

**AEARU 38<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 22, 2016**  
**Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu**

**PRESIDENT**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Nak-In SUNG      | Chairperson, President, Seoul National University                                    |
| Kyosuke NAGATA   | Vice Chairperson, President, University of Tsukuba                                   |
| Jun CHEN         | President, Nanjing University  |
| Tony F. CHAN     | President, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology                        |
| Yoshinao MISHIMA | President, Tokyo Institute of Technology   |
| Pan-Chyr YANG    | President, National Taiwan University  |
| Wen HAI          | Vice Chairman of Peking University Council,<br>Founding Dean of HSBC Business School |

**SECRETARIAT**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Yoori KIM | AEARU Secretariat, Seoul National University |
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**ATTENDEES**

**Seoul National University**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Wooil LEE            | Executive Vice President of Research                                     |
| Seong-ho SHEEN       | Vice President for International Affairs                                 |
| Theresa Seung Ah CHO | Deputy Vice President for International Affairs                          |
| Minki KIM            | Manager, Planning Management & Protocol, Office of International Affairs |
| Boo Yun JANG         | International Conference and Protocol Coordinator                        |
| Jinmin CHOI          | International Conference and Protocol Coordinator                        |

**University of Tsukuba**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Caroline BENTON | Vice President                                |
| Ryosuke ONIWA   | Director, University of Tsukuba Taiwan Office |
| Chia-Yao LIN    | Officer, University of Tsukuba Taiwan Office  |

**Tokyo Institute of Technology**

Hidetoshi SEKIGUCHI Vice President for International Affairs  
Toku HIRASAWA Coordinator  
Akira AOKI Head of International Cooperation Division

**National Taiwan University**

Luisa Shu-Ying CHANG Vice President for International Affairs

**Nanjing University**

Lijie PU Associate Vice-President (International)  
Wen SUN Deputy Director, Office of International Cooperation  
and Exchanges  
Grace CHEN Program Officer, Office of International Cooperation  
and Exchanges

## MEETING MINUTES

### I INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Chairperson Nak-in SUNG greeted the members of the board, and thanked former Chairperson President Jun CHEN for his excellent leadership and contributions to AEARU during the past two years. The Chairperson expressed his optimism for AEARU's future prospects in coordinating research efforts across Asia over the coming decades. The Chairperson encouraged the continued dedication and commitment of AEARU members to improve and evolve the association. The Chairperson asked each of the board members to introduce themselves, beginning with new AEARU Vice Chairperson, President Kyosuke NAGATA of University of Tsukuba.

President NAGATA thanked the member universities for preparing the board meeting and confirmed his commitment to helping Chairperson SUNG successfully steer the AEARU. Vice Chairperson NAGATA further asked that member universities, as leader institutions in Asia, ask themselves what the role of the university is and what the purpose of their research is, in the greater effort to reach AEARU goals.

President CHEN of Nanjing University, as chairperson for two years, expressed his continuing commitment to AEARU and thanked other board member universities for their own contributions thus far.

President Tony CHAN of HKUST hosted last year's meeting. As a founding member expressed his university's lasting commitment to AEARU and its goals. President CHAN hoped that AEARU could further develop a vision about what a research university should strive for, in order to contribute to the world.

Vice Chairman Wen HAI of Peking University expressed gratitude to all member universities for their contributions, and as current Vice Chairman of the University Council, voiced his hopes for a newly invigorated search for new members with strength in research to add to AEARU and enlarge the AEARU community.

President Pan-Chyr YANG of National Taiwan University, as a founding member of AEARU, as a representative of the most research-intensive university in Taiwan,

expressed his hopes to expand joint research ventures and future collaboration with other AEARU members.

President Yoshinao MISHIMA of Tokyo Institute of Technology, as a new board of director member, expressed pleasure in joining the AEARU. The recent reform and overhaul of the research program at his university is aimed at making the university more competitive while simultaneously helping its students. President MISHIMA hopes that the mobility of students and faculty among members will encourage diversity and growth in the research community.

## **II CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting; December 5, 2015; The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong.

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

## **III ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED**

1. AEARU-Global Network of Research-Intensive Universities

Seoul National University's Deputy Vice President of International Affairs, Theresa Seung Ah CHO confirmed that a specific Japanese research group was for Japanese universities only.

Chairman SUNG inquired if AEARU members are also members of LERU. Deputy Vice President CHO mentioned that LERU's membership eligibility is limited to European universities, but also noted that AEARU remains a participant and not a member, despite having received an invitation from LERU to become a member. AEARU needs to determine how involved they want to be. President Tony CHAN of HKUST remarked that each country has its own respective research organizations, such as the Russell group in the United Kingdom, for example, or the C9 in China. Hong Kong also has its own group. If AEARU joins, it will be joining as a counterpart organization to LERU.

## 2. Appointment of AEARU Treasurer and Secretary

Chairperson SUNG introduced the next item: the appointment of AEARU Treasurer and Secretary. Deputy Vice President CHO announced the appointment of AEARU Treasurer and Secretary for the years 2016 and 2017. According to the AEARU Constitution's sections 5.3 and 5.4, the board shall appoint, among its own membership, a treasurer of the association. Additionally, the secretary will serve the board but shall not vote.

Chairperson SUNG, on behalf of the board of directors from 2016-2017 and as current Chairperson of AEARU, appointed Yoori KIM of the Office of International Affairs at Seoul National University as a treasurer and secretary of AEARU. Ms. KIM will be responsible for collecting membership fees, and transferring the collected fees to the designated bank account of AEARU.

## 3. Home Page Development

Deputy Vice President CHO suggested to the members that one of the outstanding issues with the home page is the mode of communication. Deputy Vice President CHO explained that she had only received the login information from Nanjing University the day before, so she did not have enough time to analyze the issue. She noted that AEARU was slightly behind the technological curve. The organization still uses mostly e-mails as the main avenue of communications, instead of having an independent website or communicating on an agreed platform of social network. She explained that there are still works to be done with Nanjing University to improve the website. She invited suggestions regarding the topic of communication in general or the website design more specifically. Seeing that there were no suggestions or comments at the time, the members moved on to the next order of business.

## **IV SECRETARY REPORT**

The AEARU Secretary, Yoori KIM of SNU briefed that she had successfully transferred the remaining amount of \$43,118.07 to Nanjing University. To retain membership of all eighteen members, membership fees will be collected at the end of May for the year 2016. These fees will amount to \$33,000. This will include the \$2,000 already paid by Tokyo Institute of Technology in February. The current outgoing expenditure is \$60,000 for

AEARU activities.

## **V SCHEDULED/PROPOSED AEARU ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2016**

### **1. The 5<sup>th</sup> Student Physical Competition, Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu**

Regarding the 5th Annual AEARU Student Physical Competition held at National Taiwan University, Secretary KIM reported that a total of thirty-two participants from nine member universities successfully began the event with a quarter marathon at 9:30 a.m. Other events included a field trip in the afternoon. The National Taiwan University had requested \$10,000 to cover partial costs of accommodation, transportation, and meals for student representatives.

### **2. The 2016 Student Summer Camp, Peking University**

Vice Chairman HAI reported, regarding the 2016 AEARU Summer Camp at Peking University, the deadline for application was March 18th. Twelve students from nine universities have applied. This includes Seoul National University, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and National Tsinghua University, among others. There are plans to launch another period of application to prompt more students to join. Estimated student applications is about twenty. The camp itself will be held on July 3rd and is a three-week long event.

President CHAN of HKUST asked if the summer camp is an annual AEARU event. Vice Chairman HAI responded that the Summer Camp is not necessarily an annual event at Peking University, but is expected to circulate among member universities. Students can take two English courses and participate in other activities, but have to pay 300 RMB for lodging at the dorm according to the original arrangement. Lodging is estimated to cost an average of 60 Yuan per day, so overall, the expected total costs is about 1,500 RMB excluding meals. The AEARU contributed USD 10,000 to help cover these costs.

Students can earn 3 credits at minimum and 6 credits at maximum, and this should be recognized by other universities. Vice Chairman HAI noted the program is hosted by the engineering school, so this will work as a limiting factor to students. He suggested that the subject areas of the courses offered should be expanded so that they are more inclusive for students. If the subjects remain limited to engineering and science, the

number of applicants and type of applicants will be quite small. Vice Chairman HAI recognized that many applicants are from China but also stressed that the purpose of the summer camp should be to encourage students from other nations to join as well. He expressed hope that participants from Japan and South Korea would join in greater numbers to share the experience.

For more information, those who are interested can refer to a website that can be used to share the program. Deputy Vice President CHO added that as can be seen in the appendix, each AEARU member university can nominate up to two candidates and send the nomination form to the AEARU secretary by March 18<sup>th</sup>. She suggested expanding the number of nominations to three or four candidates per university to increase the total number of applicants or participants.

### 3. The 6<sup>th</sup> Energy and Environmental Workshop, Tokyo Institute of Technology

President MISHIMA of Tokyo Institute of Technology reported that the 6th Safe Energy and Environmental Workshop will be held at the main campus on August 26th and 27th. Announcements have been sent to the participating AEARU universities, and the deadline for the submission of registration forms is May 16th. The host university will provide for accommodation up to two nights, for meals and local transportation between the university and the hotel for up to ten professor and fourteen students per participating university. Further details can be found in the appendix. The first day, August 26th, starts with opening remarks, keynote address, along with a presentation by AEARU member universities. The second day will have a poster session and a lab tour in the morning. There will be another poster session in the afternoon. The topics addressed include next generational solar cells as a solution to energy challenges.

### 4. Young Researchers International Conference 2016, University of Tsukuba

Vice President Caroline BENTON of University of Tsukuba reported that the conference, second in its kind, was very successful. As she had mentioned in the previous meeting, over twenty students attended the first conference. It was a chance for young researchers to get together and explore ongoing research projects from around the world. As is shown in the appendix in Point 5 (entitled ‘Outline of the Purpose’), the conference was held

simultaneously with the Annual Student Global Science Week, where over 1,300 participants have participated (including 300 international participants). Students can take part in both sessions that are open and have a chance to get a glimpse of the top class researchers and their projects. The event will be held from September 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. Call for presentations were sent out on May 31st. Deadline for the abstract submission is July 15th. August 4th is the acceptance notification date. University of Tsukuba covers the costs for local accommodation and meals. Vice President BENTON expressed gratitude for the AEARU's support of USD 10,000.

#### 5. The 21st Advanced Materials Science Workshop, Seoul National University

Regarding the 21st Advanced Materials Science Workshop which was to be held at Seoul National University's Vice President SHEEN provided some background per the workshop's postponement. He reminded the members that some of these issues were discussed at the last Board of Directors meeting. The new chair intends to have the workshop this fall, at about the same time as the AEARU Annual General Meeting on November 14th and 15th. The specifics of the workshop will be provided via e-mail to each member university. Local accommodation arrangements and meals will be covered by the Seoul National University. Updates with a specific schedule will soon follow.

#### 6. The 5th AEARU Development and Collaboration of Asian Business Schools Workshop, Peking University

Vice Chairman HAI reported that in the last board meeting, Peking University had agreed to host this workshop. The dates of the workshop are October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. The workshop will be held at the university's Shenzhen Campus. The business school will serve as the host. Shenzhen is a vibrant center of economic activity in China, with convenient transportation infrastructure to Malaysia. Many private companies are conducting their business in the city, making it a perfect venue for the workshop. The workshop will include a keynote speech by widely-respected business persons, trips to business sites where local and global companies operate. A workshop on building business cooperation will be held as well. Other topics including technology innovation will also be covered. Vice Chairman HAI again expressed high hopes that each school



will send students to enliven the event.

President CHAN of HKUST suggested that the inclusion of more details for the activities that will take place as part of the workshop might be helpful. Specifically, he recommended that the names of the participating companies be included. With more information, the member universities will be better able to encourage provosts and deans to advertise the program further.

Vice Chairman HAI agreed and requested to the members that once the host provides more information on the topics, that each respective president would help spread the word to their deans in order to promote the program. He expects the key note speaker from China to attract a lot of students. At the same time, he explained the difficulty in securing a speaker from a big company like Alibaba.

President CHAN mentioned that one of their alumni is a founder of the DJI Company, and could be a possible candidate for the key note. Vice Chairman HAI plans on inviting Stanford University and Tsinghua University alumni who have also built a successful business specializing in Light Emitting Diode (LED) screens. President CHAN suggested the possibility of inviting a venture capitalist who runs a large company in China. Vice Chairman HAI noted that many invitees are very successful local business experts, but are not necessarily as famous as many of the previously discussed candidates. He expressed his hope that they would provide a good mixture of globally famous and locally famous experts.

7. The 11th Web Technology and Computer Science Workshop, Tohoku University  
Secretary Yoori KIM explained that the workshop will be held at the Tohoku University Qatar Science Hall on September 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. This workshop will offer a forum to top Asian universities, including AEARU member universities, to discuss developments in the field of computer sciences and to catch up with the latest developments in information technology community. Tohoku University would welcome other AEARU university representatives to take part in the workshop. Further details would be sent via email by the AEARU Secretary. A funding assistance request was made for USD 10,000 to cover for expenses incurred from student participation.

### **Board Approval of Funding**

Vice President Seong-ho SHEEN of SNU, before moving on to the next item on the agenda, suggested that the board make a decision on Tohoku University and Peking University's requests for funding. Vice President SHEEN noted that the request was part of a standard application, and that in the past the AEARU board has been receptive of funding requests that aim to promote student activities. Vice President SHEEN stated, upon checking the account balance and considering the membership fees that there are sufficient funds for both Peking University's Business Workshop and Tohoku University's Technology and Computer Science workshop proposals. In total, costs would amount to a withdrawal of USD 20,000 from the AEARU balance which stands at about USD 40,000. He noted that there is no official written criteria that dictates the approval process for AEARU funding requests, but elaborated that in general the policy has been to accept funding proposals that fall under the broad category of supporting student activities and participation. These would include, for instance, travel expenses or accommodation.

Luisa Shu-Ying CHANG from National Taiwan University came forth with a further explanation that she could share, since National Taiwan University has hosted many workshops in the past. Generally, in the past, all requests for funding assistance have been approved except in cases where the AEARU lacked funds.

Chairperson SUNG confirmed that the request for funding assistance of the two workshops has been approved.

#### **8. The Northeast Asian Network 2016 Forum, Yonsei University**

On behalf of Yonsei University, Vice President SHEEN of SNU introduced that Yonsei University is the eighteenth member of AEARU, making it the newest member. The representative of the new member institution could not be present due to leadership change. Further, since Yonsei University is not a part of the Board of Directors, the new member is unable to join. The forum is open to all AEARU members and it is held on August 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Yonsei University has previously hosted a similar event. Yonsei has expressed its wishes to invite two participants per university, from all member universities. The University will exempt registration fees, accommodation, and provide meals for participants.

## 9. The 2017 Student Summer Camp, Seoul National University

Vice President SHEEN of SNU proposed plans for the next year's summer camp, which would last five weeks and offer up to six academic credits for participating students. This upcoming event would hopefully include two student participants from each AEARU member university. The USD 3,000 per student participation fee would be waived. However, students are expected to make some minimal contributions for lodging and food. The camp mainly targets undergraduates. Courses offered are all taught in English and deal with a broad range of topics and disciplines, including social sciences and humanities.

Vice Chairman HAI of Peking University responded that as of date, there are nine AEARU member university members represented at the camp. He expressed hopes that the remaining universities will also send students to participate.

Regarding the Global Network of Research Intensive Universities Meeting in Tokyo, President MISHIMA added that, the details regarding the meeting are still being worked out and once the specifics are settled, the relevant information will be sent to all members.

## **VI DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

### 1. The 39th Board of Directors Meeting and The 22nd Annual General Meeting

Vice President SHEEN of SNU expressed University's pleasure in hosting the next meetings, from October 14th-15th. These dates also mark the 70th anniversary of Seoul National University, and all presidents of the member universities are encouraged to attend.

### 2. The 40th Board of Directors Meeting

President MISHIMA pointed out that if the Tokyo Institute of Technology's proposal is approved, the dates should place the 40th Board of Director's meeting sometime in April. The proposed dates include April 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> but this not been confirmed. Due to the busy schedule of the participants, the dates may have to include weekends.

### 3. The 41st Board of Directors Meeting and The 23rd Annual General Meeting

President NAGATA mentioned the exact days have not been confirmed, but late September is the targeted dates with the hopes that the event will be aligned with the Tsukuba Global Science Week. Prior to the Tsukuba Global Science Week, the Board of Directors and the Annual General Meeting will be scheduled in hopes that the member universities would be able to attend both events. Confirmation of exact dates will be notified to the members before the next Board of Directors' meeting in the spring.

### 4. The 42nd Board of Directors Meeting

Vice President SHEEN reminded the members that, per the 42nd Board of Directors Meeting in Spring of 2018, the host and dates remain undecided. This will be discussed at further meetings.

## **VII ADJOURNMENT**

Deputy Vice President CHO announced, since there were no further questions or comments, that the 38th Board of Directors Meeting for AEARU was adjourned. She expressed appreciation for all participating board members, as well as universities that could not attend but submitted proposals through other means, for their participation.