

AEARU 30th Board of Directors Meeting

May 20, 2012

Nanjing University, China

PRESENT

Lih J. CHEN	Chairperson; President, Tsing Hua University - Hsinchu
CHEN Jun	Vice Chairperson; President, Nanjing University
Eden WOON	Vice President, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Toshio HIRANO	President, Osaka University
Yansong LI	Vice President, Peking University
Jung-Gi IM	Executive Vice President, Seoul National University
Susumu SATOMI	President, Tohoku University

SECRETARY

Sabrina LI	AEARU Secretariat, Tsing Hua University - Hsinchu
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IN ATTENDANCE

Tsing Hua University - Hsinchu

Da-Hsuan FENG	Senior Vice-President of Global Strategy, Development and Evaluation
Wei-Chung WANG	Vice President of Global Affairs
Mao-Jiun WANG	Secretary General
Chung-min CHEN	Counselor, Office of the President

Nanjing University

PU Lijie	Associate Vice-President
CONG Cong	Director, Office of International Cooperation and Exchange
Melissa HU	Section Chief, Office of International Cooperation and Exchanges

Osaka University

Akira TAKAHASHI	Trustee
Hiroshi MUKAI	Head, International Affairs Division
ZUO Li	Administrator, International Affairs Division

Peking University

GUO Aihua

LI Hongquan

LU Jiao

Associate Director of President Office

Chief, Office of International Relations

Program Officer, Office of International Relations

Seoul National University

Seong-ho SHEEN

Yu Ri BAE

Associate Dean, Office of International Affairs

International Conference Coordinator, Office of
International Affairs

Tohoku University

Toshiya UEKI

Yoshihiro SENKINE

Sayaka YAMAGUCHI

Executive Vice President

Professor, Office of the President

Staff Member, International Exchange Division

MEETING MINUTES

I. OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Lih J. Chen opened the meeting by greeting the BOD members. He thanked President Chen Jun and Nanjing University for their hospitality in hosting the meeting and congratulated Nanjing University for her 110th anniversary.

II. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 17th AGM; December 14th, 2011; Kyoto University, Japan
2. Minutes of the 29th BOD; December 14th, 2011; Kyoto University, Japan

The Chairperson explained that the minutes of the above meetings were compiled by the AEARU Secretary and distributed to all members. With no further comments or amendment, these minutes were confirmed.

III. SECRETARY REPORT

1. Financial status

AEARU started to receive membership fee in 2010. Currently the Association has US \$58,359.92 in asset.

2. Status report of AEARU Activity Sponsorship Program

Since the year of 2011 till present, four AEARU activities had been funded with US \$10,000 each to support students' travel and accommodation. The purpose of AEARU Activity Sponsorship Program is for encouraging and increasing the participation of students.

3. AEARU Homepage updated

The AEARU Secretariat has updated several information on the AEARU Homepage including the change of headquarters and change of contact person (when requests). The Chairperson would also like to have a full use of the homepage to enhance the visibility of the Association and to promote further exchanges among Member Universities, thus, the Secretariat has established linkage of all the open course ware (OCW) that is provided by Members Universities to the AEARU Homepage, as well as linkage between the Association's homepage to periodical newsletters published by

Member Universities.

IV. ACTIVITY REPORTS:

1. The 1st Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters; Kyoto University
 - The AEARU Secretary reported on behalf of Kyoto University and explained the activity report prepared by the university that The 1st Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters was held in conjunction with the 29th BOD and 17th AGM meetings. The event had attracted a large amount of participations.

2. The 11th Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Workshop; HKUST
 - On behalf of President Tony F. Chan, Vice President Woon explained that President Chan was not able to attend this meeting. V.P. Woon explained that The 11th Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Workshop was held on December 21 to 22, 2011, in the campus of HKUST, on the topic of physical biology. The workshop attracted well-attended participants included faculty members and post-doctoral/post graduate students, featuring speakers world-wide. V.P. Woon has also detailed the usage of AEARU Sponsorship, and remaining funding was returned to AEARU account.

3. The 4th Energy and Environmental Workshop; Taiwan University
 - Spoken on behalf of Taiwan University, the AEARU Secretary reported The 4th Energy and Environmental Workshop organized by Taiwan University. The workshop was held on March 29-30, 2012, with four main topics on energy. The workshop enhanced the information exchange on the energy and environment issues between Member Universities and the public. The AEARU Sponsorship was used in supporting students from non-Taiwan Member Universities.

4. Student Summer Camp 2013 - Asian Research Network; Tokyo Institute of Technology
 - AEARU Secretary reported that the Student Summer Camp 2012 will be held on the campus of Tokyo Institute of Technology on August 24-27, 2012. The AEARU Funding will be used to covered accommodation and transportation of 15 selected Ph.D. students.

V. ISSUES DISCUSSED

1. AEARU Constitution – membership criteria and nomination process

Chairperson Chen thanked President Matsumoto of Kyoto University for his great effort to complete the draft of Constitution Amendment, and explained that the reason for the amendment is to enable new members to join our association.

Prof. Chung-min Chen of Tsinghua University-Hsinchu expounded further that the purpose of the Amendment is to have a mechanism to admit new members. Suggested by President Matsumoto, AEARU should open the membership in a prudent way, and the Association should only accept one member per year by recommendation from existing member with the maximum of 20 members in total.

The proposal of Amendment wasn't printed in color, so it was hard to compare the added or deleted regulations at this stage.

Chairperson Chen stated that a new copy of proposal printed in color will be send to members after the meeting by the AEARU Secretariat, and the voting will take place in the upcoming AGM at Seoul National University.

2. AEARU Activity Sponsorship Program – activity proposals selection and funding approval

Peking University applied for AEARU sponsorship to support the 2013 Student Summer Camp. Vice President Li explained that the purpose of this activity is to provide an opportunity for interested AEARU students to deepen their understanding of China study and Chinese language. Peking University intended to use the funds to provide assistance to 6 AEARU students with their program tuition.

Chairperson Chen reviewed the proposal submitted by Peking University and stated that in consideration of financial status of the Association and the significance of the proposed activity, he sees no problem in supporting this application. With no further comments or objection, the application from Peking University was approved by the BOD members.

Chairperson Chen will report this decision at the next AGM.

3. AEARU Annual Thematic Flagship Event

Chairperson Chen first explained that AEARU 1st Distinguished Lecture Series took place on May 21, 2012, after the 30th BOD meeting to show our intension to enhance the visibility of our Association and to share recent researches in Member Universities with the public.

Prof. Seong-ho Sheen thanked the members for entrusting the task of organizing the AEARU Annual Thematic Flagship Event. There were several rounds of discussion in past BOD and AGM meetings, and SNU had created a questionnaire that was send out to members a week before the 30th BOD meeting to gather comments and suggestions from BOD members.

To summarize the feedback from questionnaire, Prof. Sheen reported:

- a. The Format
 - Most respondents chosen format B. Prof. Sheen also commented that the Annual Thematic Flagship Event should be more flexible and needed more time and interests for discussion.
- b. The Schedule
 - Should be it held in conjunction with AGM? For example, the 1st Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters in Kyoto University last December was held together with 17th AGM.
- c. The Theme
- d. The Funding
 - Prof. Sheen stated that option 2 of questionnaire received the most votes, which calls for host to provide partial funding, and the participants are responsible for traveling expenses. He further expressed that that President Matsumoto of Kyoto University was kind enough to bear all the costs of the Symposium; however, it would be a burden for future hosting universities if it becomes a tradition.

Prof. Sheen explained further that SNU is organizing 31st BOD and 18th AGM meetings in November, and they are concerned about whether to host the second Flagship Event, because there is other Member University wishes to organize the Thematic Flagship Event, but it is not their turn in hosting AGM meeting. He further expressed the example of USTC wanting to host a topic on nuclear disaster, but they are not hosting 2012 AGM nor as 2013.

Prof. Sheen stated if USTC wishes to host the Annual Thematic Flagship Event on nuclear disaster sometimes within 2012-2013, then the event will not be in conjunction with AGM, and SNU will have to host other workshop like medical center together with the AGM. He concluded that the event should be more flexible, and above issues are the updates on the discussion of the flagship event progress.

The Chairperson expressed his thankfulness to SNU and Prof. Sheen on the detailed and thoughtful explanation of the progress. He stated the importance of the event and agreed with Prof. Sheen with the idea of flexibility, as well as we should respect the Member Universities who wishes to host. The Chairperson also understood the difficulty to support all the cost of hosting.

Prof. Sheen suggested the Annual Thematic Flagship Event should be in general, and be held in conjunction with AGM like the last time, but if other Member Universities wishes to organize an event, this general rule could be exception. He further suggested that there should be a continuous theme, for example, the 1st Symposium on the Culture of Chinese Characters was held in Kyoto University in the year of 2011, NTHU in 2013, and Peking University in 2015. He further stated that this Symposium is a good example of the Annual Thematic Flagship Event, however, with the current situation, he suggested that SNU should just host a workshop like the Health Center Workshop, since there is already a flagship event that runs every two years respectively.

The Chairperson suggested that SNU to submit a proposal in the next AGM on the idea of hosting a workshop which could eventually evolve into a flagship event.

VI. DATES AND VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- 1 31st BOD Meeting and 18th AGM: November 1-3, 2012, Seoul National University
- 2 32nd BOD Meeting: Spring 2013, host undecided
 - *At the 31st BOD Meeting, The Chairperson stated that in turn, it should be members from Hong Kong to host the 32nd BOD meeting, but since we only have one member university from Hong Kong, we are open for any volunteer host*

3 19th AGM and 33rd BOD Meeting: Autumn 2013, Tsinghua University –
Hsinchu

- *In conjunction with the Annual Thematic Flagship Event on
the topic of Culture on the Chinese Characters*

VII. ADJOURNMENT