

**AEARU 24<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 9, 2009**  
**Pohang University of Science and Technology**

**PRESENT**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Dr. Hiroshi MATSUMOTO | Chairperson; President, Kyoto University                   |
| Prof. Tongxi YU       | Associate Vice-President for Research & Development, HKUST |
| Dr. Sunggi BAIK       | Immediate Past Chairperson; President, POSTECH             |
| Prof. CHEN Jun        | President, Nanjing University                              |
| Prof. Mao-Jiun WANG   | Secretary General, Tsing Hua University – Hsinchu          |

**SECRETARY**

|                  |                                     |
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| Mr. Ainslie KERR | AEARU Secretariat, Kyoto University |
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**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Kyoto University**

|                        |   |
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| Prof. Hidetoshi KOTERA | Vice-President                                |
| Prof. Junich MORI      | Vice-President                                |
| Mr. Jun OZAWA          | Section Chief, International Affairs Division |

**POSTECH**

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|----------------------|---|
| Prof. Kwan Yong CHOI | Dean of Planning & International Affairs                      |
| Prof. Eui-Ho SUH     | Special Advisor to the President for Public & Int'l Relations |
| Ms. Jung-Hee YANG    | Manager, International Relations Office                       |
| Ms. Julie KIM        | Program Coordinator, International Relations Office           |

**Nanjing University**

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| ZHU Xiaoyi | Head of International Exchange |
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**Tsing Hua University – Hsinchu**

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| Prof. Chung-Min CHEN | Counsel, Office of the President |
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## MEETING MINUTES

### I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

1. Introduction and welcome remarks by Chairperson of AEARU, President Hiroshi Matsumoto

Chairperson Matsumoto Hiroshi began the meeting by greeting the other BOD members. He mentioned that this was his first time to chair an AEARU meeting and expressed his commitment to the association. Chairperson Matsumoto then invited President Sunggi Baik of POSTECH to give some welcome remarks as the host of the meeting.

2. Welcome remarks by President Sunggi Baik of POSTECH

President Baik greeted those in attendance on behalf of POSTECH, and said that it was a great honor for POSTECH to host the meeting. President Baik stressed the importance of AEARU and its cooperative activities, adding that he thought the East Asian region would become an increasingly important area in the future, and that AEARU could play an important role in the region's future development.

### II. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM; September 20, 2008; USTC, China
2. Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD Meeting; September 20, 2008; USTC, China

The minutes of the above meetings were compiled by the AEARU secretary and circulated to all members for approval in October 2008. Therefore, no objections were expressed during this BOD Meeting regarding the minutes.

### III. REVIEW OF AEARU ACTIVITIES IN 2008

**Note: items 1-6 were reported at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM (Sept. 2008)**

*(Please refer to the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM for further details)*

1. Symposium on "Collaborations with Industry, City, and Public"; March 27, Tohoku University

2. The 9<sup>th</sup> AEARU Workshop on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology; March 25-26, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
3. The 8<sup>th</sup> AEARU Workshop on Web Technology and Computer Science; April 11, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
4. The 2<sup>nd</sup> AEARU Student Physical Competition: Tennis Invitational Tournament May 25 – June 1, Taiwan University
5. The 3<sup>rd</sup> AEARU Environmental Workshop: “Sustainable Energy”; Rescheduled for Oct./Nov., University of Science and Technology of China (*Cancelled due to lack of participants*)
6. The 4<sup>th</sup> AEARU Cultural Workshop: “East Asian Cultures and Higher Education: An AEARU Workshop on the Characteristics of Higher Education in East Asia”; Nov. 14-15, Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu (*Cancelled due to lack of participants*)
7. Workshop on “Collaboration among Universities in the Ubiquitous World: Building a digital Bridge for Collaboration among AEARU Members”; Dec. 10-11, Nanjing University

Chairperson Matsumoto explained to the members that items 1-6 had already been reported at the 14<sup>th</sup> AEARU AGM in September 2008 and therefore were not required to be reported again. The Chairperson then directed the members to item 7, the Workshop on “Collaboration among Universities in the Ubiquitous World: Building a digital Bridge for Collaboration among AEARU Members,” which was held at Nanjing University on Dec. 10-11, 2008. President Matsumoto invited President Chen Jun of Nanjing University to give a report of the workshop.

President Chen Jun reported that the meeting was a success, and that 17 representatives from 9 AEARU member universities attended the workshop. The President went on to describe the workshop, saying that through various speeches and presentations, the participants shared their experiences of information technology facilities and management at their respective institutions. President Chen went on to say that the participants had also made several constructive proposals for building a digital bridge among the AEARU members. President Chen concluded by extending his thanks to those members who had sent scholars to participate in the workshop.

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that the proposals of the workshop would be discussed in more detail later in the meeting *\*(unfortunately, due to limited time, the proposals were not discussed at this meeting. They will, however, be included in the agenda of the forthcoming 14<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting)*

#### **IV. REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES HELD IN ASSOCIATION WITH AEARU IN 2008**

1. The 11<sup>th</sup> Kyoto University International Symposium 2008 (KUIS-11): “Frontier Bioscience in Modern Medicine”; Oct. 9-11, Kyoto University with special support from Fudan University. Held at the Shanghai Medical College, Fudan University. Held in association with AEARU.

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that, following discussions at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM and 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD at USTC in September last year, it was agreed by the AEARU members that events held with the involvement of at least two AEARU member universities could be officially registered as events held in association with AEARU (*see minutes: AGM: pp.13-15; BOD p. 4*).

The 11<sup>th</sup> Kyoto University International Symposium, “Frontier Bioscience in Modern Medicine,” which was held in collaboration between Kyoto University and Fudan University, was the first such event to be held.

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that the event was promoted as being held in association with AEARU, with the AEARU logo mark featuring prominently on the symposium materials, and also around the venue during the event.

The Chairperson went on to report that the symposium was a great success, attracting approximately 700 participants during its two days. In addition to scholars from Kyoto University and Fudan University, scholars from a number of other universities in China also participated.

#### **V. PROPOSED AEARU ACTIVITIES OF 2009**

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that the activities below were discussed at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM at USTC in September 2008, and the following proposals were made. The chairperson asked Mr. Ainslie Kerr, the AEARU Secretary to explain the current status of each of the proposed activities.

1. 4<sup>th</sup> Energy and Environmental Workshop; Seoul National University (*date not yet decided – second half of 2009*)

Mr. Kerr explained that SNU is planning to hold the workshop in the latter half of 2009, although no specific date has yet been issued for the workshop. Mr. Kerr added that the Office of International Affairs of SNU had told him that a tentative schedule should be issued soon.

President Baik added that he felt that this workshop would be very timely and promising considering the current importance being placed on “green technology” and other energy and environment related issues by governments around the world. These sentiments were echoed by Chairperson Matsumoto.

President Baik advised Mr. Kerr to remind SNU that from now on AEARU workshops could be jointly held with member universities from other regions.

2. 5<sup>th</sup> Cultural Workshop; Peking University (jointly held with Tsinghua University – Hsinchu), (Summer 2009 - date not yet decided)

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang of Tsinghua University – Hsinchu informed the members that Professor Chung-min Chen was organizing this workshop with his counterparts at Peking University, and invited the professor to give a report about the progress of workshop.

Professor Chen explained that a call for papers for the workshop would be issued in few weeks time, and that the workshop would most likely be held at Peking University in late September. Professor Chen added that the general theme of the workshop would be the effects of East Asian culture on higher education.

Professor Chen also mentioned that when Tsinghua University – Hsinchu had attempted to host the cultural workshop during the previous year, it had to be cancelled due to a lack of participants. He therefore urged the AEARU members to support the workshop on this occasion.

3. Student Summer Camp (General); August 16 – 23, Osaka University

Mr. Kerr explained that Osaka University’s proposal for the Student Summer Camp was included in meeting binder and that the theme of the camp is to be “Student Initiatives towards Global Partnerships and Cooperation.” Chairperson Matsumoto added that the registration fee of 20,000 Japanese yen was very reasonable considering that the camp will last for 7 days.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang inquired as to whether this fee was inclusive of accommodation. Mr. Kerr replied that he did not currently have that information, but that he would ask Osaka University for more detailed information.

4. 10<sup>th</sup> Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Workshop; Taiwan University, (date not yet decided)

Mr. Kerr explained that Taiwan University is planning to hold this workshop in November 2009, but that an exact date had not yet been decided. Mr. Kerr went on to say that Taiwan

University's Office of International Affairs had informed him that they were currently applying for government funding for the workshop and promised to send further information soon, once they knew the result of their funding application.

Chairperson Matsumoto asked Mr. Kerr if Taiwan University had indicated what they intended to do if their application for funding was unsuccessful. Mr. Kerr replied that his liaison at Taiwan University had not been specific about that.

President Baik pointed out that for AEARU activities, the cost for the participants should be shared by the participants' universities, or in some cases by faculty themselves, and that the cost of activities can be covered by setting an appropriate registration fee. President Baik added that government funding should not really be required.

President Baik went on to say that although the issue of financial support for AEARU activities had been discussed at the previous (14<sup>th</sup>) AEARU AGM, no concrete decisions had been made, and that the matter could be discussed further.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that the matter of funding should be further discussed, and emphasized the point that, in principle, the cost of activities should be shared by participating universities, rather than the host university.

President Baik then mentioned the further possibility that Taiwan University could co-host the workshop with one or more other AEARU members, and that this could also help with funding.

Mr. Kerr said that he would convey the points raised to his counterpart at Taiwan University, and emphasize that they could fund the workshop by setting an appropriate registration fee.

5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Materials Science Workshop; November 11-13, POSTECH (jointly held with Nanjing University and Tohoku University)

President Baik announced that POSTECH planned to hold this workshop on November 11-13 in collaboration with Nanjing University and Tohoku University. President Baik explained that although the workshop organizers had not yet contacted Tohoku University specifically about the workshop, he knew that there was already a good deal of communication between the materials science departments of POSTECH and Tohoku University.

President Chen Jun confirmed Nanjing University's commitment to the workshop.

## VI. UNSCHEDULED AEARU ACTIVITIES OF 2009

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Macroscopic Workshop (*see NOTE 1 below for further details* )
2. 9<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Web Technology & Computer Science
3. Student Summer Camp (Topical)
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Student Physical Competition
5. Additional Activities (*members are invited to propose any additional activities for 2008 ~ 2009*)

### NOTE 1:

This is a new type of workshop proposed at the 22<sup>nd</sup> BOD Meeting (Nanjing University, June 12, 2008). The workshop will aim to focus on more macroscopic topics which lend themselves to AEARU's particular qualities (please refer to section VII of the 22<sup>nd</sup> BOD Meeting minutes for further details).

### Suggested topics for the first workshop

- Undergraduate education in research universities
- The development direction of research universities in East Asia

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that at present no members had offered to host the above activities. The Chairperson suggested that the BOD decide which of the activities should be given priority, and then consider the possibility of inviting specific member universities to host them.

Chairperson Matsumoto went on to give his opinion that the concept of the Macroscopic Workshop is very closely related to the Cultural Workshop being planned by Peking University and Tsinghua University – Hsinchu, and that the workshops could be effectively combined.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang and Professor Chung-min Chen of Tsinghua University – Hsinchu agreed with this proposal, and professor Chen added that he would contact his counterparts at Beijing University and suggest that they try to include the two proposed themes of the Macroscopic Workshop in the Cultural Workshop.

Chairperson Matsumoto then suggested that, similarly, the Topical Summer Camp was very closely related to the General Summer Camp proposed by Osaka University.

President Baik asked Mr. Kerr if he could explain the difference between the topical and general camps. Mr. Kerr explained that originally the two camps were distinctly different, with the topical camps having a very specific theme, but that the camp proposed by Osaka University

also had a theme (as have many of the general camps in recent years), making the distinction between the general and topical camps less significant.

Chairperson Matsumoto proposed that this was not a problem, and that the general and topical camps could be combined into one single camp. The BOD members agreed to this proposal.

Regarding the 9<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Web Technology & Computer Science, Chairperson Matsumoto expressed his opinion that there may not be sufficient time to schedule the workshop for 2009, and that it may be best to hold the next workshop in 2010.

President Baik suggested that the workshop could possibly be held in collaboration with the Microsoft Corporation, as they are currently showing a great deal of interest in East Asian universities and may be willing to assist with holding the workshop.

Chairperson Matsumoto replied that although he thought this was a good idea, in his opinion it may be best if AEARU did not affiliate itself with one specific computer technology company, but that it would be best to simultaneously contact other companies, such as IBM, as well.

Chairperson Matsumoto went on to say that it may be possible for the AEARU Secretariat to find a suitable organizer for the workshop at Kyoto University or elsewhere in Japan. The chairperson also asked that the BOD members also try to find a suitable organizer for the workshop and contact the secretariat if they have any suggestions so that a team could be formed to organize the workshop.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang asked if the members knew of any prominent computer scientists at Tsukuba University or Tokyo Institute of Technology, as the two universities had held comparatively few AEARU activities.

Chairperson Matsumoto replied that those two institutions, as well as the University of Tokyo had notable computer technology specialists, and that the secretariat would contact those institutions regarding the workshop.

## **VII. ISSUES TO BE REPORTED**

1. The latest version of the AEARU contact directory was compiled and distributed to all members in January.

Mr. Kerr announced that the directory would soon be updated and again as there has been several changes in AEARU contact persons since January.



## 2. Announcement of the publication of AEARU Brochure 2009

The AEARU brochure is published every 2 to 3 years, the next edition will be published this year by Kyoto University. 50 copies of the brochure will be sent to each member university. The secretariat is currently compiling all of the data from the member universities.

## **VIII. ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED**

### 1. AEARU Board of Directors 2010 – 2011 & Candidate for next Vice-Chairperson

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that during the next term (2010 – 2011), the current chairperson would remain on the board as the immediate past chairperson, and the vice-chair would then become the chair. The Chairperson then invited Mr. Kerr to explain how the other BOD members for the next term should be decided.

Mr. Kerr explained that according to the AEARU Constitution, BOD members should, in theory, serve for 2 years, although in practice this has often not been the case. Mr. Kerr mentioned that the term of vice-chairperson, followed by chairperson, and then immediate past chairperson takes 6 years. Mr. Kerr added that it may be necessary to amend that part of the constitution to make it more in accordance with actual practice.

Mr. Kerr went on to explain that as of next year, the Kyoto University member will become the immediate past chairperson, and the HKUST member will become the next chairperson. Mr. Kerr explained that it was therefore necessary to discuss the following two matters:

1. Which member would be the next vice-chairperson, and
2. Will the other members of the BOD change

Mr. Kerr also pointed out that the BOD's recommendations had to be formally decided at the next AGM.

Referring to the chart of past AEARU chairpersons, Chairperson Matsumoto pointed out that with respect to the order of past chairpersons, it was logical that the next vice-chairperson should be the Taiwanese representative. The other BOD members agreed with this proposal.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang pointed out that the last time a Taiwanese representative served as chairperson, it was the president of Taiwan University. Secretary General Wang added that it was logical, therefore, for Tsinghua University – Hsinchu to be the next Taiwanese chair.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that considering the past history of AEARU chairpersons, it would be appropriate for Tsinghua University – Hsinchu to be the next vice-chair. Chairperson Matsumoto asked Secretary General Wang to discuss this matter with the representatives of Taiwan University. Secretary General Wang agreed to do so.

President Baik pointed out that, as there was a proportionately large number of AEARU members from China, it would be possible for a Chinese university to become vice-chair if the Taiwanese universities had any difficulties in assuming the position of chair university.

The Chairperson then confirmed with the BOD members that their recommendation for the next vice-chairperson should be a Taiwanese representative, with Tsinghua University – Hsinchu being the most likely candidate. The BOD Members agreed.

Moving on to the next issue to be discussed, Mr. Kerr explained that for the 2010 – 2011 term, Kyoto University would remain a BOD member as immediate past chairperson and HKUST would become the next chairperson. It was therefore necessary to discuss whether or not the BOD member universities for each of the remaining three AEARU regions (China, Korea and Taiwan) should change.

President Baik pointed out that POSTECH had been the Korean BOD member for 6 years, and that it was an appropriate time for the Korean BOD member to change. President Baik went on to suggest that Seoul National University would be an appropriate candidate for the next Korean BOD member.

Chairperson Matsumoto asked President Baik to discuss this matter with SNU before the next AGM. President Baik agreed. Chairperson Matsumoto confirmed with the BOD members that the above proposals regarding the 2010 – 2011 BOD should be discussed at the next AGM. The BOD members agreed.

## 2. Fund raising for AEARU activities

*Briefly discussed at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM and 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD Meeting at USTC in September 2008;  
Noted as a topic for further discussion at the BOD Meeting.*

*(See 14<sup>th</sup> AGM minutes pp. 11, 14 -15; 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD minutes p.4)*

Chairperson Matsumoto explained that the issues of fund raising for AEARU activities and ways to encourage member universities to send participants to AEARU events are interrelated, and were discussed at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM and 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD Meeting at USTC in September 2008 as part of a discussion about the problem of activities being cancelled due

to a lack of participation. Chairperson Matsumoto invited the BOD members to give comments on these issues.

President Chen and President Baik both expressed favorable opinions towards the introduction of an AEARU membership fee.

Associate Vice-President Tonxi Yu of HKUST explained that he had discussed this matter with the acting president of HKUST, and that his opinion was that member universities should be encouraged to send scientists, particularly young faculty and even post-doctoral students, to AEARU events, and that the participants home universities should financially support those activities. Therefore, although the introduction of a membership fee would be acceptable, workshops should not be fully funded using money from the membership fee because different universities have different areas of specialization, and not all member universities will attend all workshops. Associate Vice-President Yu suggested that a combination of financial support from a membership fee plus financial support from the participants' universities would be preferable, adding that a large membership fee which would be used to fully finance workshops would probably not be a good idea.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang agreed with the points made by Vice-President Yu, adding that although he thought that the introduction of a membership fee was a good idea, he felt that it should be a minimal amount. President Chen and President Baik agreed with this.

President Baik then went on to emphasize his strong support of the introduction of a membership fee, saying that the funds accrued through the fee could be used to support – but not completely finance – AEARU activities on a request basis, with the allocation of funds being decided by a committee. President Baik said that he thought this would enhance AEARU's activity and visibility in the future.

Chairperson Matsumoto then voiced his support for the proposal of introducing a minimal membership fee. The Chairperson went on to say that as all of the board members were in agreement on this point, they should discuss how much the membership fee should be, so that it could then be proposed and discussed at the next AGM.

President Chen suggested that an annual fee of 1000 US dollars would be an appropriate sum. President Baik expressed his opinion that this figure was perhaps too low. Chairperson Matsumoto suggested that a figure between one and five thousand US dollars may be appropriate. Professor Baik then suggested an annual fee of 2000 US dollars, further explaining that this would generate 34,000 dollars annually, and that that sum could be used to support several activities, although it was a relatively small sum which would not be

disagreeable to the AEARU members. President Baik suggested that this figure could be proposed at the next AGM.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that this sum should not pose a problem for most universities, but asked the BOD members what should be done if any universities had trouble paying the fee, mentioning the possibility of non-fee paying associate members.

President Chen replied that he felt that if the majority of members agreed on the introduction of the fee, then all members should be obliged to pay.

President Matsumoto then confirmed with the members that a membership fee of approximately 2000 U.S. dollars, to be introduced in 2010, would be proposed at the next AEARU AGM. The members agreed with this.

Chairperson Matsumoto asked Mr. Kerr if he had any opinions on this matter. Mr. Kerr raised that point that the practical issue of where the money should be kept may cause some problems given the fact that the location of the AEARU headquarters changes every two years.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that this may be a difficult issue as transferring the money between successive headquarters would involve international money transfer and currency exchange. The chairperson suggested that the money could be kept in one location, such as a chosen bank, independent of the movement of the headquarters.

President Baik suggested that the secretariat research the options available, and investigate what other academic organizations do in this regard, and that the options should then be presented at the next AGM. Chairperson Matsumoto confirmed that the secretariat would do this.

President Baik suggested that a treasurer be appointed, and that the treasury could remain the same for an extended period of time. Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that a treasury would be necessary.

Mr. Kerr pointed out that the AEARU Constitution includes some guidelines for a treasurer and a membership fee, although the guidelines are very brief (Constitution, Section 5.3 and Section 6: Finances).

The members noted that these provisions of the constitution had thus far not been implemented. The members noted that according to the constitution, the treasurer should be appointed from among the board members, but need not be the secretariat.

Professor Baik pointed out that the six-year term of vice-chair, chair and immediate past chair may be an appropriate period to be treasurer. However the members concluded that such an arrangement may be practically difficult.

Professor Junichi Mori of Kyoto University mentioned that the exchange of funds between countries was controlled differently in different countries, and that this could also be problematic.

President Baik then suggested that in order to understand any potential difficulties, the proposal be implemented with the chair university also acting as treasurer, and that the treasurer change every two years together with the chair. Funds could then be transferred to the new chair/treasurer, and any difficulties that arise can be dealt with in due course, possibly by appointing a single treasurer from among the BOD Members.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that this was a practical suggestion, and suggested that if all members agreed, the next chair university could act as both secretariat and treasurer, and that any problems which arise can be discussed and dealt with as they arise. The BOD members agreed with his proposal.

Professor Mori asked if the membership fee money would also be used to fund AEARU AGMs and BOD Meetings. Professor Baik pointed out that the original proposal was for the money to be used to fund symposia, workshops and other academic activities and events, adding that the amount of support awarded should be based solely on the proposals made by the events' organizers.

Chairperson Matsumoto confirmed that the membership fee should be used only for academic events and activities, and not for administrative meetings. The BOD members agreed with this.

3. Ways to encourage member universities to send participants to AEARU events (suggestions included some form of attendance obligation or funding assistance for attendees).

*Briefly discussed at the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM and 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD Meeting at USTC in September 2008;  
Noted as a topic for further discussion at the BOD Meeting.*

*(See 14<sup>th</sup> AGM minutes pp. 11-12, 17-19; 23<sup>rd</sup> BOD minutes p.4)*

Regarding the above issue, Mr. Kerr summarized the possibilities discussed at the previous AGM as follows:

- Members could be required to send at least one participant to all events;
- Doctoral students, as well as researchers, could be allowed to participate in AEARU events;
- Member universities' participation in events could be reported in addition to their hosting of events.

Chairperson Matsumoto mentioned that with regards to the hosting of events, the secretariat could send letters to comparatively inactive members requesting that they consider hosting AEARU events in coming years.

Professor Eui-Ho Sui of POSTECH pointed out that there was an apparent correlation between the activity of members and those members which are on the Board of Directors, further explaining that those members with the lowest levels of participation were those which had never been BOD members. Professor Sui suggested that inviting such members onto the BOD may encourage their participation.

Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that such a correlation did seem to be visible, and went on to point out that the six-year term entailed by being vice-chair, chair and then immediate past chair meant that in some cases the BOD member for a certain region could not change for six years, and that this was a factor which limited the opportunity for certain members to be on BOD. The chairperson went on to say that encouraging activity through BOD membership, therefore, was not really a viable solution in the short-term.

Secretary General Mao-Jiun Wang suggested that, rather than making it obligatory for member universities to send participants to activities, a chart showing which universities participated in which events could be prepared for the AGM. Secretary General Wang explained that this would raise awareness of each university's level of participation, and encourage increased participation.

Chairperson Matsumoto proposed that from now on, workshop organizers should be asked to provide a participant list to the secretariat in order that such a list can be prepared.

Associate Vice-President Tonxi Yu suggested that the number of BOD members could be increased to seven, with one additional member from China and one from Japan, in order to reflect the proportionately larger number of AEARU members from those countries. Associate Vice-President Yu went on to say that this would then encourage those additional board members to be more active.

President Baik expressed his support of Associate Vice-President Yu's proposal, adding that he thought China and Japan were underrepresented in the current BOD. Secretary General

Mao-Jiun Wang also expressed his support for the proposal, but pointed out that such an amendment to the constitution would require approval by all AEARU members at the AGM. Professor Chen and Chairperson Matsumoto also expressed their support of the proposal.

Chairperson Matsumoto said that the secretariat would prepare a draft amendment to the constitution in order that the number of BOD members could be increased from five to seven, with one additional member from China and one from Japan, and that this could then be proposed at the next AGM. The Chairperson added that if the amendments were approved, then the new BOD members should be decided at the AGM, and the new system should begin in 2010. President Baik added that the AEARU members should be provided with all of the information needed to make a decision about which members should become BOD members.

4. Proposals of the Workshop on “Collaboration among Universities in the Ubiquitous World: Building a digital Bridge for Collaboration among AEARU Members” (Dec. 10-11, Nanjing University)

*Due to time limitations the BOD was unable to discuss the above matter. For reference the three proposals are listed below (for full details, please refer to the minutes of the Ubiquitous World Workshop p.5-6, available for download from the AEARU website).*

- (1) Building a digital pipeline among AEARU members and a teleconference system for strategic meetings among university presidents and senior administrators.*
- (2) Founding a website for cultural activities among AEARU members to solve the problems of language barriers and cultural understanding*
- (3) Founding AEARU Cyber Culture Research Center, an affiliate of AEARU*

## **IX. DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. 15<sup>th</sup> AGM and 25<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting: Autumn 2009, Tohoku University, Japan
2. 26<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting: Spring 2010, host undecided
3. 16<sup>th</sup> AGM and 27<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting: Autumn 2010, host undecided

Mr. Kerr announced that the venue for the 15<sup>th</sup> AGM and 25<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting has been decided as Tohoku University, Japan. Mr. Kerr added that the dates of the meetings had not yet been finalized, but due to scheduling difficulties it is likely that they will be held later than usual, during the first half of December. Mr. Kerr went on to explain that at present no dates or hosts had been discussed for the 2010 meetings.

President Chen Jun suggested that the hosts of the 2010 meetings be decided at the next AGM, since a decision would most likely have been made about the next term's BOD members by then. Chairperson Matsumoto agreed that the decision should be delayed until the new BOD members are decided. The BOD members agreed.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Matsumoto asked the members if there were any further matters to be discussed before the meeting was adjourned. Associate Vice-President Tonxi Yu announced a change of presidency at Hong Kong University on September 2009 from Professor Paul Ching-wu Chu to Prof Tony Chan. Associate Vice-President Yu said that, as the next chairperson of AEARU, President Chan would attend the next AEARU AGM.

Chairperson Matsumoto adjourned the meeting, thanking the BOD members for their participation and further thanking POSTECH for hosting the meeting.