

Yokohama National University

横浜国立大学 TOPICS

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YNU

YOKOHAMA
National University



Fourth Euro-Japan Dialog in The Czech Republic and Italy

The Faculty of Economics participated in the Fourth Euro-Japan Dialog at YNU's exchange-agreement schools Tomas Bata University in Zin (Czech Republic) and University of Pisa (Italy) on November 8-14, 2009. The Dialog this time received additional support from the Faculty of Economics Educational Support Association.

The Fourth Euro-Japan Dialog addressed two topics: "Declining birthrate: Target making babies or managing immigration?" at Tomas Bata University and "Carbon trading: Effective measure or too little too late?" at the University of Pisa.

YNU sent nine seniors from the Faculty of Economics,

led by Associate Professor Alexander McAuly and Lecturer Keiko Ishiwata. They started the preparation with Associate Professor McAuly in July, and conducted practice sessions before the event in November. These rehearsals proved effective, as the YNU students engaged in vibrant debate at the Dialog.

The students also attended a lecture "Management and Cooperation" at Tomas Bata University and went on a historical tour of Pisa guided by University of Pisa students. Additionally, they visited to a site of a marble quarry in Carrara Italy. The Dialog became a very fruitful experience for them.



Luncheon at the Tomas Bata University cafeteria



Dialog at Tomas Bata University

Fourth YNU Homecoming Day

Yokohama National University held its fourth Homecoming Day on November 8, 2009. The number of participants has been growing each year, and this year it surpassed 1,000 people.

The highlight of the program was the main lecture. Former YNU Professor Junko Nakanishi, who currently serves as Director of the Research Institute of Science for Safety and Sustainability at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), spoke plainly in her presentation entitled "Food risk and environmental risk – to what extent has food safety been threatened? What level of greenhouse gas emissions can

be allowed to ensure food security?" It was well received by the audience.

Also for the first time as a trial, the special admissions lecture for individuals considering admissions to YNU, which was previously held each year as a separate event, was incorporated into Homecoming Day. The program also included a campus exploration as well as the current students and alumni exchange event "Industry Trends and the Type of Personnel Companies are Seeking." In addition, there was a sports event in which local children participated and learned the basics of running.



Yokohama National University 60th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony, Lecture and Reception

The Yokohama National University 60th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony, Lecture and Reception took place on November 8, 2009. The guests included Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) Deputy Director General, representatives from nearby universities, local governments and communities, YNU professors emeritus and members of the alumni association.

A total of some 130 people including faculty, staff, trustees, and board members attended the ceremony.



President Kunio Suzuki giving the ceremonial address

University Adopts YNU Initiative to Refine “Academic Outcomes”

Yokohama National University adopted the YNU Initiative to Refine “Academic Outcomes” in November 2009 toward achieving the educational goals of bachelor degree programs.

The above YNU Initiative clarifies and announces its four policies on “Degree Conferral,” “Organization and Implementation of Educational Programs,” “Admission of Students” and “Ongoing Enhancement of Educational Quality” to achieve the educational goals of the university’s bachelor degree programs.

By announcing the YNU Initiative to Refine “Academic Outcomes”, the university hopes to gain widespread understanding of its educational policies and systems, and guarantee the quality of education.





Alumni Reunion in Brazil: Boosting YNU's Internationalization

An alumni reunion took place in São Paulo, Brazil on October 28, 2009 in commemoration of YNU's 60th anniversary. Although it was a week day, 30 participants, consisting of YNU graduates, former students and the University of Sao Paulo (USP) researchers wishing to work on exchange at YNU, attended the event.

Because this was the first large YNU alumni reunion in Brazil since the YNU International Liaison Office was established at USP this March, the university sent

Executive Director (in charge of international affairs) Mutsuhiro Arinobu and Office of International Relations Coordinator, Professor Hisayoshi Miyatake, as its representatives.

As a representative of YNU's liaison office in Brazil, USP Naval Architecture Professor Toshi-ichi Tachibana stressed the importance of overseas alumni gatherings, explaining that overseas alumni reunions are significant in boosting YNU's internationalization.



Signing Ceremony for Program Supporting University Collaboration toward University Education Enhancement

Following the adoption of the proposal "Project for Human Resource Development for Urban Design and Urban Culture centered on the Yokohama Culture Creation Urban School" submitted to the FY2009 Program for the Support of Strategic University Collaboration towards University Education Enhancement, a signing ceremony for the agreement on joint implementation of the Program for the Support of Strategic University Collaboration toward University Education Enhancement was held at YNU on September 15, 2009. With six other universities and the City of Yokohama, YNU will serve as the lead institution to advance the project.

The goals of the project are to establish a satellite school – the Yokohama Culture Creation Urban School – in central Yokohama, attract students who will bear responsibility for urban development in the future, fuse the networks and know-how that have been cultivated



Greetings from YNU President Kunio Suzuki

by each university, actively participate in the Creative City Yokohama initiative, and train personnel in the two fields of urban design and urban culture creation. The students who will study at the new school are expected to accumulate valuable practical experience.

YNU Formula Project Team Wins Third Place in National Competition



The YNU Formula Project team competed in the 7th Student Formula SAE Competition of Japan on September 10, 2009. The 2009 event had a record 80 teams competing,

including entries from overseas. While most of the teams comprised graduate students, the YNU team was centered around undergraduate freshmen, sophomores and juniors. The YNU Formula Project achieved their best performance ever, with a third place overall.

The YNU team was established in 2003 in agreement with the Student Formula ideal of “learning much that cannot be learned just in the classroom”, and has been taking part in the national event since the 3rd competition. They have redesigned, reproduced and improved their formula-style racing car each year.

The team has more than 30 members from across the university. The Cooperative Research and Development Center working space and the Machine Shop serve as the vehicle production plant, and the team presently receives support from over 30 corporate sponsors.

The YNU Formula Project team is working day by day on the development of a new model toward victory at the 8th national competition.



YNU Formula Project Team

YNU Formula Project Team: 7th Student Formula SAE Competition of Japan Results

Overall Score	3 rd place
Static competition	3 rd place (total of design, cost and presentation scores)
Presentation	3 rd place (presentation skill and contents)
Cost	2 nd place (vehicle design considering costs)
Acceleration	2 nd place (acceleration on a 75m straight track)
Endurance	1 st place (total time over 20 laps)
Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association Chairman's Prize (for participation in all the competitions)	
Best Web Site Design Prize (determined by popular vote of all the teams)	

Overall Score

1	The University of Tokyo
2	Sophia University
3	Yokohama National University
4	Osaka University
5	Shizuoka University
6	Tokyo City University
7	Tokai University
8	Ibaraki University
9	Utsunomiya University
10	Nagoya University

J-League Holds Yokohama National University 60th Anniversary Special Match

A special J-League match commemorating the 60th anniversary of Yokohama National University took place on August 29, 2009 at the Nippatsu Mitsuzawa Stadium in Kanagawa Ward, Yokohama. The Yokohama F. Marinos played against JEF United Ichihara Chiba.

The match drew 15,000 spectators including YNU faculty and staff. In the middle of the sold-out stadium, YNU President Kunio Suzuki presented bouquets of flowers to the captains of both teams, and commemorative photographs were taken of President Suzuki, Executive Director Yasuo Kokubun, Executive Director Noriyuki Takeshita and Executive Vice President Hitoshi Yamada together with the F. Marinos players.

Six pupils from the Kamakura Elementary School affiliated with the YNU Faculty of Education and Human

Sciences carried the fair play flag and led the players and referees onto the pitch. It was a hotly contested match suitable to commemorate the 60th anniversary of YNU.

YNU and the Yokohama F. Marinos concluded a comprehensive cooperation agreement in 2007 and are deepening their mutual ties. Banners and posters supporting the Marinos are displayed at the university, and the Marinos send coaching staff to the university's affiliated schools.



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YNU Signs Exchange Agreement with Lampung University

YNU President Kunio Suzuki visited Indonesia from August 1-5, 2009. During his visit, President Suzuki participated in the signing ceremony for an academic exchange agreement with Lampung University (Indonesia), attended a joint symposium and workshop by Lampung University and the YNU Graduate School of Environment and Information Science, and watched a demonstration of YNU interactive High-Definition Television System broadcasted at both universities.



YNU Science Café at Open Campus 2009

YNU organized a special Science Café for high school students at the central library in conjunction with Open Campus on July 31 and August 1, 2009.

On the first day, in a presentation entitled “Dreams Roam the Universe,” Graduate School of Environmental and Information Science Professor Seiya Ueno introduced space exploration, beginning with the moon probe Kaguya and efforts to explore Mars and Venus. The timing was opportune as Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata returned to Earth that very day. The program elicited strong interest in space among the participating high school students, who asked questions one after another which were answered in detail by Professor Ueno. The Science Café style – which made it easy to ask questions – was well received by the participants.

On the second day, in a presentation entitled “The New Technologies Opened by Superconductivity” YNU Interdisciplinary Research Center Assistant Research Professor Yuki Yamanashi introduced the challenges encountered in working to create a 100 gigahertz CPU.



Professor Ueno giving a quiz to the participants



The meeting room was filled with high school students

Professor Yamanashi shared his personal experience, while quoting a number of proverbs, explaining how he took a keen interest in computers from his high school days, desired to become internationally active in this field, and realized his dreams. He encouraged the participating high school students to have their own dreams as they advance to college studies.

A total of nearly 90 high school students attended the Science Café over the two days. We hope that this experience enhanced their interest in YNU and in the field of science.

YNU Graduate to Compete in Deaflympics

FY2007 YNU Faculty of Education and Human Sciences graduate Yuji Takada was chosen to compete in the 21st Summer Deaflympics Taipei 2009 (Sept. 5-15, 2009) as a member of the Japanese track and field team. The Deaflympics are the Olympic Games for people with hearing disabilities.

Takada visited the YNU campus on July 31, 2009 to share this good news with President Kunio Suzuki, Takada’s faculty advisor Faculty of Education and Human Sciences Professor Tatsuo Nakagawa, and his track and field club coach Faculty of Education and

Human Sciences Associate Professor Nobuyuki Ito.

Enrolled at YNU, Takada belonged to the track and field club and achieved a strong performance

at many track meets. He continues to compete in track and field while he works as a company employee.



International Student Internship Fair

The Kanagawa Prefecture Employers Association held an international student internship fair at YNU on June 25, 2009. The event was attended by over 100 people including company representatives, international students, and faculty and staff members of the university. The fair coordinated the matching of students with companies. Students conferred with representatives

from the companies where they want to intern, and company representatives selected students for interviews.



Picture Provided by Kanagawa Prefecture Employers Association

Center for Risk Management and Safety Sciences Consigned Major New Research Project

The Center for Risk Management and Safety Sciences was selected for the Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC) request for proposals on "Examinations on Rationalizing the Frequency of Above-ground Tank Open Inspections: Methods of Bottom Plating Remaining Life Assessment and Development of a Wind Load Floating Roof Strength Reliability Assessment System," and initiated this major new research project from June 24, 2009 with Research Professor Kazuyoshi Sekine serving as project leader.

This research project concerns the safe and secure storage of oil, which is an important resource for Japan. The center will advance the work in collaboration with multiple university departments and with general project partner IHI Corporation.

The project also resulted from the widespread collection of information regarding safety and security and the planning of research projects utilizing that information

by faculty members in all university departments under the FY2008 education and research improvement budget item to maintain and strengthen the function of the Center for Risk Management and Safety Sciences and to advance and design research and education projects. The Center will continue advancing diverse projects related to safety and security in the future.



Meeting to advance the project

Eco Flea Market at YNU

The Faculty of Economics International Exchange Committee organized an Eco Flea Market on June 12, 2009. The market, which took place in the International Exchange Lounge recently established in the Social Sciences Research Buildings, drew about 100 Japanese



Full of students at the Faculty of Economics International Exchange Lounge

and international students.

The Eco Flea Market is one of several events which will be held in this new lounge as part of the international exchange program. It is designed to promote recycling activities, offered items donated by YNU faculty and staff. The goods were almost all brand new, including unused iPods, TVs, designer brand clothing, and many other great finds. All the items were priced under 1,000 yen, and items discounted in Japanese, English, Chinese and Russian sold swiftly. Students left the lounge carrying away bags of goods.

The market staff - volunteer students from the Faculty of Economics - worked zealously to ensure the success of the event. The sales revenues, which totaled over 28,000 yen, were donated to the Yokohama National University Foundation which aims at promoting international exchange in various areas.



Fourth Port-city University League International Seminar



The 4th Port-City University League (PUL) International Seminar (open to the public) with the theme “Port as a Gateway to the Multi-Cultural and Multi-Civilizational World” took place on May 21-22, 2009 at the Yokohama City Port Opening Memorial Hall. PUL was founded in 2006 at the proposal of YNU for wide-ranging academic, cultural, industrial and other exchange among prominent universities in port cities worldwide, including their residents. The first PUL International Seminar was held in Yokohama, followed by the second seminar in Chennai (India) in 2007 and the third in Lisbon (Portugal) in 2008. The event returned to Yokohama in 2009 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Port of Yokohama.

On the first day, the sessions on port and ocean issues included presentations on “International Cooperation for Preventing Piracy” by YNU International Graduate School of Social Sciences Professor Toshiyuki Tanaka, and on “Fisheries Management and Conservation in Japan” by Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences Professor Hiroyuki Matsuda. The session concerning port cities and maritime education included introductions of the education and research approaches at each university, which was followed by a lively question and answer session.

The second day program, with simultaneous interpretation between Japanese and English, began with greetings from YNU President Kunio Suzuki, the president of Yokohama City University and the mayor of Yokohama, followed by a special lecture “The History and Culture of Port Cities” by Yokohama Archives of History Chief Researcher Masahiro Hirano and other lectures which were of great interest to both researchers and the general public. The event drew over 100 participants, with many questions from university faculty members and other members of the audience.

There was also a poster display inside the hall introducing the participating universities. The pamphlets and maps from each country distributed free of charge were very popular.

Extension Lecture Links Regional Volunteer Network

A total of 30 local residents attended an extension lecture “Volunteering in Japanese” at the International Student Center on May 10, 2009. The lecture was presented by Professor Shohei Yoshida and Visiting Lecturer Yukako Odagiri, with support from Professor Yoshimi Ogawa. The 30 participants were individuals who plan to get involved with various local support activities for foreigners at local international lounges and schools, or have been involved with such activities for various lengths of time.

The need for Japanese language support is presently increasing across Japan with an influx of foreign pupils and other developments. On the very same day as this lecture, the first group of 270 candidate nurses and certified care workers arrived from the Philippines under the terms of an Economic Partnership Agreement. Another group of candidate certified care workers arrived from Indonesia in 2008, completed their Japanese language training, and have already begun working at facilities in Hodogaya Ward (Yokohama) from January 2009. For the smooth advance of government policies accepting foreign workers, these foreigners must be accepted not only as laborers but also as residents of



After the Lecture

Japan.

In Kanagawa Prefecture which has many foreign national and residents aside from candidate certified care workers, the national government, local government bodies and the prefecture’s only national university YNU must work in liaison to support foreign residents, whose numbers are only growing.

Prior policies seeking one million immigrants and one million exchange students lacked the perspective of

viewing foreigners as residents, but this understanding is now being changed.

The International Student Center faculty are in charge of introductory and refresher courses for Japanese language volunteer organizations throughout the prefecture, and present extension lectures at YNU. They also

provide daily support to YNU international students for education together with individuals who have registered and taken classes under the YNU citizen volunteer system. These activities are becoming well known among concerned organs in the prefecture as a model for Japanese language education cooperation between universities and local communities.

Five YNU Faculty Members Receive Minister of Education, Culture Sports, Science and Technology Prizes

Five Yokohama National University faculty members were awarded FY2009 Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Prizes in the field of science and technology. The details are as follows;

Prizes for Science and Technology (Research Category)

Accomplishment: Research on improving ceramics performance and reliability using self crack-healing behavior

Recipients: Professor Emeritus Kotoji Ando; Faculty of Engineering Association Professor Koji Takahashi; Interdisciplinary Research Center Assistant Research

Professor Wataru Nakao, and 1 assistant

Accomplishment: Research on Network Incident Analysis Center for Tactical Emergency Response (nicter)

Recipients: Interdisciplinary Research Center Assistant Research Professor Katsunari Yoshioka, and 4 assistants

The Young Scientists Prize

Accomplishment: Research on high-reliability ceramics in the field of Materials Engineering.

Recipient: Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences Associate Professor Junichi Tatami



Assistant Research Professor Yoshioka



From left: Associate Professor Takahashi, Professor Emeritus Ando and Assistant Research Professor Nakao



Associate Professor Tatami holding the award certificate

Dr. Kunio Suzuki Becomes the New YNU President

Following the retirement of former President Yoshihiro Iida on March 31, 2009, former Vice President and Executive Director Kunio Suzuki assumed office as the president of Yokohama National University at an inauguration ceremony on April 1, and gave his first greetings as the new YNU president.





YNU President Yoshihiro Iida Retires —Thank You for Six Years!

Professor Yoshihiro Iida retired on March 31, 2009 after serving as the president of YNU for six years. He was seen off by many faculty and staff members, following his retirement ceremony. We would like to thank him for his hard work.



Liaison Offices Established in São Paulo and Ho Chi Minh City

Yokohama National University has been advancing plans to establish international exchange bases at its academic exchange-agreement universities worldwide, with support from international students graduated from YNU.

An agreement was recently made to establish a liaison office at the University of São Paulo (USP) as the first such base, and a signing ceremony took place on March 17, 2009 at the USP campus in São Paulo, Brazil.

The agreement was signed by USP School of Engineering Dean Ivan G.S. Falleiros and YNU Executive Director Akira Nagashima in the presence of USP Professor Toshi-ichi Tachibana, who graduated from the YNU School of Engineering and made great efforts toward the establishment of the liaison office.

The agreement stipulates cooperation in such areas as public relations, contact with students returning from study abroad, alumni activities, provision of information to individuals who want to become exchange students, as well collection and provision of information concerning local education and research. The two sides agreed to hold further discussions regarding the specific means of

advancing liaison in the future.

YNU has received many exchange students from USP and advanced research exchange since the universities concluded an academic exchange agreement in 1983. The new liaison agreement is expected to further develop exchange by advancing ties, making use of YNU graduates and other supporters.

Then on March 18, 2009 Graduate School of Environment and Information Science Professor Hitoshi Yamada visited Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT) carrying a liaison agreement signed by YNU President Yoshihiro Iida. This agreement delegated the post of liaison officer to HCMUT Professor Nguyen Ngoc An.

With Professor An's signature, YNU's second liaison office was formally established in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

The Office of International Relations is now advancing works on establishing additional liaison offices in other regions.



Following the signing with School of Engineering Dean Ivan G.S. Falleiros



Luncheon after the signing ceremony



Signing the liaison agreement in Ho Chi Minh City

Closing Ceremony for the Ooka International House



The Ooka International House, which was originally donated by the YNU Engineering Association in 1965 as a research building for the YNU School of Engineering and served as a dormitory for international researchers from 1982, was closed as of the end of March 2009 in conjunction with a redevelopment project for the Ooka district of the City of Yokohama.

A closing ceremony and reception were held to commemorate the building on March 25th with more than 50 people attending.

In his greetings at the ceremony, YNU President Yoshihiro Iida said "It is sad that this building with its long history – where so many researchers and students pursued their studies and which accommodated so many foreign researchers as a dormitory – must be torn down. Nevertheless, we are glad that a new facility for international students and foreign researchers will be constructed at this same location next fall."

YNU Engineering Association Executive Director Seiichi Inoue explained that when the structure was first built, the concerned parties collected many donations for the construction with high aspirations.

Next, the former Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of Thailand Thanong Bidaya, who holds an honorary doctorate from YNU and stayed at the Ooka International House, sent the following message, which was read on his behalf by the Assistant Director of the Office of International Relations, International Graduate

School of Social Sciences Professor Ichiro Araki. "The Ooka International House was a very comfortable environment. In particular, the ornamental cherry trees, which I could see from my room's window, were healing for me when I felt tired. It was my second home."

Representing the residents, Visiting Professor Beata Bochorodycz, who is conducting research at the International Graduate School of Social Sciences, shared her memories, saying "On the day I arrived at the Ooka International House, the manager Ms. Watanabe greeted me by calling out 'Welcome!' in English. I felt very reassured and happy."

The event proceeded with explanations of the history of the building and the plans for the new facility that will be constructed. The ceremony ended with Professor Bochorodycz presenting a bouquet of flowers to Ms. Watanabe.

On that day, the YNU Engineering Association displayed historical materials in the 2nd floor lounge, which were viewed with great interest.

At the reception in the 5th floor conference room, Professor Emeritus Kikumasa Sato shared stories of the difficulties encountered in collecting donations for the building, and Executive Director Shinsuke Watanabe shared his memories of conducting research in the building when he was a student.

The reception took place in a cordial mood from start to finish, and the event ended with closing remarks by Executive Director Shin Kisugi, who invited everyone to return for the ground-breaking ceremony for the new building.



Professor Bochorodycz presenting a bouquet of flowers to Ms. Watanabe

Grad Students and Nissan Engineers Develop Next-generation Automobiles

As part of the FY2008 Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry's Industry-Academia Personnel Development Partnership Project, YNU graduate students and young Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. engineers collaboratively designed and manufactured self-propelled automobile models toward the development of next-generation automobiles. The work began in August 2008, and the results were reported at a meeting and competition at the University Library Media Hall on January 23, 2009.



Competing on their speed control at a slope



One of the automobiles



One-day Local-production Local-consumption Restaurant Features Yokohama Vegetables

On January 17, 2009, the Faculty of Business Administration “My Project Launcher” class opened a one-day restaurant using vegetables harvested only within Yokohama. The course is taught by Professor Tohru Inoue.

The purpose of this project was to provide food made using local vegetables to promote the agricultural products of Yokohama and deepen understanding of urban agriculture. Moreover, while Yokohama has a strong image as a port city it actually has the highest agricultural output value in Kanagawa Prefecture. So the project was also aimed at wider recognition of Yokohama’s appeal as an agricultural city.

The restaurant was operated by seven freshmen. These were members of this project class together with students from other faculties who supported the project. The location was a yakiniku (grilled meat) restaurant near the Yokohama Municipal Subway’s Center Minami Station. The set menu was a salad of organic vegetables directly sourced from a farmer in Tsuzuki Ward (Yokohama), bread baked from rye grown in Odawara City and wheat



Restaurant sign



Memorial photo of the participants

grown in the Shonan district, a pot-au-feu cooked with the Yokohama pork brand “Hama Pork” and ample winter vegetables, and a panna cotta with a sauce made using “Mon Petit Chou” wine – an original cabbage wine of YNU using cabbages grown in Hodogaya Ward (Yokohama), all for 980 yen.

Customers rushed in as soon as the restaurant opened at 10:00am, and the 100 meals prepared were sold out by 1:00pm. The event was well received by customers, who made many positive comments such as “The vegetables are fresh and delicious” and “Please do this again.” The profits were all donated to the Yokohama Greenery Foundation to advance the greening of Yokohama.

Professor Tomoya Shibayama Honored with Coastal Engineering Journal Award

Faculty of Engineering Professor Tomoya Shibayama won the Coastal Engineering Journal (CEJ) Award at the Japan Society of Civil Engineers Coastal Engineering Lecture Meeting on November 12, 2008. Professor Shibayama was given the award jointly with Dr. Miguel Esteban, a former YNU doctoral exchange student who is presently a doctoral researcher at the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies, and Dr. Yasushi Takagi, a former YNU special research faculty member who presently works for Penta Ocean Construction Co., Ltd.

Professor Shibayama was given the award for his contribution to the paper “Improvement in Calculation of Resistance Force on Caisson Sliding due to Tilting”

which appeared in Coastal Engineering Journal, Volume 49, Issue 4 (Dec. 2007, pp. 417-441), which was selected as the year’s best original paper. The paper develops a method for calculating the sliding when caisson breakwaters, which are installed on coastlines, are exposed to large waves during typhoons and other events, and discusses methods of improving caisson breakwater design.



Professor Kotoji Ando Receives METI Ministers Award for Distinguished Service in Nuclear Power Safety

Each year the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry presents the METI Ministers Award for Distinguished Service in Nuclear Power Safety to an individual or group that has made outstanding efforts and contributions to ensuring nuclear power safety. Faculty of Engineering Professor Kotoji Ando was selected to be the winner of the FY2008 award.

Professor Ando has carried out extensive original research in such fields as nuclear reactor structural engineering, fracture dynamics and materials engineering, and published roughly 180 research papers. As a Ministry of International Trade and Industry Nuclear Power Technology Counselor and member of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Advisory Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Professor Ando has made use of his insights and understanding to actively propose detailed designs and inspections of nuclear reactor equipment, and made significant contributions to improving the safety of nuclear power. Moreover, as an Outside Director of the Japan Power Engineering Inspection Corporation (JPEIC), Professor Ando has realized great achievements in research and development projects by extending the working life and reliability of nuclear reactor equipment, developing surface improvement technology for preventative

safety, developing methods for replacing equipment (shrouds, etc.) in older nuclear reactors and verifying their suitability, and otherwise contributing to improving the safety and performance of nuclear power. He was given this METI Ministers Award in high recognition of these achievements.



This was Professor Ando's fourth state award, following a Notable Invention Award from the Director General of the Science and Technology Agency in 1996 for his paper "Development of Mullite with Superior Crack-healing Behavior and its Application to Springs," the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare Prize in 2007 for his contribution to improving safety and economic efficiency and preventing job-related accidents at chemical plants, and an invitation from the Emperor and Empress, also in 2007, to attend the Emperor's Garden Party in recognition of his achievements in chemical and nuclear power plant safety engineering and in materials engineering as a basic technology which makes these possible.

International Students Enjoy September Sumo Tournament



Participants in front of the main entrance to the Sumo Hall

On September 18, 2008, YNU international students watched the fifth day of the September Grand Sumo Tournament at the Ryogoku Kokugikan (Sumo Hall) in Sumida Ward, Tokyo. Each year, a group of YNU international students attends a sumo tournament to directly experience Japan's traditional culture and to deepen their understanding and recognition of Japan. Twenty students participated this year.

Professor Jin Mizuguchi Wins Carlson Memorial Award

Faculty of Engineering Professor Jin Mizuguchi received the Society for Imaging Science and Technology's Carlson Memorial Award at the 24th International Conference on Digital Printing Technologies, which took place on September 6-11, 2008 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania (U.S.). The award is a global honor named after Chester F. Carlson, who invented the process of electrophotography. Professor Mizuguchi received the award for the high recognition of his research "Crystal Structure of α -Salicylic-Acid-Derivative Al-complex Used as a Charge-Control Agent and its Electrical Properties" which discovered a new crystal structure



for the charge-control agent used in electrophotography toner, analyzed this crystal structure, and increased the heat stability of the charge-control agent by 100 degrees Celsius all at once.



GCOE Kickoff Workshop in Oulu, Finland



The YNU Center for Future Medical Social Infrastructure Based on Information Communications Technology (MICT) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Oulu (Finland) in January 2008 regarding cooperation for the Global Center of Excellence (GCOE) Innovative Integration between Medicine and Engineering Based on Information Communications Technology, which was selected by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in FY2008.

This is a joint GCOE program of MICT in collaboration with Yokohama City University (YCU) and the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT).

IWMICT 2008, the First International Workshop on Medical ICT, was held at the University of Oulu on September 5, 2008 toward advancing diverse future cooperation for the GCOE.



The workshop participants included YNU Vice President and Executive Director (in charge of research) Shinsuke Watanabe, YNU Faculty of Engineering Professor and MICT Center Director Ryuji Kohno, the Vice President of Yokohama City University, an NICT board member, the rector of the University of Oulu, and many other faculty and students. At the workshop the four institutions, which are geographically distant, presented their respective research results and exchanged information to advance their collaboration. These workshops will now be held on an annual basis. As the first such gathering, IWMICT 2008 was effectively the GCOE kickoff meeting.

IWMICT 2008 began with greetings from YNU Vice President Watanabe and representatives of the other institutions, followed by a presentation from Professor Kohno regarding the future direction. The workshop included substantial presentations from each institution and by students of the University of Oulu, followed by question and answer sessions. The gathering ended with a decision to hold the workshop in Japan next year.

Professor Atsuo Kawamura Wins EPE-PEMC Council Award

Faculty of Engineering Professor Atsuo Kawamura received the EPE-PEMC (European Power Electronics – Power Electronics and Motion Control) Council Award at the 13th International Power Electronics and Motion Control Conference, which took place on September 1-3, 2008 in Poznan, Poland. This conference is held every other year, and was attended by some 500 participants. The award is given to researchers for outstanding

achievements in power electronics and motion control. Professor Kawamura received the award for his research on PWM inverter real time digital feedback control, and his contribution to its expansion to the motion electronics field.



Hot Summer at YNU – Open Campus 2008

Open Campus is a recruiting event where high school students and their guardians can visit the campus and see YNU's facilities at first hand. The program includes participation in mock classes, a library tour, and experience of campus life. This year's Open Campus took place August 1-2, 2008. The event was blessed with good weather on both days, and recorded 11,064 visitors' participation (9,650 visitors in the previous year).



International Student Center Holds Egypt Symposium

On July 18, 2008 the International Student Center held a symposium, Cultural and Academic Exchange between Japan and Egypt, at the Education and Culture Hall.

Following opening remarks by YNU President Yoshihiro Iida, Cairo University Professor Karam Kahlil, who serves as the cultural attaché of the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Tokyo, presented the keynote address "Reviewing 50 Years of Egypt-Japan Cultural Exchange." The program then proceeded with four presentations: "The Development of Egypt's Architectural Engineering" by Cairo University Associate Professor Mustafa Abdeen, who received his doctorate at YNU; "Learning Japan from Egypt, Learning Egypt from Japan" by Cairo University Assistant Reem Ahmend; "The Dialog between the Civilizations of Japan and Egypt" by Cairo University Associate Professor Adel Amin; and "Japan's Initiatives to Spread the Japanese Language in Egypt" by Professor Shohei Yoshida of the International Student Center.

These were followed by a general discussion on the theme of the image of Egyptians held by Japanese people. The symposium ended with closing remarks by International Student Center Director Hideo Hayashibe.



Cultural attaché Karam Kahlil (left) presents an Egyptian papyrus.

Japan-China University Symposium

On March 27, 2008, Yokohama National University held the Japan-China University Symposium on the fourth floor of University Hall. Sixteen faculty members from nine Chinese universities (Dalian University of Technology, Central China Normal University, China Youth University for Political Sciences, Taiyuan University of Technology, Shanxi University, Yangzhou University, East China Normal University, Beijing Normal University and Party School of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China) discussed the Japan-China University Cooperation for the New Era.

First, Executive Director (in charge of academic affairs) Kunio Suzuki presented an outline of YNU,

and explained YNU's activities and approaches. Then representatives from the Chinese universities made presentations on the characteristics, approaches and international exchange activities of their respective universities. This was followed by discussions toward promoting Japan-China inter-university cooperation, with participation from the audience.

Prior to the symposium, on March 25 at the Information Technology Service Center, Center Director Yuichi Haseba presided over an introduction of the High Vision Distance Lecture and Meeting System using the Internet, primarily being developed by Professor Hiroshi Arisawa of the Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences.



At the symposium



Surrounding the president



Port site tour at Takashima



Yokohama National University

横浜国立大学

TOPICS

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