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Introduction

We hope you’ll enjoy this third issue of the GIP-TRIAD Newsletter, which introduces international exchange events and other activities that took place between University of Tsukuba and its partners for GIP-TRIAD.

Activities

Visit to University of Bordeaux and other institutions in Bordeaux by Prof. Saburo Aoki

From March 21 to 24, Prof. Saburo Aoki, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Co-Director of ICR, Director of ARENA, visited the Bordeaux office of University of Tsukuba (UT), University of Bordeaux (UB), Université Bordeaux Montaigne, and Les Afriqueas dans le monde of Sciences Po Bordeaux with Assoc. Prof. Muneo Kaigo, Head of Humanities Information Science Research Field in ICR and Ms. Rie Inaba, Researcher. On 22 at Bordeaux Office, they shared some information on the progress status of a collaborative session in Tsukuba Global Science Week (TGSW) and on the cooperation in the future with Assoc. Prof. Ronan Hervouet, Deputy Director of the Center Emile Durkheim, Assoc. Prof. Clare Schiff, and Assoc. Prof. Sandrine Rui. On 22 and 23, the members of our university gave lectures in Université Bordeaux Montaigne. On 23, they made a courtesy visit to Prof. Ana Maria Binet, Vice President of UB, and had a discussion with its faculty staffs about the possibilities of promoting the interchange and cooperation between our universities. On the following day, they visited Prof. Vincent Dousset, Vice President of UB, and had a discussion about the same themes with Prof. Michel Brousse and private entrepreneurs.

A Soirée on Victoire campus in University of Bordeaux for introducing Japanese Culture

On April 29, A Soirée was held on Victoire campus in University of Bordeaux to introduce Japanese culture. This event was planned by Japanese students studying in UB including students from UT. They worked very hard to prepare Japanese meal from the previous day, and they had a booth for visitors to try the tea ceremony and writing kanji. There was also a corner for raising funds for the disaster by Kumamoto earthquakes and for visitor participation-type events. the Sinobue and Shamisen was played by Japanese students and Yosakoi dance was performed by an external invited organization, both of which everyone was excited about. Japanese pop culture is popular in France and many people are interested in our culture, which led about 150 people to this Soirée. This event must have attracted more interests in Japanese culture from visitors.
Visit to University of Bordeaux by Assoc. Prof. Mizuki Oka

From March 24 to 25, Assoc. Prof. Mizuki Oka (Faculty of Engineering, Information and Systems), who works for establishing the Jukebox system, visited UB to have a meeting with its staff on the system. She also made a courtesy visit to Prof. Vincent Dousset, Vice President of UB on 24 and visited the Bordeaux Office on 25. In the future, it is planned to promote the system to share courses among CiC universities including UB and NTU.

Orientation of Summer School Programs held in University of Bordeaux and National Taiwan University

The orientation about the summer program in UB and National Taiwan University (NTU) was held on April 25 for the undergraduate students. Prof. Dominique Rolin, Scientific Director Functional Genomics Center of UB, introduced the program which will be held from July 17 to 30 through Skype. Followed by Asst. Prof. Junichi P. Abe, who introduced BACT Summer Program held in NTU. 40 to 50 students who have interest in studying abroad attended.

Recently, summer programs are becoming one of our regular exchange events and it is hoped that three universities will collaborate and exchanges more through these programs.

Visit to University of Tsukuba by Bordeaux Judo Team

From April 19 to May 3, Prof. Michel Brousse, Vice President of the French Judo Federation, and Mr. Jean-Pierre Millon, the coach from Centre d’Education Populaire et de Sport (CREPS de Bordeaux) from the Judo Team of UB, visited UT. During their stay, the Judo Team had training and friendly matches with our Judo team. They also attended a workshop on the form of classical Judo by Prof. Katsuyuki Masuchi and proud skills of the Olympic medalists, in addition to the lectures on sports science and
On February 22, Assoc. Prof. Mizuki Oka, Junko Sasaki (Office of Educational Cloud), Yoshiaki Hashino and Kazunori Akiba (Division of Educational Promotion) of UT visited NTU to have a discussion about the Course Jukebox System. In the future, we can share available courses with UB and other partner universities which have the CiC agreement with UT. The courses provided by Joint-degree program including GiP-TRIAD will be on the list.

From February 21 to 25, Prof. Toshiharu Enomae, College of Agro-Biological Resource Sciences of UT, visited NTU, and consulted with Prof. Hsiao-Wei Yuan, Chairman, Dept. Forestry and Resource Conservation, about a possibility of using facilities in NTU by our students as the training field overseas. He also visited Xitou, where NTU has an experimental forest, to see a wood processing facility, wood products museum, landscape zones in which people can experience forest bathing. These places are expected to be used by GiP-TRIAD for field training.
International Medical Science Training Course

For 10 days from March 10 to 19, ten students of Medical Science experienced practical and laboratory exercises for the purpose of “applying its unique biological resources in Taiwan to medical science.” Taiwan is in its tropical and subtropical areas, having unique climate, with many mountains that are over 3000m tall, so they focused on the research capability of NTU, its bioresources, and the Chinese traditional medicine. Those exercises included field works in the forest of NTU, studying Taiwan’s distinct biodiversity, and exploring the bioresources used for health and medical purposes. In the laboratory in NTU, they identified the biological samples that they had collected, and performed a component analyses of the extraction liquid and medical analyses of the effect on cancer cells and active oxygen.

On the last day of the visit, they studied the method of scientific presentations by presenting their results. During their stay, they visited National Museum of Natural Science, a biotechnology company, an institute for Chinese tea, a factory for wood utilization training, and Chiufen. A number of faculty staff and students of NTU participated in this course, so our students had great opportunities to learn not only how to communicate in English, but also the culture, companies, nature, science in Taiwan, and to think about their own future. This field is expected to be used by GIP-TRIAD.

Visit to Taiwan by President Kyosuke Nagata and Vice President

On April 23, President Kyosuke Nagata and Vice President Caroline Fern Benton visited Taiwan to attend the Board of Directors Meeting of the Association of East Asian Research Universities (AEARU) at National Tsing Hua University.

The AEARU Student Athletic Competition (Quarter Marathon) was also held on the same day. 4 students from UT competed, and two of them won the top two prizes.

Then they made a courtesy visit to Dr. Tsai Mao-Feng, Former Professor of Soochow University and gave an interview about the Japanese language education. He completed his master’s degree at Tokyo University of Education and doctor’s degree at Tsukuba University. He received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon from Japanese Government in 2005, which was the first time after the diplomatic relations between the two countries were severed. The members of the alumni association, people from Soochow University, and Prof. Tsai-Kun Li, one of GIP-TRIAD members in NTU also attended. In the course of GIP-TRIAD, students will have chances to study native languages besides English and native language.

Visit to Interchange Association by a party of Senior High School at Sakado, University of Tsukuba

On April 29, Vice Principal Katsuyoshi Ishii, and Teacher Ryosuke Konno of Senior High School at Sakado visited the Taiwan Office of UT. They also visited Interchange Association, which functions as de facto Japanese embassy in Taiwan, and Prof. Miki Hattori in NTU, to have a discussion on the international exchanges by junior and senior high school students and the international cooperation between universities and high schools. It may not be related to GIP-TRIAD directly right now, but this will lead to student enrollment and to increasing supporters in the future.
French Government Scholarship for Overseas Students

The French Government Scholarship System for Overseas Students is a system that is available for Japanese students and postdoctoral researchers who aspire to study (through master, doctoral, or double degree programs) or conduct research in France. Successful applicants are selected based on their application documents and a face-to-face interview. Applicants are asked to submit a research proposal and make necessary arrangements with the accepting institution in France prior to applying for the scholarship. Scholars can receive support for a period of 6 to 12 months. Details are available in the following URL: (http://www.science-japon.org/bgf/)

“Monsanto Scholarship for the Cultivation of Professionals Aspiring for Sustainable Agriculture”

(1) Qualifications for Applying:
1. Students who belong to Global Food Security Course of UT
2. Students who are excellent in personality and on academic performances, being motivated to study abroad
3. Students who are in financial need for studying abroad

(2) Number of Students to be Awarded Support: a few students

(3) What’s Supported?: Partial support for overseas travel and accommodation expenses

(4) How to Apply: Applicants should prepare and submit the following necessary documents.
   - Application period: From 23 May to 3 June, 2016
   - Documents to be submitted
     1. Application form (Predefined form)
     2. Transcripts (Both Undergraduate and Graduate)
     3. Research Proposal (Predefined form)
     4. English Proficiency Exam Score: TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS
     5. Recommendation of your supervisor (Predefined form)

(5) Selection: Document screening and an interview will be conducted by a screening committee made up of representatives of both University of Tsukuba and Monsanto Japan Ltd.

(6) Obligations of scholars: Successful applicants who are granted support will be asked to present the results of their research and work abroad at Monsanto Japan Ltd. before graduation.

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The interchange between the University of Tsukuba and its partner institutions National Taiwan University and University of Bordeaux has become increasingly active, and as such, educational and research collaborations between the three institutions are similarly expected to increase. Correspondingly, the GIP-TRIAD Newsletter plans to continue to report on these developments and the activities of UT’s students and on-site faculty. Of course, we aim to keep the GIP-TRIAD Newsletter interesting and relevant to our readers, so we truly appreciate any and all feedback regarding its content. Inquires/Comments can be directed to:
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