

Monthly Report of Gifu University

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(January 19)

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Partnership Agreement with Ibigawa Town

On January 19, 2016, Gifu University concluded a partnership agreement with Ibigawa Town, Gifu Prefecture.

The aims of the agreement are to form and develop a vigorous community, to foster human resources who will assume an active role in the future, and to promote the educational and cultural activities of town people. Under this new agreement, Gifu University and Ibigawa Town will establish a comprehensive and close relationship in diverse fields and deepen their relationship in a sustainable and expansive manner. Gifu University has already concluded similar agreements with other municipalities in Gifu Prefecture, and this is the 14th such agreement with local governments.

At the signing ceremony, Mr. Takao Somiya, Mayor of Ibigawa Town said in his speech, “Our continued joint activities led to the conclusion of this partnership agreement. I would like to ask Gifu University to give us a helping hand in invigoration of Ibigawa Town.” President Hisataka Moriwaki commented, “Gifu University and Ibigawa Town have already jointly been implementing activities such as control measures for bird and animal damage, local promotion using wild game, and collaborative projects with Ibi Senior High School. Under this comprehensive partnership agreement, Gifu University will make more efforts for the further development of the University and Ibigawa Town.”

Gifu University and Ibigawa Town will work together for local revitalization by utilizing farm products in the town’s Ozu District and by promoting other projects.



President Moriwaki (right) shaking hands with Mr. Somiya after signing of the agreement

The 9th Press Conference by the President

Gifu University held the 9th Press Conference by the President on January 20, 2016.

First, President Hisataka Moriwaki introduced the new International Liberal Arts Course to be established at the Faculty of Regional Studies in April 2016, in line with Gifu University's Future Visions for the year 2025.

Next, Professors Akiro Takeuchi and Hiroaki Wasada, Dean and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Regional Studies, respectively, then explained an outline of the Course. After a lively question and answer session between the reporters and speakers, this 9th Press Conference became another opportunity to share information about Gifu University with the general public.



President Moriwaki introducing the Course



Professor Takeuchi speaking to the reporters

Delegation from Office of the Basic Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand, makes a courtesy call on President

On January 18, 2016, a delegation from the Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC), Ministry of Education, Thailand made a courtesy call on President Hisataka Moriwaki.

Members of the delegation were:

Mr. Payom Chinnawong, Deputy Secretary-General of the Basic Education Commission

Mr. Amnat Wichayanuwat, Director of Bureau of Special Education

Mr. Passakom Pongsitdhakom, Director of Supervisor Development Center

Mr. Sujin Sawangsri, Director of Lopburi Panyanukul School

Mrs. Yupha Iemsanguan, Foreign Relations Office of Policy and Planning Bureau

In their meeting with the President, Dr. Fumiaki Suzuki, Executive Director for International Affairs and Public Relations, Dr. Satoshi Ema, Executive Director for Academic and Affiliated School Affairs, Dr. Shinya Oba of the Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences and Ms. Chanida Eksapang were in attendance. Ms. Eksapang is a government scholarship student from Thailand who is currently studying at the Faculty of Education of Gifu University. Dr. Yoshinori Furuta, President of Chubu Gakuin University was also invited to the meeting.

Gifu University and the Ministry of Education of Thailand has long been collaborating with each another in the field of special needs education and such long-term relationship culminated in the signing of the Framework of Agreement between OBEC and Gifu University in March 2015.

In the meeting with the President, Mr. Payom said that the delegation would like to observe special needs education and support programs in Japan because participation of people with special needs in society is much more active in Japan than in Thailand. Among others, the delegation expressed great interest in the programs implemented at Gifu University to promote employment of people with special needs at farming fields and teacher's training courses for special needs education offered to the students of the Faculty of Education.

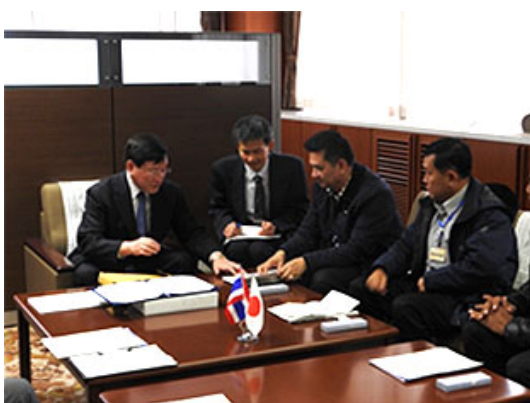
In 2017, the Ministry of Education of Thailand is scheduled to host an international seminar for special needs education, and the participants of the meeting agreed that

Gifu University and Chubu Gakuin University would join hands to offer support to this seminar.

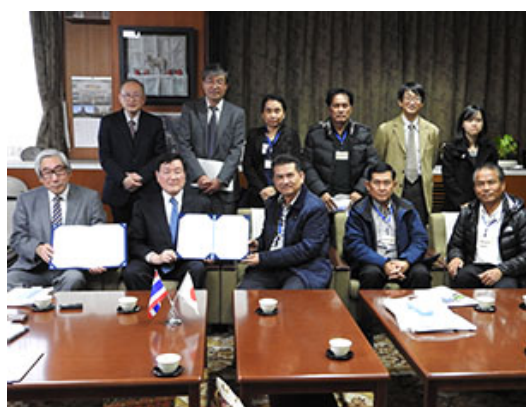
After the meeting with the President, the delegation visited the Faculty of Education and attended a meeting with the teachers specializing in special needs education. First, Professor Naotake Iketani, Dean of the Faculty presented an overview and introduced curriculum of the Faculty to the delegation, which was followed by lively question and answer session among the participants.

On January 19, the delegation moved to Tokyo and visited the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). They held a meeting with Mr. Yoshinori Hakui, Deputy Director-General, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau, and Mr. Keiji Inoue, Director, Special Needs Education Division. They talked about a planned autism education research institute (tentative) in Thailand and future personnel exchange.

On January 20, the delegation visited the Special Needs Education School for Children with Autism, University of Tsukuba, and the National Institute of Special Needs Education in Yokosuka City, Kanagawa Prefecture. The delegates exchanged opinions with the officials at these institutions concerning acceptance and sending of teaching staff. Mr. Masaki Yokoyama, Executive Director for General Affairs and Finance and Dr. Oba accompanied the delegation to Tokyo and joined these series of meetings. All of these talks and discussions gave the participants a lot of insights into the issues of special needs education.



Meeting with the President



Group Photo



Meeting at the Faculty of Education



Visit to MEXT
(left: Mr. Hakui, right: Mr. Payom)

Dean of the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta makes a courtesy call on President

On January 21, 2016, Dr. Katy Campbell, Dean of the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta (Canada) and Ms. Mimi Hui, Advisor to the Dean on International Relations made a courtesy call on President Hisataka Moriwaki.

Dr. Fumiaki Suzuki, Executive Director for International Affairs and Public Relations, Dr. Mutsuhiro Shima of the Faculty of Engineering and Mr. Raymond Co, English lecturer of the same faculty and the former ESL instructor of the University of Alberta, were in attendance at the meeting.

Dr. Campbell and Ms. Hui introduced the English Language Program at the University of Alberta to some faculty staff who attended the meeting and subsequently in a private meeting with President Moriwaki. At the general meeting, they presented in detail about the U of A's Intensive Day programs in ESL (English as a second language) for international students, as well as customized program such as the English Language & Cultural Seminars, the Advanced Professional Program, and the Bridging Program (an academic English preparatory program for study abroad).

The University of Alberta, Faculty of Extension has been providing customized programs for Japanese students from partner universities in Japan (both national and private universities) for years. The two delegates expressed their strong wish to accept teaching staff and students from Gifu University in the future by referring to their expertise and long record of accepting international students at the University of Alberta.

It is hoped that collaboration between the University of Alberta and Gifu University, particularly in the field of language education will be enhanced on the belief that improving language proficiency of teaching staff and students of Gifu University is indispensable to internationalization in the years to come.



Meeting with the President



Group photo

Partnership Agreement with Ginan Town

On January 29, 2016, Gifu University concluded a partnership agreement with Ginan Town, Gifu Prefecture.

Under the Agreement, the two entities aim to contribute to the creation and development of a vigorous community and nurturing human resources that will be responsible for the future by establishing a comprehensive and close relationship and further cooperation in a sustainable and constructive manner. Gifu University has entered into similar agreements with other municipalities and this is the 15th such agreement with a local government in Gifu Prefecture.

At the signing ceremony, Mr. Hideyasu Matsubara, Mayor of Ginan Town, said in his speech, “I feel encouraged that under this agreement, Ginan Town could have a great support from Gifu University organizing and holding various gatherings, events, and other revitalization efforts of Ginan Town.” President Hisataka Moriwaki replied, “I hope that the University students will take advantage of this opportunity and study at Ginan, a town that is growing and flourishing.”

Gifu University and Ginan Town will work together for the revitalization of the local community and for the development and implementation of projects to achieve that aim.



President Moriwaki shaking hands with Mr. Matsubara after the signing of the agreement

UGSAS Concludes Memorandum of Understanding for Double Ph.D. Degree Program with Kasetsart University, Thailand

On February 1, 2016, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (UGSAS) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding for a Double Ph.D. Degree Program (“MOU”) with Kasetsart University, Thailand.

Kasetsart University is a national university founded on February 2, 1943, and is the first agricultural university and third oldest university in Thailand. Kasetsart University has seven domestic campuses including Bankhen Campus. The University is recognized as one of the largest universities in Thailand, with many departments where more than 58,000 students are learning about Science, Art, Social Science, the Humanities, Education, Engineering, Architecture, etc. Also, Faculty of Agriculture has an international course. Kasetsart University concluded educational and research partnership agreements with many universities in Japan, including Hiroshima University.

On the morning of February 1, Dr. Masateru Senge, Dean of UGSAS, had a meeting with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gunjana Theeragool, Dean and Graduate School Administrative Coordinator of Kasetsart University, discussing future international exchange and collaboration for education and research activities. Dr. Senge was later invited to visit Kasetsart University’s International Dormitory and had a meeting with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Poonpipope Kasemsap, Acting Vice President for International Relations. In the meeting, they discussed collaboration for education and research activities, and this was followed by the signing ceremony for the MOU and the conferment of the title of Gifu University visiting professor to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vichien Kitpreechavanich of the Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Science.

On February 2, the opening ceremony for the IC-GU12*’s joint laboratory for microorganisms, established in the Department of Microbiology, was held. Prof. Dr. Supa Hannongbua, Dean of the Faculty of Science, explained about the equipment that Gifu University provided to the laboratory and specific joint research activities with UGSAS.

UGSAS plans to hold a workshop on microorganisms at Kasetsart University with the aim of promoting the globalization of Gifu University and Kasetsart University, as well as advancing exchanges with local industry. Dr. Senge and Prof. Dr. Supa Hannongbua discussed prospective themes and dates, and the selection of the venue for the workshop.

During the visit of Dr. Senge to Kasetsart University, a remote lecture system for Gifu University’s Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences and UGSAS was installed at Kasetsart University, and a communication test was conducted between the two universities. The successful result of the test proved that learning support for international students would be even further improved.

*International Consortium of Universities in South and Southeast Asian Regions for the Doctoral Education on the Agricultural Science and Biotechnology



Meeting with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gunjana Theeragool



Meeting between Assoc. Prof. Dr. Poonpipope Kasemsap and Dr. Senge



Commemorative photo after the signing ceremony



Conferment of the title of Gifu University visiting professor to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vichien Kitpreechavanich



Opening Ceremony for the joint laboratory (Prof. Dr. Supa Hannongbua and Dr. Senge) In the joint laboratory



Communication test of the remote lecture system with UGSAS Visit to the proposed site for the workshop

Degree Awarding

Degree	Diploma Number	Name	Date of Degree Awarding	Dissertation Title
Ph.D.in Medical Sciences	Ko ^{*1} -No.1004	Komei Yanase	January 20, 2016	Prevention of radiation esophagitis by polaprezinc (zinc L-carnosine) in patients with non-small cell lung cancer who received chemoradiotherapy
Ph.D.in Medical Sciences	Otsu ^{*2} -No.1484	Yoshihiro Tanaka	January 20, 2016	Elemental diet plus glutamine for the prevention of mucositis in esophageal cancer patients receiving chemotherapy: a feasibility study

*1 completed the study of the course

*2 completed by dissertation only

Foreign Researchers Accepted by Gifu University in January

Faculty	Name (Country)	Title, University	Period	Research Title
Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences	El-Habashi Nagwan, Mahmoud (Egypt)	Associate Professor, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Kafr El- sheikh University	January 25 - July 24, 2016	Pathological study on equine herpesvirus infection