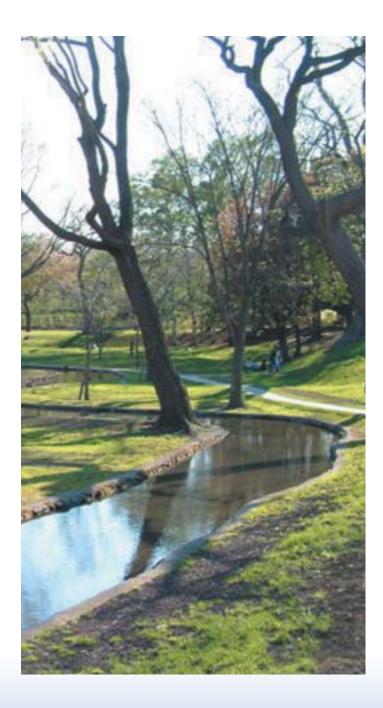
HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY



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The Hokkaido University – University of Hawai'i Joint Symposium Was Held at Hokkaido University for Two Days on February 7 and 8.

Based on the Academic Exchange Agreement concluded in 2003, Hokkaido University and the University of Hawai'i have vigorously promoted diverse forms of exchanges, including researcher and student exchanges, and dispatches of administrative staff members.

This symposium was held based on the theme of "Cultivating Diversities" with 300 participants from home and abroad, including Dr. Samaan, Director of the University of Hawai'i System International Education, and Dr. Tsunoda, the former Vice President for International Education, University of Hawai'i System, and ten other distinguished guests. Aiming to create, respect and spread new diversities, the participants discussed regions and education, IT utilization, the education of minorities, Japanese language education, tourism and "global householding."



A Participants in the symposium

Plenary Session 1: Cultivating Diversity in Major Research Universities and Surrounding Communities

"A Perspective on Diversity at Hokkaido University and its Surrounding Community"

Dr. Peter Firkola, Associate Professor, International Student Center, Hokkaido University

"University Responsiveness to a Multicultural Environment: A Case Study of the University of Hawai'i System"

Dr. Janette Samaan, Director, International Education, University of Hawai'i



▲ Dr. Janette Samaan



Plenary Session 2: Current Status and Challenges of Outreach Education

"Outreach Program that Collaborated a Private TV Station at Hokkaido University"

Dr. Teruhisa Machii, Professor, Center for Research and Development in Higher Education, Hokkaido University

"Outreach Activities at the Outreach College at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa" Dr. Peter Tanaka, Interim Dean, Outreach College, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

"The Northern Region Human Environment Science Education Program" Dr. Hiroshi Ueda, Professor, Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere, Hokkaido University



▲ Dr. Peter Tanaka



 Dr. Joyce Tsunoda receiving a certificate of gratitude

Parallel Session 1: Strategic Use of Technology in Higher Education

Report on the current state of rapidly advancing infomatization in university education was presented with an emphasis on the necessity for strategic activities befitting institutions.

Parallel Session 2: Academic Studies and Educational Practices for Minority

Stimulating and suggestive discussions aiming to identify problems common to a wide range of intricate and practical challenges provided participants with a useful

forum for future study and research of minorities.

Parallel Session 3: Teaching Japanese as a Second Language: Collaboration in Research and Practice

Research results were presented from the viewpoint of exploring points of contact between Japanese language research results and Japanese language education while focusing on learners and the classroom environment.



A Parallel Session 2



Satellite Symposium 1: Global Householding: A Comparison among High-Income Economies of East Asia

East Asia has a number of burgeoning advanced nations in terms of their rapidly aging population and falling birthrates. Global householding in the region was analyzed by referring to various phenomena, including international marriages, international adoptions and international movement of housekeepers and care workers.



▲ Satellite Symposium 1

Satellite Symposium 2: Aspects of Tourism Studies

Tourism studies were conducted with the support of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. Hawaii and Hokkaido, which have completely different tourism resources, such as one being in a sea of everlasting summer and the other in snow, learned how tourism is promoted in each area via government-industry-academia collaboration.



▲ Taking in the Snow Festival during an excursion



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Innovation Fair for Government-Industry-Academia Collaboration in Hokkaido 2005

The Innovation Fair for Government-Industry-Academia Collaboration in Hokkaido 2005 was held on November 10 and 11, 2005. In addition to the ten national, public and private universities in Hokkaido and Hokkaido TLO, the participants expanded to include four national universities from the Tohoku district and Kagoshima University. In the panel discussions entitled "University intellectual technological transfer" property and and "Intelligence of universities revitalizes local communities," presentations were given regarding the utilization of university intellectual property and the revitalization of local communities. Lively discussions based on broad outlooks and regional examples ensued and the audience was listening intently.



Opening Ceremony

"Business Expo: 19th Hokkaido Technical Information and Business Exchange Fair" and "Patent Distribution Fair 2005 in Hokkaido" were held concurrently at the Fair's venue, AXES Sapporo. The number of visitors reached 18,000 in two days, showing a growing interest in intellectual property and technological transfer, as well as, perhaps, being the effect of concurrent events.





Ceremony to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Faculty of Science



The ceremony to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Faculty of Science was held on November 11, 2005. Executive Director Mamoru Mohri of the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation as well as Honorary Professor Akira Suzuki gave addresses. After that, Mr. Shigeru Chubachi, chief researcher at the Meteorological Research Institute, gave a lecture entitled "Discovery of an ozone hole in South Pole and its consequences," followed by a lecture from Professor Gunji Saito, Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University entitled "The status and prospects of the chemistry of organic conductors." Dr. Ryuzo Yanagimachi, Director of the In-

stitute for Biogenesis Research, University of Hawai'i, also gave a lecture entitled "The path I followed and my dreams," which was about the concept of generative cells that fascinated him when he was a university student.

After the ceremony, some 150 staff and graduates of the faculty gathered and held a grand celebration. During a slide show of the faculty's history, graduates gave table speeches and everyone enjoyed meeting in a friendly atmosphere.



Dr. Hisatake Okada, Dean, Dr. Ryuzo Yanagimachi & ► Dr. Akira Suzuki, Professor Emeritus, from the left



▲ Lecture by Dr. Ryuzo Yanagimachi



Opening Seminar of the Research Center for Zoonosis Control

The Research Center for Zoonosis Control held its opening seminar entitled "To overcome zoonotic infections" on December 19, 2005.

Now that emerging/reemerging infectious diseases, such as transmissible bovine spongiform encephalopathies, SARS, infection by Nipah, Hanta, Hendra or new influenza viruses and Ebola hemorrhagic fever, are breaking out all over the world and threatening humankind, "overcoming zoonotic infections" has global significance.

The Research Center for Zoonosis Control, which was recently established on April 1, 2005, is a unique facility where specialists in microbiology, virology, immunology, pathology, information science and other fields gather and cooperate with each other to create new fields and promote research and education, based on medical science, veterinary science, pharmacology, engineering and physical science.

At the seminar, presentations were given on the status of global-scale epidemiologic investigations that are conducted to clarify the persistence characteristics of zoonotic pathogens in the natural world, and to predict, prevent and control their outbreaks.





 Dr. Hiroshi Kida, Director of the Center, delivering an opening address



Projects Related to Hokkaido University – JICA Partnership Agreement



In April 2005, Hokkaido University concluded a Partnership Agreement with JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) to promote partnership in fields where mutual cooperation is possible, for the purpose of facilitating international cooperation in developing countries and nurturing those who can contribute to international cooperation.

▲ A Council meeting

At the first conference held on December 7, 2005, a report on the progress of mutual cooperation since the conclusion of the Agreement was given. Recent projects under the partnership include; (1) organization of a special seminar for students to recruit Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, (2) classes of our university's international exchange course being prepared by JICA staff, and (3) overseas cooperative projects in Sri Lanka and Nei Mongol, which are currently under consideration.

We reaffirmed our commitment to join forces with each other and further promote international contributions toward solving urgent problems faced by mankind, including "sustainable development," through university-wide and systematic approaches to international cooperation and based on many years of our university's achievements in international cooperation.

Comprehensive Partnership

A new comprehensive partnership agreement was concluded as follows: January 26, 2006 Teijin, Ltd.



President Nakajima of Teijin Limited (left) and President Mutsuo Nakamura

What is a comprehensive partnership agreement?

It is a partnership to collaborate not only through technical (research) exchanges, but also over a wide range of activities, including personnel exchanges and training. Hokkaido University is strongly promoting government, industry and university collaboration.

Other partners:

Hitachi, Ltd., Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., Fuji Electric Holdings Co., Ltd., Development Bank of Japan, UFJ Capital Co., Ltd., National Institute for Material Science, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Dentsu Hokkaido Inc., Japan International Cooperation Agency, North Pacific Bank, Ltd.



"Indigenous Peoples and Universities" Symposium

Hokkaido University set "improvement in education on the Ainu and other northern peoples" as one of its medium-term goals. A series of lectures entitled "Let's learn more about Ainu culture" was given in 2004, and the "Special class for indigenous studies – the Ainu and ethnic minorities of the north" was established in 2005. The establishment of a nationwide and international research and education center on northern peoples is also a major task of our university at present.

Researchers from overseas universities, who have systematically promoted active involvement with indigenous minorities, were invited to the "Indigenous peoples and universities" symposium held on December 11, 2005, to give lectures on their



Panel Discussion

experiences and future prospects. Some past examples of Ainu studies of Hokkaido University were also presented, and Ainu expectations for the university were discussed. Through this symposium, we attempted to obtain ideas for the implementation of our university's medium-term plan concerning research and education on northern peoples.

Professor Lilikala Kame'eleihiwa of the Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawai'i, Associate Professor Richard Monette from, University of Wisconsin Law School, Executive Director Tadashi Kato of the



 President Mutsuo Nakamura delivering an opening speech

Ainu Association of Hokkaido, and Associate Professor Tomomi Sato from the Graduate School of Letters gave lectures, followed by a panel discussion that involved questions from enthusiastic listeners.



1st Hokkaido University – Nanjing University Exchange Symposium on Advanced Chemistry

The Graduate School of Science held an information exchange symposium, entitled the 1st Hokkaido University – Nanjing University Exchange Symposium on Advanced Chemistry, at Nanjing University on December 6, 2005, jointly with the Nanjing University College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, with which we have concluded a friendship and academic exchange agreement.

This symposium was realized thanks to the efforts of Dr. Zhao Jen Wei, who studied for three years as a graduate student at the Physical Chemistry Laboratory, Division of Chemistry, Graduate School of Sci-



Speakers

ence of HU, received his doctorate in March 2003 and took his post as a professor at the Department of Analytical Chemistry, Nanjing University in April 2004.

On the day, participants from the two universities gave lectures and conducted lively discussions on various fields of chemistry. It was a very beneficial symposium, making us realize that a wide variety of studies are conducted at Nanjing University.

East Asian Marine Bioscience Symposium - "The Frontier of Chemical Biology"



Prof. Yue-Wei Guo of the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences

An international symposium entitled the East Asian Marine Bioscience Symposium – "The Frontier of Chemical Biology" was hosted by Professor Junichi Kobayashi of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Conference Hall on December 1, 2005. It was the first symposium that gathered researchers active in the front lines of research on the chemistry of natural marine products in East Asia.

Professor Heonjoong Kang from Seoul National University, Professor Yue-Wei Guo of the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Professor Huiping Zhang from Fudan University, Professor Ya-Ching Shen of Sun Yat-sen University, Professor Khanit Suwanborirux

from Chulalongkorn University and Dr. Wimolpun Rungprom from Ayuthaya Rajabhat University presented their research results.



Multi-Institutional International Symposium on "命" [mei]

The Research Institute for Electronic Science (RIES) held the Multi-Institutional International Symposium on "命" [mei] for seven days from December 5, 2005, with more than 250 participants.

RIES chooses one Chinese character every year as the theme of the symposium and invites front-line researchers active in various fields to which the character applies to give lectures, for the purpose of promoting interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research exchanges. In its seventh year now, the symposium has become a RIES tradition.

This year's theme was "命" (life). The progress of bioscience has been spectacular in recent years, thus requiring an understanding of the overall trend. To achieve this, cooperation is essential not only within our university, but also with outside organizations.



Special lecture by Prof. Grillner of the Karolinska Institute

A joint lecture meeting of Riken, Hitachi and Hokkaido University

was held on cultivation and utilization of human resources to support scientific technologies in the 21st century, followed by lectures from Professor Sten Grillner of the Nobel Institute for Neurophysiology, Karolinska Institute, Professor Chiming Wei from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine on nanomedicine and Professor Shun-ichi Amari of the Riken Brain Science Institute on mathematical neuroscience. They identified the potential for bioscience in the 21st century with their unique talks.



Participants



Graduate School of Engineering Concludes an Agreement with University of Science and Technology Beijing, Concerning the Establishment of Academic Exchange Offices

On November 24, 2005, Tsuneyoshi Nakayama, Dean of the Graduate School of Engineering, and Dr. Zhang Yue, Vice President of the University of Science and Technology Beijing, concluded an agreement to establish academic exchange offices in accordance with the Inter-University International Academic Exchange Agreement.

The Inter-University International Academic Exchange Agreement with the university (then Beijing University of Iron and Steel Technology) was concluded on December 26, 1986. The two universities also concluded a memorandum on student exchanges on December 26, 1996, and have actively continued mutual exchanges, including holding academic exchange seminars.

The reason for establishing the academic exchange offices is to create an important base to promote research and educational exchanges among faculty members and researchers from the two universities, as well as exchanges among students. The offices will also be used to collect information and materials and for the classification and storage of exchange records, and as places to support the activities of clerical workers, honorary professors and other persons related to the two universities.

It has been agreed that the office of the University of Science and Technology Beijing will be called the "International Collaboration Office for Hokkaido University" and that of the Graduate School of Engineering will be called the "International Collaboration Office for University of Science and Technology Beijing."

With the conclusion of this agreement on establishing academic exchange offices, further promotions of academic and student exchanges in various fields is expected in the future.





▲ After the plate-unveiling ceremony



▲ Signing the Agreement



Bangladesh Study Tour 2005

Thirteen students and faculty members, consisting mainly of the members of the students' circle "Boken Shika" (adventure in dentistry) from the School of Dental Medicine, visited Bangladesh for two weeks from December 23, 2005, for the "Bangladesh Study Tour 2005." The tour was adopted by the Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), as part of the ACCU International Exchange Programme under the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust for the Promotion of International Cooperation and Mutual Understanding -2005 University Student Exchange.







The purpose of the program is to understand the status of dentistry in Bangladesh and to think about its future prospects through exchanges, including presentation of details regarding education, practical training and college life by dental students of Japan and Bangladesh, in order to facilitate an understanding of each other's culture, customs and history.

In this program, the participants visited local homes, accompanied Professor Ahmed from the University of Dhaka as part of a free traveling clinic to assist the professor and conducted a questionnaire survey to determine what the patients in Bangladesh want from den-

> tists and "oral problems" caused by their culture and customs. They also visited the Sapporo Dental College, which was established jointly by dentists who graduated from the Graduate School of Hokkaido University, and renewed their friendship with the graduates, students and teaching staff through cultural exchange and talking about the days they spent in Sapporo.

Traveling clinic attracting many people

Traveling clinic





Orientation Session for Studying Abroad - Featuring Australia

On November 22, 2005, the Executive Office of the International Affairs and International Student Center, in cooperation with the Australian Embassy, held an orientation session on studying abroad featuring Australia.

Orientation sessions for studying abroad are held several times a year to provide a wide range of information to Japanese students who wish to study overseas and facilitate their studying abroad.

At the beginning of the session, Executive Assistant Mamoru Kobayakawa, the Executive Office of International Affairs gave an address about the significance of studying abroad and encouraged the participants to make this session an opportunity to think about studying abroad, and not just limited to Australia. Next, an explanation on the advantages of studying in Australia and various programs, including language schools, short and graduate school programs, was given from the Australian Embassy.





Then, the latest information on the "Next Generation TOEFL," which will be launched in May of next year, was explained in detail using sample questions, from the Council on International Educational Exchange.

Two students who studied in Australia also presented their experiences and the participants listened eagerly. We hope their sharing their experiences serves as a valuable opportunity to give some ideas to students who have never experienced studying abroad.



Explanation by the staff of the Embassy of Australia



▲ Students interested in studying in Australia

A Message from an HUSTEP Exchange Student



On February 7th, and 8th, Hokkaido University and the University of Hawai'i held a joint Symposium at the Hokkaido University Campus. Professors from Hawai'i flew in on the 6th and, bright and early the next day, everyone was busy with presentations and meetings on sharing tactics and strengthening the relationship between the two universities. As the first HUSTEP student from UH, I was given the honor of being the (unofficial) "mutual mascot" for the event, a point man and an interpreter for those who could not speak Japanese.

The Symposium represents the beginning of a close relationship with UH and, as such, more exchange opportunities will become available for students from Hokkaido University who wish to study in Hawai'i. I feel lucky to be studying here the same year as the symposium, both because of the role I was able to play in the beginning of this development and because of the role I will play in encouraging further opportunities in the fu-

ture. One of the problems with the HU-UH exchange is that the climate difference between Hokkaido and Hawai'i makes "exchange" difficult in that very few Hawaiians are willing to brave the cold. But after talking with Dr. Samaan, the Director of International Education at UH, the wheels are already turning to focus on bringing more Hawaiian students to study abroad at the prestigious Hokkaido University. Of course, that means we're going to need more students from Hokkaido University to go Hawai'i too ^_^.

Nathan Britton





Introduction to the University of Hawaii for students from Hokkaido University

Campus tour for guests from the University of Hawaii



COE Programs Series 3 Prediction and Avoidance of an Abrupt Change in the Bio-Geosphere System

Our program title "Prediction and Avoidance of an Abrupt Change in the Bio-Geosphere System" refers to a 100-year-scale abrupt change as a consequence of the environment's deficiencies in self-recovery?, which could be caused by the interactions between the geosphere and the biosphere.

Establishing the COE

Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science and the Institute of Low Temperature Science have coordinated four divisions in the Graduate School into 2 research teams ("Global warming / Ozone depletion" team and "Bio-function deterioration/ Hazardous material" team) in connection with the start of the 21st Century Center of Excellence (COE) program, and have put our plans into effect.

We played a major role in starting this continued study in cooperation with the faculties related to bioresources in conjunction with the new initiative of reorganizing the graduate schools of Hokkaido University.

We have started with the collaboration with the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature. We hired post doctors aiming to set forward the combined project of the bioscience and the geoscience.



▲ Outdoor survey

The 21st Century COE Program was launched as a new project at MEXT in FY 2002, based on the University Structural Reform Plan (June 2001) and using "subsidies for the establishment of a research center."

This program aims to make our nation's universities bases at the world's most advanced levels of research and education in a variety of academic fields, to improve research and to foster creative workers who will lead the world in the future. It does this through prioritized support that promotes those universities that are distinguished by their international competitiveness.





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Professor Motoyoshi Ikeda, Project Leader

Outcome

We proceeded with observations in the Sea of Okhotsk, the North Pacific Ocean, East Siberia, and Indonesia, based on the results of studies in high-latitude regions by the Institute of Low Temperature Science as well as the study of bio-geosphere led by the Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science.

We developed a physical-chemical-biological model of the North Pacific, and also developed the terrestrial ecosystem-hydrology model of the boreal forest, both of which could be components of a global environmental change model. We have started verifying results to clarify the nature of the bio-geosphere system.

We have developed a plan to build the observation stations to carry out research on the bio-geosphere system associated with the rivers and the coastal area off Hokkaido.

Education

We have assigned 20 students as research assistants in the school and are educating them through the project.

We have combined many fields which are related to environmental issues, and proceeded the environmental education through which we look at the issues in an inter-disciplinary manner.



▲ A laboratory



Outdoor observation

Please visit the following website for more details: http://www.ees.hokudai.ac.jp/coe21/index-e.html



Graduate School Introduction Series 4 Graduate School of Letters



The Graduate School of Letters has striven to nurture researchers and highly specialized experts for five decades since its establishment in 1953. With the conversion of Japanese higher education from the "mass type" to "universal type," development of the educational content of the Graduate School of Letters is being promoted to meet the needs of citizens pursuing higher education through lifelong learning, as well as to foster specialists.

The Graduate School of Letters' area of research is broad and profound. Since various issues related to the humanities, such as wisdom of humanity, culture, history, people and society, are covered by one graduate school, its specialized area is categorized into divisions and the pro-

fessors are the foremost experts in Japan and the world in their respective specialties. With nearly 120 fulltime faculty staff, the Graduate School of Letters is one of the largest of its kind in Japan.

The following is a list of divisions and courses:

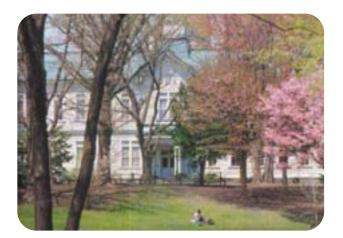
Divisions	Courses	Research Groups and Cooperative Chair
Philosophy and Cultural Sciences	Philosophy and Cultural Sciences	Philosophy Ethics Religious Studies and Indian Philosophy Theory and History of Arts
History and Area Studies	History and Anthropology	Japanese History Asian History European History History and Cultural Anthropology Northern Culture Studies
	Slavic Studies (graduate school only)	Slavic Research Center (cooperative chair)
Linguistics and Literature	Linguistics and Literature	Japanology Sinology Linguistics and Western Languages Western Literature Linguistic Sciences Filmology and Cultural Studies of Representation
Human Sciences	Human Sciences	Psychology Behavioral Science Sociology Regional Sciences



Further improvements in graduate school education are currently being promoted. The Study of Cultural and Ecological Foundations of the Mind, which was submitted mainly by the Behavioral Science Course of the Graduate School of Letters, has been chosen as a 21st Century COE Program by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and the Human Sciences Division has been adopted as an "attractive education in graduate schools."

Let's now look at the importance and significance of the Graduate School of Letters. Modern society is changing constantly and becoming more and more complicated. However, are modern people improving their intellectual level enough to cope with such complexity in society? Television is limited to sensationalized news and cheap comedy programs with laugh tracks, newspapers turn politics into theaters and Japanese citizens are all turning into critics in spectators' seats. In early 2006, falsified reports featured in the news regarding earthquake-resistant designs and construction of condominiums and window-dressing investment funds revealed the presence of information manipulation in society. Without literacy, citizens cannot even protect themselves.

A necessary element for modern-day education may be personality training and the cultivation of the will to contribute to society by exposing people to the wisdom of humanity, learning from history and in-depth quests for human and social characteristics. The Graduate School of Letters is the place where specialists and graduate students are working hard together to foster such human resources.





Please visit the following website for more details: http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/letters/english/index-e.html





We would be grateful to hear your candid views and impressions, as we are hoping to improve its content. Please contact us in the event that you have changed your e-mail address or wish to unsubscribe.

International Affairs Division, Hokkaido University TEL +81-11-706-2334 FAX +81-11-706-2095 Email: news@general.hokudai.ac.jp

HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

Kita-8, Nishi-5, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0808 JAPAN http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/bureau/e/index-e.html

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Hokkaido University Today

International Exchange Agreements as of March 2006 39 inter-university agreements 99 interdepartmental TOTAL 138 Agreements

