

AEARU 40th Board of Directors Meeting
April 15th, 2017
Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

MEETING MINUTES

I. OPENING REMARKS

Professor Min Gyo Koo, the AEARU Deputy Secretary General and Associate Dean of the Office of International Affairs at Seoul National University, called the 40th Board of Directors meeting to order and on behalf of the other universities, thanked the Tokyo Institute of Technology for their generosity for hosting the event.

The AEARU Chairman and Seoul National University President Nak-in Sung gave his opening statement, in which he expressed his gratitude for the presence of all board members and especially thanked the Tokyo Institute of Technology and Seoul National University for their services to the association.

President Yoshinao Mishima of the host university Tokyo Institute of Technology then gave his welcoming remarks, taking a particular note of what a privilege it was to accommodate the AEARU members before giving a brief update on recent events at his university. President Mishima announced that Professor Ohsumi Yoshinori had recently been awarded with a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, and also provided a detailed explanation on how Tokyo Institute of Technology had made major reforms in education content, research management, and university governance.

II. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 39th BOD Meeting; October 15th, 2016; Seoul National University, South Korea

The AEARU Secretary Go Oon Bae of Seoul National University prepared the minutes and sent an electronic copy to the board members via email before the meeting was convened.

Professor Koo added that at the previous BOD meeting, a book publication effort on the occasion of the AEARU 20th Anniversary had been discussed, but this agenda had failed to meet quorum and therefore is dismissed.

III. SECRETARY REPORT

1. Status Report of the AEARU Sponsored Programs the Financial Status of AEARU Treasury:

The AEARU Secretary Go Oon Bae began by announcing that since the last BOD meeting, a total amount of USD 20,000 had been granted to the Osaka University and The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Peking University successfully hosted the 5TH AEARU Development and Collaboration of Asian Business Schools Workshop last October. The AEARU Secretariat granted a funding of USD 10,000 to support the expenses of participating students from AEARU universities. Since there was only one student participant, the AEARU provided that single student's airfare, amounting to USD 541.59.

Annual membership fees were collected from 7 members for year 2017, totaling USD 14,000. Secretary Bae noted that some of the member universities will be sending the membership fees after April, after the school budget plans are passed.

Additionally, the refund from the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology was added to the AEARU account in the amount of USD 1,400.

Secretary Bae announced that the remaining balance of the AEARU account is USD 61,609.60

IV. ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

1. AEARU-Global Network of Research-Intensive Universities

Dr. Geun Lee, Vice President of International Affairs at SNU, attended the 2016 International Annual Meeting of the Global Network of Research-Intensive University Networks on behalf of AEARU. The meeting, held at Keio University from November 7-8th, was hosted by the Research Universities 11 (RU 11) group based in Japan. Since 2012, RU 11 and the League of European Research Universities (LERU), along with other networks, have been working to create a Global Council of Research-Intensive Universities Networks. As AEARU's representative, Dr. Lee participated in the meeting and delivered the message that AEARU was looking forward to working closer together with LERU in the future. Dr. Lee also signed the Tokyo Statement and the

Shanghai Statement on behalf of AEARU. Details can be found in Appendices 3A and 3B.

V. REVIEW/REPORT OF AEARU ACTIVITIES IN 2016

The Associate Dean of the Office of International Affairs at Seoul National University Professor Koo invited participating members of AEARU to report on their activities for the year of 2016, and noted that details could be found for this section in Appendices 3C and 3D.

1. The 5th AEARU Development and Collaboration of Asian Business Schools Workshop; October 22-23, 2016; Peking University

Peking University hosted the event at their HSBC Business School (PHBS). The workshop featured a keynote speech, panels, and student presentations. The workshop's theme was business education and how business education help meeting the challenge of innovation. One of the main goals of the workshop was to allow students from AEARU universities to present their academic achievements. The PHBS Dean Wen Hai delivered opening remarks, explaining that the PHBS should embrace the trend of enhancing higher education partnerships and cooperation. In the panel sessions, participating business schools exchanged their views with on a variety of topics regarding business and education in the digital age. Policy makers, academics, entrepreneurs, were able to exchange their practical experience with one another.

2. The AEARU Winter Abroad 2016; December 27; Yonsei University

The AEARU Secretary Bae presented on behalf of Yonsei University, noting that it was the first AEARU activity the university had hosted. Originally, Yonsei University had only asked for AEARU permission to host the event without funding. There were a total of 372 participants, with 77 Yonsei University students and 8 AEARU scholarship students. The 8 AEARU-funded students were from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Nanjing University. This program was a great opportunity for AEARU to enjoy companionship of students from all over the world, and to catch up on their studies.

3. The AEARU Declaration

Professor Koo officially proposed the idea that AEARU draw up a declaration that contains its goals and intent for future research. The declaration should acknowledge the joint commitment of AEARU members to share knowledge for the betterment of society, and address global and regional issues related to higher education. Professor Koo noted that while there is no working draft yet, that if the members have any ideas or insights, a preliminary rough draft will be prepared and circulated at the next AGM or BOD meeting. Professor Koo invited other board members to share their thoughts on the proposed declaration.

Professor Koo acknowledged a point made by President Kyosuke Nagata of the University of Tsukuba, noting that due to the ever-increasing unpredictability of global and regional issues, the AEARU could serve as a central guiding force that helps to maintain balance among these rapid changes. Providing a collective mission statement every year, or every other year, could prove helpful in clarifying the AEARU's position on pertinent issues.

President Tony Chan of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology added that in order to avoid repetitiveness and redundancies, the AEARU declaration should be specific to East Asian research universities. One possible topic to address could be mobility of students and faculty, which has become more of a global issue. Many of the AEARU universities themselves have programs that encourage and facilitate mobility. Including this in the statement could highlight a unique aspect of the AEARU that gives it a competitive edge, compared to other regional research associations. President Chan also agreed that among the presidents at the next AEARU meeting, the discussion of an AEARU declaration should be added to the agenda.

The AEARU Chairman Sung also noted that coordination with LERU on this issue is possible, as Seoul National University has sent a delegate to work with them.

The Vice President of International Affairs at SNU Dr. Geun Lee, as a participant of the RU 11 meeting last year, expressed his opinions on statements like the Shanghai Statement and what can be learned from them. One of the characteristics of those statements is that they clarify the nature of the collaboration of the research association. For example, the Shanghai Statement not only emphasized collaboration in natural sciences but also in the humanities and social sciences. Likewise, the AEARU could emphasize a specific issue that East Asian research universities face together, such as

the security issue of the Korean Peninsula or the instability of the South China Sea. Therefore, the AEARU could potentially play the role of an advocate for peace research collaboration in areas of both the humanities and natural sciences. Likewise, another possibility could be providing AEARU's official response on how to deal with the impacts of the 4th Industrial Revolution. Dr. Lee also added that a key importance of these statements is their usage for attaining research funding.

The Deputy Vice President for International Affairs at National Taiwan University Dr. Jiun-Huei Protu Wu noted that research without direction could be dangerous, so he emphasized the ethical role of researchers. The president proposed that research universities attempt to come out of their shells and engage more with society and real issues, including politics.

Professor Koo wrapped up the discussion by reminding the board that there was plenty of time left to work on the proposal, including the next AEARU meeting, and that the proposal must be unanimously supported. The AEARU Secretariat was also made available to collect ideas from members at their convenience, after the meeting was adjourned. The AEARU members would have to decide, if they agreed to release a statement, to what extent they would address issues, knowing that the statement could both strengthen AEARU's position but also weaken its reputation if it is misused for political purposes.

4. AEARU Open Lecture

Professor Koo opened discussion on the topic, stating that since AEARU member universities were leading institutions in their countries with a great abundance of distinguished professors and researchers, a topical series of "Open Lectures" could increase knowledge sharing and strengthen common Asian values by making sustained interactions possible. The lecture series would be open to the general public, as opposed to the usual AEARU behind-closed-doors operations. Professor Koo invited the board members for their ideas on the matter, and requested for a member university to volunteer in hosting the first installment of the lecture series by contacting the AEARU Secretary Go Oon Bae.

Addressing the members' interest in a lecture by the distinguished scholar Ohsumi Yoshinori, President Mishima of Tokyo Institute of Technology stated that unfortunately the Nobel Prize winner's schedule was too hectic over the coming years. He added, however, that if the lecture series becomes an ongoing series, he could be

made available.

VI. PROPOSED AEARU ACTIVITIES FOR 2017-2018

Chairman Sung moved to the next item on the agenda, and Professor Koo added that information on the proposed activities could be found in the appendix. Professor Koo also noted that the first three activities listed had been proposed at the last meeting, and have already taken place or are scheduled to take place in 2017.

1. AEARU Winter Abroad 2016; December 27; Yonsei University
2. 2017 Advanced Materials Science Workshop; Fall 2017; Osaka University
3. AEARU Symposium on Teaching and Learning in East Asian Research Universities; December 2017; The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

President Chan gave a briefing on the proposed activity, stating that the school of humanities and social sciences at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology will host the event. The conference is interactive in nature, and will discuss topics such as technology, pedagogical theories and practices, and alliance possibilities for teaching and learning. The school expects around 100 participants. The conference costs is projected to be USD 40,000. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology originally requested and was granted USD 10,000 from the AEARU, and plans to subsidize the remaining costs. The Vice President for Institutional Advancement Eden Woon requested an additional USD 5,000 of AEARU funds to help support the project.

With no objections from the board members, Professor Koo confirmed the additional funding request of USD 5,000.

4. AEARU Workshop on R&D Policy and Asian Research Universities; November 2017; Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

The AEARU Secretary Bae reported on behalf of KAIST. The workshop is a collaboration of science and technology programs between AEARU universities from Korea (KAIST), China (Tsing Hua University), and Japan (University of Tokyo). KAIST and Tsing Hua University students will deal with R&D issues related to

responsive innovation for inclusive growth. KAIST request USD 5,000 in AEARU funds to support event expenses.

Some AEARU members voiced concern that since the event is only open for two AEARU members (KAIST and National Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu), funding may not be appropriate. President Chan of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology proposed that the funding be granted with the condition that other AEARU member university students be allowed to participate as well. This was agreed upon by the board members.

President Sung also added that, upon clarifying the needs of the event with KAIST, an additional USD 5,000 could be granted for a total of USD 10,000 in AEARU funding, as is the standard for AEARU-funded activities.

5. The 6th Student Physical Competition; November 2-4, 2017; Seoul National University

Professor Koo elaborated on the event, stating that the 6th AEARU Student Physical Competition will be held at Seoul National University's PyeongChang Campus from November 2-4th, 2017. The participants will be able to experience several exciting events, including a tour of the PyeongChang Olympic facilities and participating in the event by enjoying curling, an official Olympic sport. Students will also attend a workshop that focuses on the mission and the goals of the Olympic Games, which will be held from February 9th-25th, 2018. Seoul National University would like to request the amount of USD 10,000 from AEARU funding to support student participant expenses.

6. The AEARU Science and Engineering Summer Camp; July 3-17, 2017; Peking University

The camp is intended to provide an opportunity to AEARU member university students who are interested in studying computer science and information technology in the international environment of Peking University. Students can choose up to two courses, and participate in extracurricular activities. The expected tuition fee is RMB ¥10,000, but the tuition will be waived for AEARU students. However, participants still need to pay for travel, accommodation, insurance, and other expenses. It is possibly that AEARU funding could cover these extra costs for AEARU participating students as Peking University does not anticipate these costs to exceed USD 10,000. The Peking

University requests that AEARU cover the exact costs, after the event, so as to avoid the possibility of having unused funding. Peking University expressed their hopes for AEARU's support and cooperation for the event.

Chairman Sung noted that there were more than sufficient funds in AEARU membership fees to support the three new, proposed student-based activities. With no objections from members, Chairman Sung confirmed the funding approval for the proposed activities in the amount of USD 10,000 for each before moving on to the next agenda item.

VII. DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. The 41st BOD and the 23rd AGM Meetings; Fall 2017; University of Tsukuba

The University of Tsukuba confirmed the official dates of the 41st BOD and the 23rd AGM Meetings: September 24th-25th of Fall 2017.

2. The 42nd BOD Meeting; Spring 2018; Location to be Decided

The scheduling of this meeting and selection of a host was left undecided. The AEARU Secretariat will request for volunteers following the meeting.

3. The 43rd BOD and the 24th AGM Meetings; Fall 2018; National Taiwan University

The National Taiwan University proposed to host the event as the meetings coincide with their university's 90th anniversary celebration. The AEARU board members approved this request at the last meeting.

4. The 44th BOD Meeting; Spring 2019; Location to be Decided

The scheduling of this meeting and selection of a host was left undecided. The AEARU Secretariat promised to request for volunteers at the following the meeting.

Some of the AEARU board members suggested that upcoming meetings that remain unconfirmed could be hosted by member universities who have been unable to host or sponsor AEARU events or activities in recent years. The AEARU Secretariat informed the board members that they would contact AEARU member universities that have been inactive for some time, to gauge their interest in hosting an upcoming meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The AEARU Deputy Secretary General Min Gyo Koo officially adjourned the 40th BOD meeting, thanking all of the member universities for their participation and contributions to AEARU.