necessarily give financial support.

VI. UNSCHEDULED AEARU ACTIVITIES - call for organizers

1. 6th Cultural Workshop

2. 6th Network Education Workshop
3. 11th Molecular Biology & Biotechnology Workshop
4. 6th Energy and Environmental Workshop
5. 5th Advanced Materials Science Workshop
6. Additional activities (members are invited to propose any additional activities)

Dr. Sun Wen stated that above activities and workshops were regularly organized by AEARU member universities and ask for volunteers to organize some of these events.

No Volunteers for organizing unscheduled activities.

VII. SECRETARY REPORT

1. Status report of AEARU sponsored programs

The Secretary Grace reported that one AEARU activities had been sponsored. First was 2013 Student Summer Camp organized by Peking University. A total of US \$10,000 was granted to provide assistance for students' participation. In 2013, the check of USD 10,000 failed to reach Peking University and the fund was completed by the Secretariat in March 2014. The summer camp has been held on July 8-August 2, 2013. The activity report has been provided and presented at the 19th AGM and 33rd BOD meetings.

The other sponsorship of US \$10,000 was given to Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology to organize the AEARU 2013 Symposium: Green and Resilient Growth (GRG) of Asian Cities in February 2014. The funding was used to assist AEARU students on their accommodation, and field trip costs. However, the workshop was cancelled due to lack of participation. The Letter of Cancellation has been submitted. And the fund has been returned to the AEARU Secretariat.

2. Financial status of AEARU Treasury

The Secretary Grace reported that for this period, there was an out-going expenditure of US \$10,000 for AEARU activity and an incoming of US \$10,513.25 (the refund from KAIST). Because of the difference of currency, the actual refund is 10,513.25 rather than 10, 000. This makes a surplus for the period, 513.25. There's a total of US \$58304.92 brought forward from last period, add the

surplus mentioned previous; it left the AEARU Treasury a total of US \$58,818.17 in the account.

VIII. ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

AEARU Cooperation with Other RIU Networks

- Press release of signing up to Hefei Statement on the Ten Characteristics of Contemporary Research Universities

Announced by AAU, LERU, Go8 and C9 on October 10th, 2013

President CHEN stated that at last AGM, a vote was taken and the AGM approved that AEARU would co-sign the Hefei Statement on the Characteristic of Contemporary Research Universities which was jointly signed by Association of American Universities (AAU), League of European Research Universities (LERU), Group of Eight Australian Universities (Go8), and the C9 League (C9) of China.

To improve the international profile of AEARU, AEARU should work closely with other research intensive university networks like LERU. Previously, President Hong Hocheng also talked about the successful AEARU-LERU Presidents' Forum.

Dr. Sun Wen stated that the Secretary General of LERU had invited AEARU to make a press release of signing up to Hefei Statement. So far AAU, LERU, Go8, C9, Russell Group in UK and U15 in Canada, all have made press release of signing up to the Statement. So, BOD members were asked to give comments and suggestions for the press release of AEARU.

On the other hand, AEARU was also invited by the Secretary General of LERU to attend the global social sciences and humanity meeting which would be held on Nov 20 and 21 in 2014. BOD members were asked to look at the invitation letter and decide if they wanted to go or not.

President CHEN pointed out that it was the first time for LERU to hold this kind of meeting, so LERU was looking forward for participants if our BOD members are willing to attend the meeting.

Dr. Sun Wen stated that in this meeting, they had invited different international academic associations, such as the Association of American Universities (AAU), the Group of Eight (Go8), the Consortium of China 9 Research Universities (C9), Research University 11 (RU11, Japan), the Association of East Asian Research Universities (AEARU), the Russell Group (United Kingdom), the U15 (Group of Canadian Research Universities).

Discussions on New Membership

Dr. Sun Wen reported that before the BOD meeting, a letter from Executive Vice President IM Junggi of Seoul National University was received, hoping to recommend Yonsei University to become a new member of AEARU.

Executive Vice President IM Junggi stated that many research-intensive universities in Korea were very competitive and very much like to be a member. He hoped that BOD members could consider accepting the application from excellent Korean universities.

President CHEN said based on the constitution, the number of members shall be kept small in order for collaborative relationships to remain close and substantive. The number of members may be increased by a maximum of one member per year provided the total number of members does not exceed twenty. About five years ago, some universities from China, like Shanghai Jiaotong University and Zhejiang University, they also applied for the new membership. Then the BOD meeting caught their interests, but they had not been received. Since there were only three left, so maybe Japan, Korea, China, each country one new membership? He thought Prof. IM's suggestion was good and perhaps we could start the process of new membership. He further pointed out that according to the constitution, candidate institutions for membership or affiliate membership must be nominated and endorsed by the chief executive officer of a current member institution. The nominator must submit a letter of recommendation to the AEARU Secretariat, to be presented for deliberation by the Board of Directors.

Suggestions were asked.

Executive Vice President Toshiya suggested we need to consider the process of accepting new member. He agreed with President Chen on the consideration of geographical concerns. He asked President Chen to suggest a direction of process of admitting new member. He suggested to discuss the detailed issues like geographic allocation first.

Dr. Sun Wen stated that at last AGM and BOD meeting in Taiwan, the BOD members had reached a consensus on the constitution of AEARU, The numbers of members shall be kept small to maintain the relationship close and substantive, the number of members may be increased by a maximum of one member pre year, providing the total number of members that not exceed 20.

Executive Vice President IM Junggi stated that since only one seat for each year for increasing member, in that case, he would like to have one recommendation for each of the 3 countries every year. The BOD could select one application out of three recommendations.

President Hong HOCHENG stated that it was good to see that AEARU became popular. The difficult thing is which to choose, so sometimes there was a compromise. AEARU had been almost 20years, the member relationship was still growing and some fruitful results had been achieved. He personally chose to be conservative about opening the membership. Secondly, while AEARU accepting new members, what about cancelling the old members who didn't participate actively. Thirdly, the existing structure, Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Hongkong, etc, it was a very primary structure. On the other hand, perhaps in the future, the east part of Russia, although there had not being quiet substantial universities in our sight, but they were growing fast as well, and they were looking east instead of looking west, so east Russia is also a consideration.

Executive Vice President IM Junggi stated that as the President Hong HOCHENG mentioned, it was good to see the popularity of AEARU. It meant AEARU was on the way to development. In this sense, AEARU could think about the expanding rule and having more members, so it was primary thing to increase members

within the Constitution. For the suggestion from President Hocheng about the Russian universities, Prof. IM said we could also consider to discuss the Constitution.

Dr. Sun Wen asked the Board members to look at the article three of paragraph five of Constitution, which is on the admission process.

Associate Dean SHEEN Seong-Ho considered expanding the AEARU membership, as regard to President Hong HOCHENG mentioned, AEARU could expand the recent scope maybe to east Russia. And Singapore also had excellent research universities, or other part of Asia as well, maybe not went that far at the moment. From Korean side, the recommendation of a new member was practical. In China and Japan, there were seven or six members in each country and the tradition was to go around, as the BOD meeting or general meeting, go around each different country. For China or Japan, since as they had seven or eight members, it is not difficult to rotate and host general meeting, as well as Taiwan, But for Korea, since there were three members, there maybe some difficulty in hosting meeting for the members, so for Korea, if they could have one more member, then they can better facilitate the AEARU activities.

Dr. Sun Wen read the article three, paragraph five, the Admission Process of Constitution: Candidate institutions for membership or affiliate membership must be nominated and endorsed by the chief executive officer of a current member institution. The nominator must submit a letter of recommendation to the AEARU Secretariat, to be presented for deliberation by the Board of Directors. The Board should assess candidates in consideration of the membership criteria specified in clause [3.4] above, the Association's current regional balance and the current number of members.

Following approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at a Board of Directors Meeting at which at least two-thirds of the current members of the Board of Directors are in attendance, candidates will be submitted to AEARU's entire membership for consideration at an Annual General Meeting. Candidates shall be admitted to membership of AEARU upon approval by a two-thirds majority of all voting active members at an Annual General Meeting at

which at least two-thirds of the current members of the Association are in attendance.

Associate Dean SHEEN Seong-Ho stated that they'd like to officially recommend one Korean institution for consideration.

Executive Vice President IM Junggi stated that the discussion could be continued.

President Hong HOCHENG stated that the Korea's proposal was understandable, but it was not a proposal for scientific research, it was an organization, and he thought it was not reasonable to say that to add more universities in one country in order to host meetings. The association exchange also included culture exchange, so if one country had too many universities of AEARU, it didn't help culture exchange. China had a little more universities of AEARU, because China had vast territory and different area had different culture. He suggested, before AEARU checked the reason which given by the candidates, some surveys could be done.

Presiden Kyosuke NAGATA stated that AEARU should be careful with the candidates' application. AEARU members tried to exchange information with each other, but AEARU should probably seek more information from outside. Here were the core members, AEARU needed grow members inside of her, but AEARU also needed to move on, like more activities more appealing outside of the AEARU.

Executive Vice President IM Junggi stated that he appreciated the different opinions, so it could be sustained for further discussions.

IX. DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. 35th BOD & 20th AGM Meetings; Fall 2014, Nanjing University
 - In conjunction with 4th Science and Technology Parks Workshop
2. 37th BOD & 21st AGM Meetings; Fall 2015, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
3. 36th BOD Meeting; Spring 2015, Peking University

- In conjunction with 3rd Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters

Dr. Sun Wen reported that prior to this BOD meeting, the Secretariat has sent emails to all members asking for preferred dates of 35th BOD & 20th AGM meetings. The host of the event, Nanjing University proposed two options: October 30, 2014 - November 1, 2014/ November 6, 2014- November 8, 2014. After a short discussion, the BOD decided to make the meetings on Oct 31st, 2014.

Prof. Kar Yan TAM, stated the reason of change the date is university anniversary. After discussion with Peking University, the two members agreed to reschedule the above mentioned meetings.

President CHEN stated, the Annual General Meeting and Board of Director Meeting are the most important events of AEARU where presidents and senior leaders of our member universities can gather together to discuss issues of great significance.

X. PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION TO FORMER CHAIRPERSON

Before closing the discussion, president Chen Jun was invited to present the Plaque of Appreciation to Former AEARU Chairperson, Prof. Lih J. Chen for his dedication to the development of our association. President Hong Hocheng received the plaque on behalf of Prof. Lih J. Chen.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President CHEN stated that this morning, quite many achievements had been made and it was very glad to see the increasing number of activity proposals from our members. While continuing to organize AEARU's traditional events like students physical competition, AEARU is also having new activities especially in cutting-edge research. So within association, AEARU is making progress. Also AEARU have decided to reach out and build connections with other leading university networks like LERU. With the consensus of singing up to Hefei Statement, AEARU will increase its influence in the international community.

President CHEN delivered the gratitude, and announced the adjournment of the meeting.