

**AEARU 21<sup>st</sup> Board of Directors Meeting**  
**August 22, 2007**  
**Kyoto University**

**PRESENT**

Prof. Roland T H CHIN	Acting Vice-President, HKUST
Prof. Kazuo OIKE	President, Kyoto University
Prof. Chan-Mo PARK	President, POSTECH
Prof. Wen-Tsuen CHEN	President, Tsing Hua University – Hsinchu
Prof. Qingshi ZHU	President, USTC

**SECRETARY**

Ms. Julie KIM	AEARU Secretariat, POSTECH
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**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Kyoto University**

Prof. Toshio YOKOYAMA	Vice-President, Organization for the Promotion of Int'l Relations
Mr. Masao TSUKAMOTO	Director, International Affairs Division
Mr. Ainslie KERR	International Affairs Division

**POSTECH**

Ms. Jung-Hee YANG	Manager, International Affairs Office
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## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **I. WAYS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS**

Chairperson Chan-Mo Park began the meeting by raising a question of how to encourage the less active members to become more active. He then suggested that it would be helpful to see a data table of AEARU activities which would show the number of activities hosted by each member university. It was decided that the secretariat would make the table and distribute it to the members by e-mail.

### **II. THE TRANSFER OF AEARU CHAIRPERSONSHIP**

President Qingshi Zhu asked the chairperson about the procedure for transferring the chairpersonship from POSTECH to Kyoto University.

Chairperson Park replied that POSTECH would transfer all materials to Kyoto University. He also added that the staff members of the two universities would work together to make the transfer.

### **III. THE NEXT BOD MEETING**

President Zhu offered to convey to Nanjing University that it is to be invited as a new BOD member.

It was also agreed among the members that the next BOD meeting should take place in Nanjing if Nanjing University becomes a new BOD member. President Zhu agreed to discuss this matter with Nanjing University.

### **IV. THE PROPOSALS OF KYOTO UNIVERSITY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE**

President Wen-Tsuen Chen expressed his support for the proposal made by President Kazuo Oike during the presentation time at the AGM for the formation of a network of AEARU student exchange program officers to promote student exchange activities between the member universities.

Vice-President Toshio Yokoyama commented that program coordinators of each member university could share information on each university's student exchange

program. He also added that this would help the member universities understand each other's system better with regards to matters such as credit transfer, courses available for exchange students at different levels, etc.

Chairperson Park suggested expanding the current student exchange programs for AEARU members.

President Chen then mentioned the important contribution made to internationalization by university administrators' workshops, such as those held by Kyoto University.

Vice-President Yokoyama explained that the workshops had been very successful and had attracted the attention of the Japanese Ministry of Education.

Vice-President Roland Chin proposed forming a working group for student exchange.

President Park made a suggestion to Kyoto University that it should further develop its idea for the formation of a network of AEARU student exchange program officers, and propose a plan to implement the program at the next BOD meeting.

Vice-President Chin alerted the members to some problems that might be encountered when operating the program, such as language of instruction, the synchronization of masters' degrees and credit transfer. He also commented that it would be difficult to form a unified platform, although it would be possible to find compatible universities for exchange. He advised that it would be necessary to adopt a mechanism to seek for possible pairs.

The members pointed out that organizing exchange between graduate students was less problematic than organizing exchange at the undergraduate level.

President Park asked about the percentage of courses taught in English at Japanese universities, stressing that language was a problem when organizing exchange with universities in Japan.

In response to his question, Vice-President Yokoyama said that less than 5% of lectures at Kyoto University are currently instructed in English, but certain postgraduate courses are fully available in English when necessary.

Chairperson Park mentioned that approximately 50% of graduate courses and 30% of undergraduate courses are taught in English at POSTECH.

Vice-President Chin emphasized the need for a structure to provide undergraduate courses in English for exchange students. The Vice-President expressed the opinion that such a structure was more important for undergraduate courses than for graduate courses since exchange and collaboration at the graduate-course level is generally organized by supervisors working on joint projects.

## **V. ADJOURMENT**

Chairperson Park thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their support. He mentioned that this was his last BOD meeting and that he had enjoyed meeting people through AEARU. He expressed his hope that he would see the BOD members again someday on other occasions. The meeting was adjourned.