

AEARU
Association of East Asian Research Universities

Minutes of the
Seventh Annual General Meeting
October 4, 2001
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

PRESENT

Prof. YANG Yuliang	Vice-President, Fudan University
Prof. Paul C. W. CHU	President, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Prof. Chang-Sun HONG	President, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
Prof. NAGAO Makoto	President, Kyoto University
Prof. Sung-Kee CHUNG	President, Pohang University of Science and Technology
Prof. Ki-Jun LEE	President, Seoul National University
Prof. Wei-Jao CHEN (Vice-Chair)	President, Taiwan University
Prof. Hiroyuki ABÉ	President, Tohoku University
Prof. Yoshiyuki NAITO	President, Tokyo Institute of Technology
Prof. C. L. LIU	President, Tsing Hua University-Hsinchu
Prof. ZHU Qing-Shi	President, University of Science and Technology of China
Prof. Takeshi SASAKI (Chair)	President, The University of Tokyo
Prof. Yoichi IWASAKI	Vice-President, University of Tsukuba

SECRETARY

Ms. Keiko MATSUI International Affairs Division, The University of Tokyo

IN ATTENDANCE

Fudan University

Ms. LI Citing Program Coordinator, International Exchange Section

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Prof. Yuk-Shee CHAN Acting Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Ms. Loretta PANG Director of International Programs

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

Prof. Kwang-Hyung LEE Dean, International Relations

Mr. Kyung Ho KO Chief, International Relations

Mr. Kwang Ho MOON Coordinator, International Relations

Kyoto University

Prof. SHIOTA Kohei Vice-President

Osaka University

Mr. Yasuo KAINAI Head, International Relations Division

Ms. Kumiko NAKAMOTO Official, Personnel Division

Pohang University of Science and Technology

Ms. Jung-Hee YANG International Affairs Coordinator

Mr. John HAM International Affairs Office

Seoul National University

Prof. Taeho BARK Vice Chancellor for the Office of International Affairs

Prof. Young-Jung KIM Department of Philosophy

Prof. Chan Wook PARK Department of Political Science

Taiwan University

Prof. Chin-jung CHIU Director, Center for International Academic Exchanges

Ms. Jenny Hung-yi LING International Program Officer, Center for International Academic Exchanges

Tohoku University

Prof. Shigeru SATO Director, Chair of Special Committee of International
Student Exchange
Mr. Kiyoji ICHIKAWA Director of International Exchange Division

Tokyo Institute of Technology

Prof. Masuo AIZAWA Vice-President
Mr. Hisao KUSANAGI Chief, Admission Section, Administration Bureau

University of Science and Technology of China

Prof. YANG Jie Director, International Affairs Office

The University of Tokyo

Prof. Kohji KISHIO School of Engineering
Vice-Chair, International Exchange and Programs Committee
Chair, AEARU Sub-Committee
Ms. Wakako NISHIBORI Director, International Affairs Division
Ms. Joyce KITANO International Affairs Division

University of Tsukuba

Mr. Hiroshi KAWANO Head, Division of International Relations

APOLOGIES

President JIANG Shusheng	Nanjing University
President Tadimitsu KISHIMOTO	Osaka University
President XU Zhihong	Peking University
President WANG Dazhong	Tsinghua University-Beijing

ITEM

SUBJECT

ACTION

I. **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND REPORTS BY CHAIR SASAKI**

A. Change of AEARU Chair

1. Chair SASAKI called the 7th Annual General Meeting to order at 9:11 A.M. In introducing himself, Chair SASAKI explained that he assumed the presidency of the University of Tokyo on April 1 of this year, and at the same time he took over the AEARU Chair from Dr. HASUMI.
2. Chair SASAKI noted that AEARU, founded in 1996 at HKUST, had its 5th anniversary in January of this year, and he expressed appreciation to everyone concerned who worked so hard to hold the AGM during this milestone year. He also noted that various commemorative events have been scheduled, some of which also correspond to the 10th anniversary of HKUST's founding.
3. Chair SASAKI noted the absences from the Annual General Meeting: President JIANG Shusheng of Nanjing University, President Tadimitsu KISHIMOTO of Osaka University, President XU Zhihong of Peking University, and President WANG Dazhong of Tsinghua University-Beijing. Vice-President YANG Yuliang and Vice-President Yoichi IWASAKI represented Fudan University and the University of Tsukuba, respectively.

B. Welcome Remarks by President CHU, HKUST

4. President CHU welcomed everyone to HKUST, briefly gave his academic background, and explained three reasons why he agreed to become president of HKUST. In his remarks, President CHU emphasized the importance of *regional* collaboration and the role of research and higher education as keys to improving our standard of living and promoting harmony across the globe.

C. Turnover Updates

5. Chair SASAKI noted that President Chang-Sun HONG succeeded Professor Duk In CHOI as the 11th president of KAIST as of June 9. He also noted that Professor Chia-Wei WOO, AEARU's 1st chair, retired as president of HKUST, and was succeeded by President Paul C. W. CHU, who became the 2nd president of HKUST.
6. President HONG of KAIST greeted the members. He commented that KAIST is honored to be the host of the 8th AGM in Taejon, 100 miles south of Seoul, in 2002. KAIST

II. VICE-CHAIR CHEN'S REPORT

7. Vice-Chair CHEN expressed appreciation to President CHU and the supportive staff of HKUST and welcomed the new presidents of AEARU member universities, Professor Chang-Sun HONG of KAIST and the host President Paul C. W. CHU of HKUST.
8. Vice-Chair CHEN said that Taiwan University will be honored to host the 10th BOD Meeting in May and the 1st Distance Learning Workshop in November in 2002 and one of summer camps in 2003. Taiwan U
9. Vice-Chair CHEN noted that his campus only suffered minor damage with respect to recent natural disasters in Taiwan, and that fortunately no members of his university were injured. He expressed his appreciation for all the concern and sympathy of fellow AEARU members.

III. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting

10. The Minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting, held at Osaka University on October 19, 2000, were accepted as written.

B. Minutes of the 7th Board of Directors Meeting

11. The Minutes of the 7th Board of Directors Meeting, held at Osaka University on October 19, 2000, were accepted as written.

C. Minutes of the 8th Board of Directors Meeting

12. The Minutes of the 8th Board of Directors Meeting, held at the University of Science and Technology of China on May 18, 2001, were accepted as written.

IV. **REVIEW OF 1999/2000 WORKSHOPS AND STUDENT SUMMER CAMPS**

13. Chair SASAKI explained that the member participation in AEARU activities was recorded on the three-page document titled “AEARU Activities – Member University Participation” and added that although the level of participation by member universities has varied, that doesn’t necessarily reflect a difference in their enthusiasm for AEARU activities.

A. 2000 Workshops which were held after the previous AGM

1 2nd Cultural Workshop, UT, October 20-21, 2000

14. Chair SASAKI mentioned that this workshop on “Postmodernism: Its Conditions and Problems in Asia” was held at UT’s Komaba Campus immediately after last year’s AGM. The workshop was successful, and representative scholars from throughout East Asia including 4 from AEARU member universities were invited. Approximately 70 people attended, and a lively exchange of opinions was held. Chair SASAKI added that a collection of the proceedings will be published and distributed to all members next year.

2 4th Molecular Biology Workshop, POSTECH, Nov. 23-24, 2000

15. President CHUNG reported that 12 member universities sent

approximately 80 people including 40 students to this workshop. There were 3 different sessions, and a total of 24 papers were presented. Most of the participants seemed impressed by the high quality of the presentations and interactions. He added that the tradition of the Molecular Biology Workshop is rather strong.

B. 2001 Workshops which were held before the 7th AGM

1 1st Environmental Workshop, HKUST, Jan. 9-10, 2001

16. President CHU reported that this workshop focused on air pollution issues. 33 participants from 11 member universities attended the workshop, and 6 officials from the Environmental Protection Department of Hong Kong's Special Administrative Region were invited as special guests. He noted that the workshop successfully provided a platform for members to exchange ideas, and common interests among researchers were identified to lead to more collaboration in the future.

2 1st Workshop for Development and Collaboration of Asian Business Schools, KAIST, May 16-18, 2001

17. President HONG stated that the participants of this workshop consisted of the directors of leading Asian Business Schools. He noted that these participants expressed their hope for further development and a global alliance network among them. He added that the 2nd Workshop will be held at Taiwan University next year.

3 Student Summer Camp – Topical, HKUST, Jul. 29-Aug. 4, 2001

18. President CHU stated that 54 students from 13 member universities joined the camp. 2 seminars were organized, and participants also visited various industrial firms. He mentioned that participants commented that they had a memorable and enjoyable time, the programs were practical, and they gained not only international experience but also friendships from them. President CHU added that this kind of activity should be encouraged in the future.

4 Student Summer Camp – General, Fudan University, Aug. 5-11, 2001

19. Vice-President YANG stated that the theme of this camp was “The Internet and the 21st Century,” and that there were 5 sessions in total. 40 participants came from nearly all of the member universities, and 10 students from Fudan participated in the camp. A visit to the Shanghai Lujiazui Financial District was also included in the camp program.
20. President CHU addressed a question to the Chair as to who provides financial help for the participants in these activities, and was told that the situation differs depending on the university.
21. President CHU then suggested the idea of inviting participants from outside universities to establish a network beyond the region.
22. Chair SASAKI reminded the members that each host university was to put together a summary report within three months of the activity, and send it to the Chair who then forwards it to all member universities.
23. Chair SASAKI added that AEARU’s activities have been fruitful, and to improve the level of the activities, he asked the members who host these activities to provide sufficient and timely information on them.

V. **PREVIEW OF 2001/2002 WORKSHOPS AND STUDENT SUMMER CAMPS**

A. Workshops to be held in/proposed for 2001

1 4th Web Technology Workshop, USTC, November 7-11, 2001

24. President ZHU noted that the aim of the workshop is to exchange web technology, develop a common curriculum and transferable credit, and share research experience and information. Issues to be discussed include: web technology, application of web technology, research and education, website security scheme and institutions, distance learning, USTC

network security, and high performance networks. A post-conference tour to Yellow Mountain is being organized.

25. President ZHU called on member presidents to ask their university faculty about their participation in this workshop and have them quickly send back their forms, as at present participation from AEARU member is low. USTC will cover domestic travel expenses for 2 people from each university. All
- 2 3rd Cultural Workshop, Seoul National University, November 16, 2001
26. President Lee reported that the theme of this workshop is “What to do with Cultural Studies in Asia.” As of the AGM, 7 member universities had accepted the invitation to participate in the Cultural Workshop. SNU
- 3 4th Computer Science Workshop, Kyoto University, December 4-5, 2001, in conjunction with the WISE Conference (Dec. 4-6)
27. President NAGAO noted that many papers had been submitted for this workshop because it is being held jointly with another conference, the 2nd International Conference on Web Information Systems Engineering organized by Kyoto University and also the WISE Society of Hong Kong. Kyoto U
- 4 5th Molecular Biology Workshop, “Life Sciences Research and Industrialization in the 21st Century,” Fudan University, November 21-23, 2001
28. Vice-President YANG reported that the theme of this workshop is focused on the Frontiers of the Life Sciences and its Industrial Trends in the 21st Century. 200 to 300 experts are being invited from universities, medical treatment agencies and medical technology associations, etc. A wide range of cutting-edge technological issues such as genetic advances, genetic treatment, genetic engineering medicine, and natural medicine will be discussed. Fudan U
- 5 1st Workshop on Science and Technology Parks and Incubators, Tsing Hua

University, Hsinchu/KAIST (date undecided)

29. President LIU reported that due to the severe weather and the economic situation, his university had so far been unable to receive enthusiastic support from sponsors. However, he indicated that preparation will continue in the future. President LIU apologized to KAIST for not yet having reached a point where the details can be discussed. Tsing Hua, Hsinchu
30. President HONG indicated that KAIST is ready to support Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu when it is ready. KAIST
31. President NAGAO indicated that he believed that a workshop covering this area would be very valuable and expressed his hope that this workshop would be organized very soon. He also expressed his interest in the activities of Chinese universities in this area and said that the management side of the university should be discussed at this workshop.
32. President CHU agreed with President NAGAO on the importance of this issue, especially with regards to how to resolve the conflict between the creation and development of knowledge and the commercialization of the research product. He suggested some of the successful cases in the US are those in which there is a separation between the commercialization efforts and the teaching and research activities.
33. President LIU stated it should be possible to hold the workshop by next summer at the latest. He said that Tsing Hua, Hsinchu would work to get the workshop done according to this schedule.

6 2nd Microelectronics Workshop, Peking University (date undecided)

34. Chair SASAKI said that this workshop was also scheduled for the summer of 2001, but that no information on its status had yet been received. He indicated that when more information is obtained, it will be distributed to member universities. Peking U

B. Workshops to be held in/proposed for 2002

- 1 2nd Environmental Workshop, POSTECH, June 18-19, 2002
35. President CHUNG said this workshop will focus on water pollution, more specifically waste water treatment technology. The person in charge of this workshop will likely send out soon a more formal type of flyer to all the member universities of AEARU. POSTECH
- 2 1st Medical Center Workshop, HKUST/Peking University (date undecided)
36. President CHU said that the planning is in progress, and the initial suggested date will be probably in 2003. In the meantime talks with Peking University and President CHEN of Taiwan University will continue, as these three universities will jointly organize this workshop. HKUST
Peking U
Taiwan U
37. President NAGAO inquired as to the major subject of discussion for this workshop –the management of the medical center?
38. President CHU said that at this point he was only aware of logistics at this point. However, in due time more detailed information will be sent to the Chair for distribution to all member universities.
- 3 1st Workshop on Network Education, Taiwan University, Nov. 13-14, 2002
39. President CHEN said that the details of this workshop have been outlined, and Fudan, HKUST, Kyoto, KAIST, Nanjing, Osaka, Beijing, POSTECH, USTC, Tokyo, Tsukuba, Tsing Hua University have indicated their tentative acceptance. Further details will be forthcoming. Taiwan U
- 4 2nd Workshop for Development and Collaboration of Asian Business Schools, Taiwan University, April 2002
40. President CHEN reported that this workshop is planned for April 2002 at Taiwan University, and it will be called the "Forum of Asian Pacific Business Schools." He added that details will be disseminated later. Taiwan U

- 5 6th Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Workshop, Osaka University, Oct. 29-30, 2002 (date tentative)
41. Since President KISHIMOTO of Osaka University was not present, Chair SASAKI reported in his stead that this workshop will be held in conjunction with the 80th Anniversary Conference of the Society of Bioscience and Bioengineering, Japan. There will be several sessions, including ones concerned with bio-informatics and bioprocess innovation, in addition to those adopted in the previous workshops. Osaka U
- 6 Student Summer Camp – General, Nanjing University
42. Chair SASAKI first reminded everyone that AEARU has been holding annually two different types of Student Summer Camps: “Topical” and “General.” He noted that as these camps have presented students with a wonderful opportunity to exchange opinions and deepen mutual understanding and that AEARU should develop and improve the camps all the more. Nanjing U
43. Chair SASAKI announced that Nanjing University will be hosting the Student Summer Camp (General) in 2002. Since President JIANG was not present, Chair SASAKI told the members that he will ask Nanjing University to provide some more information. Chair
- 7 Student Summer Camp – Topical, Tohoku University
44. President ABÉ said that tentative plans for the camp have been formulated, and they are still planning the details of the three topics: Natural Resources in the Era of Globalization, Environment in the Era of Urbanization, and the Future of Human Networks in the Internet age. Tohoku U
45. Chair SASAKI announced that Taiwan University has offered to host one of the Student Summer Camps in 2003 and asked for candidates to host the other one. Taiwan U

46. President ZHU of USTC kindly volunteered to host the other camp in 2003. USTC
- 8 Proposal from Tohoku University to hold a workshop on Material Sciences
47. President ABÉ invited AEARU members to the 1st Workshop on Materials Research. He noted a correction to the handout that had been distributed, as the dates of the workshop have been changed to May 30 to 31. He expressed his hope that in the near future this kind of workshop will be held several times, not only at Tohoku University but also at other AEARU members. Tohoku U
- 9 Proposal for Nano Symposium
48. President HONG of KAIST proposed a new Symposium on Nano Science and Technology. He added that he wished to have many experts from different disciplines such as Physics, Chemistry, Material Science, Mechanical, Basic Science and Engineering attend. Flyers and details will be distributed soon, and the tentative date to hold this symposium is April or May 2002. KAIST
49. Chair SASAKI asked if this workshop would have any connections with the workshop Tohoku University proposed or is it a separate initiative.
50. President HONG replied that a separate schedule should be arranged, though the contents of the 2 workshops might be quite close.
51. President ABÉ commented that the field is very broad and not completely separable in content. However, since this area is very active worldwide, it could warrant another new workshop. He expressed his hope that the dates of the two workshops will be different, such as by having the workshop held at KAIST be in Autumn or several months after the Material Sciences Workshop.
52. President NAGAO noted that Nano Science includes not only material

sciences but also a variety of other area and suggested both workshops be held.

53. President CHU noted the possible overlap between the two proposals and suggested that coordination will be very important.

54. President HONG said that KAIST and Tohoku will talk together in more detail to arrange scheduling and other details. Additional information will be sent to the Chair as it is decided. KAIST
Tohoku U

55. The meeting adjourned for a coffee break at 10:33 A.M.

VI. ELECTIONS

A. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

56. Chair SASAKI reconvened the meeting at 10:53 A.M.

57. Chair SASAKI asked the members to refer to the document titled "AEARU's BOD Members." He explained, in keeping with AEARU's rotation system among the five regions to which members belong, that the next Chair should be the President of a university in Taiwan or Mainland China.

58. President CHUNG nominated President CHEN of Taiwan University to serve as next Chairman. President NAGAO and President CHU seconded this motion. There were no other nominations. AEARU members unanimously elected President CHEN of Taiwan University as AEARU's new Chair for 2002-2003. CHEN
Taiwan U

59. President CHEN, in accepting the position of AEARU's Chair, said he is very honored and asked for everyone's support.

60. President CHU nominated President ZHU of USTC to serve as the next Vice-Chair. President CHUNG seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. AEARU members unanimously elected President ZHU of ZHU
USTCC

USTC as AEARU's new Vice-Chair for 2002-2003.

61. President ZHU stated his belief that President CHEN is the ideal candidate for the next Chair, and USTC is willing to serve as the new Vice-Chair.

62. To avoid any misunderstandings, it was agreed that Chair Sasaki would write a letter to President ZHU, with copies for the Chinese Minister of Education the Academy of Sciences and the International Cooperation Bureau of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, indicating that since AEARU is an organization founded on the basis that each university only represents a region, neither AEARU nor its activities conflicts with the one China policy. Chair

B. The Board of Directors will consist of five member university presidents:

- New Chair
- New Vice-Chair
- Immediate Past Chair
- Two other members

63. Chair SASAKI explained that the Board of Directors is composed of representatives from each of the five regions. President CHEN of Taiwan and President ZHU of Mainland China were just chosen to be on the Board as the next Chair and Vice-Chair, and under AEARU's Constitution the President of Tokyo is to remain on the Board as the Immediate Past Chair. Moreover, since HKUST is the only member institution from Hong Kong, it will remain on the Board to VII VII represent Hong Kong. SASAKI
UT
CHU
HKUST

64. President CHUNG nominated President HONG of KAIST to represent Korea as a Board Member for the next 2 years. Vice-President IWASAKI seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. President HONG of KAIST was unanimously elected as a new member of the Board of Directors. HONG
KAIST

VII. Date and Venue of Future Meetings

- A. 10th BOD at Taiwan University, Spring 2002
- B. 8th AGM and 11th BOD at KAIST, Fall 2002
- C. 12th BOD, Spring 2003 (unscheduled)
- D. 9th AGM and 13th BOD, Fall 2003 (unscheduled)

65. Chair SASAKI announced that Taiwan University will be hosting the 10th BOD Meeting in the Spring of 2002, and the 8th AGM and 11th BOD Meeting will be held at KAIST in the Fall of 2002. Taiwan U

66. Chair SASAKI then stated that the University of Tokyo is ready to host the 12th BOD Meeting in the Spring of 2003, and inquired if any universities would be willing to host the 9th AGM and 13th BOD Meeting for 2003. UT

67. President ZHU said that the 9th AGM should be held at a university in mainland China. He said he would look into the possibility of it being hosted at either Peking University or Tsinghua University. Otherwise USTC would be willing to host it in Hefei. Peking U
Tsinghua U
USTC

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Report on the discussions conducted at the 8th BOD

1 Funding Ideas for the next edition of AEARU's Printed Brochure

68. Chair SASAKI noted that AEARU's Brochure was printed last fall and 50 copies were distributed to each member university. The printing cost for the first edition was kindly borne by POSTECH.

Chair SASAKI explained that it was agreed at the last AGM that AEARU Brochure would be printed once every three years. So the BOD members discussed how to fund future printing costs, however, no final decision was made since there is still considerable time until the next edition is to be printed in 2003.

70. Chair SASAKI asked members for any ideas how to fund the cost. Since

there were no ideas put before the floor, Chair SASAKI concluded that it could be discussed at the future meeting.

2 AEARU Foundation

71. Chair SASAKI noted that the idea of establishing an AEARU Foundation was proposed a while ago, but because of current economic conditions and tax laws in each country, it seems that this idea might be difficult at this time. An idea of establishing a separate Foundation in each region was presented at the last year's BOD Meeting, but it was agreed not to deliberate on the matter of establishing an AEARU Foundation for a while and to continue for the time being with the present system of bearing expenses, whereby the host university takes on most of the costs related to the particular function.

3 Linkage with CLUSTER

72. Chair SASAKI reported that CLUSTER had sent another letter to Dr. HASUMI just after the previous AGM requesting a link with AEARU.
73. Chair SASAKI explained that this matter was deliberated at the last BOD Meeting, and the BOD decided to forgo such linkage for the reason that "AEARU needs to remain focused on increasing its internal consolidation and integration before further pursuing the proposal." This is because it was felt that "AEARU is still trying to upgrade the quality and quantity of its own workshops, and rushing into a linkage with other similar organizations might dilute our efforts." He added that as some AEARU member universities have established exchanges with CLUSTER member universities, it should be adequate to continue with such exchanges at the university-to-university level for the time being.

B 1 Proposal of inviting CLUSTER students to AEARU's Student Summer Camps in the future

74. Chair SASAKI suggested an idea of inviting students from CLUSTER to AEARU's Student Summer Camps in the future. He explained that

because the students participating in AEARU's Summer Camps deepen mutual understanding by actively carrying out opinion and cultural exchanges, he wishes them to deepen their views even more by having exchanges not only with students from the Asia region, but also with youths of about the same age from Europe. As for covering the expenses, the universities sending students to the camp ought to bear their airfare and participation fees, just as AEARU students do, and that we could at first accept a total of about eight students from universities belonging to CLUSTER.

75. President CHUNG stated that the issue of inviting 8 students from CLUSTER organizations definitely has some implications on the sharing of the cost burden. He explained that unless something can be worked out, such a proposal could actually be an imposition on the AEARU member that serves as the host university of a function, since AEARU operates under the principle of reciprocity. Were AEARU to invite outsiders, they would not have the chance to reciprocate. So President CHUNG thought this proposal required more discussion.
76. Chair SASAKI agreed and said that it is not necessarily a good idea to go forward with this new proposal very quickly, and that AEARU should consider this proposal in terms of a relationship with CLUSTER and discuss it also from the perspective described by President CHUNG.

4 Review of cost burden distribution policy for AGM/BOD participants

77. Chair SASAKI explained that at present, the university hosting a Annual General Meeting or a BOD Meeting bears all the costs related to the meeting except the airfares of the participants. Since the economic burden on the host institution can be quite large, the matter was discussed at the previous BOD Meeting.
78. At the meeting the opinion was expressed that for the host institution to cover the participants' expenses is part of traditional Asian hospitality. It was suggested that if AEARU becomes a larger and more active organization in the future and the number of participants in meetings

increases remarkably, it would be all right then for the host university to set a limit to the amount of fees it will cover for lodging and so on. It was concluded that AEARU ought to continue with the current method for the time being and reconsider this matter should the situation change in the future. This idea was accepted by the participants.

5 Thank you letter from Kyoto University for AEARU's cooperation in the International Conference on Digital Libraries held in November 2000.

79. Chair SASAKI explained there had been a request from Kyoto University for AEARU's cooperation in the International Conference on Digital Libraries that was to be held jointly with the British Library and the National Science Foundation. At last year's AGM at Osaka University, it was agreed that AEARU would lend its name in support of the conference. Chair Sasaki noted that President Nagao had sent a letter of appreciation to AEARU along with a report that the conference was carried out successfully.

B. Other matters

2 Presenting commemorative gifts to retiring university presidents

80. Chair SASAKI pointed out that he will send a commemorative gift to his predecessor, Dr. HASUMI for his contributions to AEARU as the 4th Chair. UT
81. Chair SASAKI then brought up an idea presented at the last BOD Meeting of presenting some kind of commemorative item to all ex-presidents who will be leaving AEARU because of a turnover in the presidency at their university.
82. Several opinions were expressed, and Chair SASAKI concluded that the matter would be discussed at the BOD Meeting in the afternoon following the conclusion of the AGM. BOD

IX. ADJOURNMENT

83. Before adjourning, Chair SASAKI asked for any opinions or suggestions, not related to the agenda.
84. President CHUNG commented that it's very encouraging to see that a lot of member universities are volunteering to sponsor a number of new workshops on various interesting topics. But, he noted some of the existing workshops such as Microelectronics are having trouble attracting sponsorship or participation from member universities. He suggested that AEARU should think about what can be done to address this matter.
85. President CHUNG also commented that more and more workshops are being sponsored and held in conjunction with much bigger and better established international conference. He said in some cases that could be very useful, but it could also dilute the AEARU identity, since the organization is not very strong at the moment. This was one reason why AEARU declined a linkage with CLUSTER, so it ought to develop its own strong identity and image before expanding its activities. President CHUNG added while he regrets giving the BOD more and more work, he thinks these issues need to be studied in depth.
86. Chair SASAKI commented that the next term BOD or chair will take care of such matters and that they are issues that have to be taken care of continuously in the future.
87. Chair SASAKI stated the Secretariat would put together a draft of the minutes of today's proceedings and send copies to everyone for opinions.
88. Chair SASAKI expressed deep appreciation to the President of HKUST and all the staff of the university. He also thanked for all the cooperation extended to Vice-Chair CHEN and himself during their terms of office, and also for responding promptly to various requests from the Secretariat. He noted that AEARU will continue functioning under the current leadership until the end of this year, after which the helm will be passed over to the new leadership, Chair-elect President CHEN and Vice-Chair-elect President ZHU, in January next year.

89. Chair SASAKI pointed out that the next Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology in the fall of 2002.
90. Chair Sasaki adjourned the meeting at 11:45 AM.