GIP-TRIAD Newsletter



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3 Editor's Note



Introduction

In the second issue of 2017, we report on visits by GIP-TRIAD faculty to Taiwan and Bordeaux for the purpose of holding discussions for GIP-TRIAD and to view related facilities. In addition, we also provide an update on other activities such recent student exchanges between National Taiwan University (NTU), University of Bordeaux (UB), and University of Tsukuba (UT), information on the double degree program (DDP), and introduce events within UT.

Activities

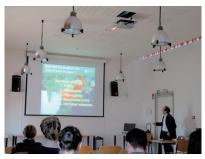
Visit to INRA Bordeaux Center and University of Bordeaux (UB) by Prof. Hiroshi Ezura and Assist. Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe

From Mar. 27 to 29, 2017, Prof. Hiroshi Ezura from Life and Environmental Sciences (Director of Tsukuba-Plant Innovation Research Center (T-PIRC), former-Director of the Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences) and Assist. Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe visited the University of Bordeaux (UB) and the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) Bordeaux Center.

First, on Mar. 27, a seminar was held at the INRA Bordeaux Center to introduce the Tsukuba-Plant Innovation Research Center (T-PIRC) which was launched on Apr. 1. In addition, discussions were held with INRA Bordeaux Center's Dr. Christophe Rothan and Dr. Pierre Baldet and UB's Assoc. Prof. Kentaro Mori regarding the launch of the International Associate Laboratory (LIA) which is a new framework that extends the Japan-France Joint Labo (TIL) framework established between UT and INRA in 2008 to UB. At the INRA seminar, Prof. Chiaki Matsukura, UT faculty posted to the UT Bordeaux Office, provided an introduction on the Global Innovation Joint Degree Program (GIP-TRIAD) which is currently under construction and the Double degree program - Global Food Security Course (DDP-GFS) which began in Life and Environmental Sciences from the 2015 academic year. Then on Mar. 29, Prof. Antoine de Daruvar, Director of UB's Doctoral School of Health and Life Sciences and Prof. Dominique Rolin, Prof. Michel Hernould, and Assoc. Prof. Kentaro Mori held discussions on the establishment of a DDP-GFS doctoral program (Prof. Hiroshi Ezura, Prof. Chiaki Matsukura and Assist. Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe participated on the UT side).

In parallel with the above schedule, the party held meetings with Ms. Hitomi Takei (2nd-year student majoring in Agro-Bioresources Science and Technology) who is currently staying at the INRA Bordeaux Center as part of her DDP-GFS, and Mr. Guillaume Decros who will stay at UT as a student from Oct. in the same program, which is running for its second year, as well as exchanging opinions over a broad range of issues related to future linkages with UB's Prof. Dominique Rolin and INRA Bordeaux Center UMR1332 Sub-Director, Dr. Christian Chevalier. In addition, as well as visiting the UT Bordeaux office and student dormitory, the party met with Mr. Koki Seo, from UT Agro-Bioresources Science and Technology, who is currently an exchange student at UB.

Through the above-mentioned activities, we hope that linkages will be deepened in terms of both education and research among UT Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, UB, and INRA.







Left: Prof. Hiroshi Ezura provides an introduction to T-PIRC, at the INRA Bordeaux Center D Center: Meeting with UT students staying in Bordeaux on the double degree program.

Right: Visiting the dormitory at UB. Meeting with a UT Agro-Bioresources Science and Technology student who is in Bordeaux on an exchange program. (From left: Mr. Koki Seo, Prof. Hiroshi Ezura, Assist. Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe).

•••• Briefing on the DDP majoring in Agro-Bioresources Science and Technology at the UT Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences

On Apr. 10, 2017, we held a briefing on the DDP majoring in Agro-Bioresources Science and Technology at the UT Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences. First, Prof. Yuichi Yamaoka, Director of the department provided an overview of the DDP program, and then faculty in charge of each sub-course (affiliated school) explained about the DDP at UB (Prof. Miyako Kusano), NTU (Prof. Yutaka Kitamura and Assist. Prof. Junichi P. Abe) and Utah State University (Prof. Taylor DeMar). In addition, Mr. Masaki Asachi, who was the first DDP student to study abroad at UB and who obtained his DDP (Master's degree), talked about his experiences studying overseas and his job-hunting. Participating students actively asked questions and there was a sense of their strong ambition and interest in studying abroad. We hope that lots of students with high aspirations will participate in the DDP. See the following URL for Mr. Masaki Asachi's study abroad report: (http:// www.life.tsukuba.ac.jp/activity/Global_Food_ Security_Course_report_by_Mr_Asaji_in_ University_of_Borde aux_final_20170407.pdf).









Top left: Prof. Yuichi Yamaoka, Director of the department provides an overview of the DDP program.

Top right: Mr. Masaki Asachi talks of his study abroad experiences. Bottom left: Prof. Yutaka Kitamura provides an overview of DDP at NTU. Bottom right: Briefing participants.

· · · Visit to Tsukuba-Plant Innovation Research Center (T-PIRC) by Ms. Camile Cholet

On May 24, 2017, Ms. Camile Cholet, a member of UB faculty, and Ms. Yuko Yuhara from Global Commons visited Tsukuba-Plant Innovation Research Center (T-PIRC). Prof. Ezura, the Center Director, provided an overview on the research center after which they viewed the research center facilities. As well as visiting the Center, they met with two DDP-GFS students currently studying at UT, Mr. Linejy Tavars and Mr. Mathieu Bruggeman, and one research student, Mr. Johan Hunziker, and exchanged opinions on living in France and Japan, lesson formats, and student support systems.







Left: Meeting with UB students. Center & right: Viewing the T-PIRK facilities.

·· Visit to UB by Prof. Yoshito Kumagai (Director of the GIP-TRIAD Preparation Office)

From Jun. 7 to 9, 2017, Prof. Yoshito Kumagai (Director of the GIP-TRIAD Preparation Office), Prof. Masao Ichikawa, Assoc. Prof. Ryosuke Ohniwa, Assist. Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe, Assist. Prof. Yumi Abiko, and three Education Promotion staff members (Mr. Akio Nakagami, Mr. Kota Kurihara, and Mr. Yuta Koizumi) visited the University of Bordeaux (UB). This visit was made for the purpose of advance coordination for joint operation of GIP-TRIAD which will be launched in Sept. and to inspect education and research and student support facilities for implementing the program at UB. In Bordeaux, the party was joined by Prof. Chiaki Matsukura, the local coordinator of this program in Bordeaux, and Prof. Joji Kijima, the Director of the UT Bordeaux Office. On the morning of Jun. 7, the party exchanged opinions with Prof. Dominique Rolin and his faculty colleagues responsible for GIP-TRIAD and with Mr. Frédéric Bertrand, International Partnerships Officer (Africa-Asia) and his administrative colleagues, on the framework for a joint degree program in France and on French visa application procedures, etc. In the afternoon, the party visited Planète Végétal, which is a candidate for field practice at UB, and Château Couhins. On the morning of Jun. 8, the party continued opinion exchanges of the day before with UB related faculty on student registration and determination of completion of studies at UB. In the afternoon, as well as attending a lunch

meeting hosted by Prof. Vincent Dousset, UB Vice President for International Affairs, the party inspected facilities such as the CROUS student dormitory, library and classrooms at the Talence campus (College of Science & Technology). The party also visited Bordeaux Sciences Agro (Grandes Écoles), a UB affiliated institution which will also participate and cooperate in GIP-TRIAD and exchanged opinions with the Principal, Prof. Olivier Lavialle, Prof. Jean-Philippe Fontenelle, Director of the School of Plant Science and Director of International Exchanges, Prof. Catherine Benneteau, and other GIP-TRIAD related faculty as well as inspecting the Bordeaux Sciences Agro facilities.

On the morning of Jun. 9, a three-way GIP-TRIAD tele-conference was held at INRA-Bordeaux Center (Green campus) among UT, NTU and UB, and in continuation from the discussions of the day before, opinions were exchanged on the schedule for determination of completion of studies and on operation of various sub-committees for this program. In the afternoon, the party relocated to Carreire campus, where Prof. Kumagai, Prof. Ichikawa, and Assoc. Prof. Ohniwa held a seminar that introduced their research to UB students and faculty, followed by informal discussions with students planning to participate in GIP-TRIAD and the DDP-GFS. We hope that these sorts of mutual visits will contribute to the smooth running of the program and to securing an even better education and research environment for students.



















- (1): Opinion exchange with UB related faculty.
- (2): Prof. Vincent Dousset, UB Vice President for International Affairs and Prof. Kumagai
- (3): Group photo after opinion exchange.
- (4): Visit to Château Couhins.
- (5): Visit to BordeauxSciences Agro.
- (6): Visit to Planète Végétal.
- (7): Visit to Planète Végétal.
- (8): Prof. Kumagai introduces his research.
- (9): Meeting with UB GIP-TRIAD students and DDP students.

· · Fusion of Field and Laboratory Studies (Taiwan)

In the 2016 academic year too, we held the pre-course in Fusion of Field and Laboratory Studies for the GIP-TRIAD. From Mar. 9 to 18, 2017, six undergraduate students from UT Medical Sciences participated. The topic this time was utilization for medical science at NTU College of BioResources . After fieldwork and sample collection at NTU Keito Experimental Forest from Mar. 10 to 12, students conducted experimental research at NTU Prof. Tang-Long Shen's laboratory from Mar. 13 to 16, on sample identification, component extraction and the effect of components on cancer cells. On Mar. 17, the students reported on their results. They also enjoyed cultural experiences such as Taiwanese tea, etc. The students benefitted from great assistance and support from Prof. Shen, and all the students and staff at Prof. Shen's laboratory.







Left: Group photo. Center: Conducting field work. Right: Cultural experience (Taiwanese tea).

Visit to NTU by Prof. Caroline Fern Benton, UT Vice President and Executive Director for Global Affairs and UT-NTU Alumni Association Meeting

On Mar. 21, 2017, Prof. Caroline Fern Benton, UT Vice President and Executive Director for Global Affairs, attended the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) conference held in Kaohsiung city, Taiwan, and during the conference, attended the informal gathering of Ibaraki Citizens and Tsukuba University Taiwan Alumni jointly held by the UT Taiwan Office in Taipei. Many people participated from the Taiwan alumni, including the Chairman, Prof. Hua-Wei Lin. In addition, students from UT and NTU currently studying on the DDP program, etc. also attended.



Group photo

··· Since Apr. 2017, Distance Learning Course began among UT, NTU and Kyoto University (KU).

In the 2017 academic year too, this distance learning course began (among UT, NTU and KU). This course is compulsory for NTU GIP-TRIAD students.



Scenes from distance learning courses

Construction of a New Distance Learning Course in Agro-Bioresources at NTU College of BioResources and Agriculture and Activities to Promote the Campus-in-Campus (CiC) Program

From Mar. 16 to 18, 2017, Prof. Yutaka Kitamura, Director of Agro-Bioresources, and Prof. Ryuichi Shigeno, faculty in charge of educational affairs, visited NTU and conducted coordination work in preparation for the launch of the distance learning course in Agro-Bioresources Engineering and Food Science. At the same time, Mr. Doi from UT Education Promotion also provided an introduction to CiC via Skype.

Introducing DDP and GIP-TRIAD at the UT-NTU Student Exchange Project

The UT-NTU Student Exchange Project was held as part of our project to foster Top Global University Project, and as the first event of this project, from Dec. 2 to 4, 2016, twenty UT students visited NTU and held group discussions with twenty students from NTU. Then, as the second event of this project, on May 19 to 21, 2017, NTU students visited UT and held group discussions with UT students. For details see: http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/news/n201705221815.html At the event on May 19, NTU students currently studying at UT as DDP students and UT students planning to study at NTU from Sept. as DDP students provided an introduction to the double degree program (DDP) and responded to Q&A. In addition, we also provided an introduction to new programs for GIP-TRIAD and Campus-in-Campus. We hope that the numbers of highly-motivated students who wish to participate in these programs will continue to increase.





Top: NTU and UT DDP students (at the UT Global Village Community Station)
Bottom: Introducing DDP and GIP-TRIAD

Publication of the Special Talk among Mr. Sadaharu Oh, Prof. Hua-Wei Lin and Prof. Kyosuke Nagata in the UT Magazine, "Tsuku Comm"

An article on the Special Talk held among Mr. Sadaharu Oh, Prof. Hua-Wei Lin and Prof. Kyosuke Nagata in Taichung (Taiwan) in Nov. 2016 has been published in the April edition of the UT Magazine, "Tsuku Comm". (http://www.tsukuba. ac.jp/public/booklets/communications/pdf/201704.pdf). They discuss important matters through the topic of baseball, considered from the position of each of the players (students), manager (lab leader), and team manager (Principal), etc.



Special Talk Article



Visit to National Taiwan University (NTU) by Prof. Yoshito Kumagai (Director of GIP-TRIAD Preparation Office)

From May 15 to 16, 2017, Prof. Yoshito Kumagai (Director of GIP-TRIAD Preparation Office), Assist. Prof. Junichi P. Abe, and three Education Promotion staff members (Ms. Yoko Arai, Ms. Junko Watanabe, Ms. Yuko Matsukane) visited NTU.

On the morning of May 15, after meeting with Prof. Luisa Shu-Ying Chang, NTU Vice President for International Affairs, the party held a meeting with Prof. Tsai-Kun Li, leader of the new GIP-TRIAD program at NTU, and staff responsible for international administration on the new program implementation system and practical matters related to procedure on receiving students from overseas. In the afternoon, they visited the College of Medicine where the GIP-TRIAD office is located and met with Prof. Shan-Chwen Chang, Dean of College of Medicine. Then Prof. Kumagai made a lecture and provided a briefing on the program, which was attended not only by related faculty but also by five students who wish to study on the program from Sept., and exchanges were deepened.

During this visit, the party also inspected the NTU education and research environment and, with guidance and assistance from Prof. Chang-Chuan Chan (College of Public Health), Prof. Hsinyu Lee (Bio-technology Research Center), Prof. Ming-Ju Chen (College of BioResources and Agriculture), and Asst. Prof. Chau-Ti Ting (College of Life Science), they viewed the classrooms and laboratories in each organization that will be used for GIP-TRIAD. In addition, they also visited the Water Resources Dormitory. where GIP-TRIAD students will be accommodated, and received a briefing on the facilities and environment from the dormitory operator.

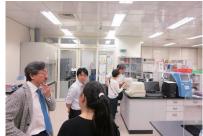
We hope that these sorts of mutual visits will continue to contribute to the smooth running of the program and to securing an even better education and research environment for students.













Top left: Meeting at international office.
Top center: Visit to College of Medicine.
Top right: Poster for Prof. Kumagai's lecture.
Bottom left: Scene from Prof. Kumagai's lecture and program briefing.
Bottom center: Inspecting the labs at College of Life Sciences.
Bottom right: External view of Shuiyuan Dormitory.

By visiting National Taiwan University and University of Bordeaux from May to June of this year and speaking directly with GIP-TRIAD related faculty, we have been able to conduct concrete opinion exchanges among the respective faculty leaders at each university. We plan to continue to further expand and enhance information about UT faculty posted to these universities, students studying there, and UT overseas offices. Our aim is to make this newsletter as interesting and relevant for everyone as possible so please feel free to contact us with any opinions and requests relating to its content.

Pr's Inquires / Comments can be directed to:

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