

# *GIP-TRIAD*

# *Newsletter*

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GIP-TRIAD HP



# 1 / Introduction

The International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (GIP-TRIAD) was officially started in September 2017. We were able to smoothly accept students from the University of Bordeaux and National Taiwan University as the joint degree program was launched in collaboration between the three universities with no major problems. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved for the effort they have made in establishing this educational program. In this issue, we will once again introduce GIP-TRIAD as well as report on the activities of GIP-TRIAD students between September and November and the kick-off symposium in TGSW 2017.

## 2 / Activities

### ... Launch of the International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (GIP-TRIAD)

In September 2017, Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, the University of Tsukuba established an International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (GIP-TRIAD). This program is a graduate-level joint program conducted by three universities in Japan, Asia, and Europe: the University of Tsukuba, the University of Bordeaux (France) and National Taiwan University (Taiwan).

The students who comes from each university study global-scale issues: "Food and Health" at three universities together. From September 1 to 9, students from France and Taiwan arrived at the University of Tsukuba where they will spend the 1st semester (1st semester: September to February). We operate a tutor system at the University of Tsukuba which is intended to assist foreign students arriving in Japan in smoothly setting up their daily lives here (to assist with procedure for entering a dormitory, opening a bank account, setting up mobile phone and insurance contracts, etc.). We also recommend that students on this program stay at the same dormitory so that they can cooperate with each other to begin their student life here without a hitch.



Left, Center: Arrival of GIP-TRIAD students  
Right: Meeting between tutors and GIP-TRIAD students

We held an initiation seminar over three days from September 11, with an orientation, self-introductions, social gatherings and group work aimed at enabling both faculty and students to get to know one another better and cultivating friendships. On September 14 and 15, we held excursions to aim of deepening students' understanding of food security and food safety. With the cooperation of Toyo Energy Farm CO., LTD., we visited and toured a lettuce hydroponic cultivation facility and a solar-sharing farming type power generation facility. Then, on the afternoon of September 14, we visited Tsukuba City's "Tsukuba Agriculture Research Hall", and students were briefed by an expert guide on initiatives and results related to "Food & Agriculture" at Japanese research institutes. This fieldwork was a good opportunity to relieve the student's nerves as well as to share thinking and cultural differences among the students from the three universities. From September 19, the students divided into three groups and began preparations for their papers and presentations for student presentations for TGSW2017 on issues related to Food & Health and solutions to resolve them.



Group photo in GIP-TRIAD initiation seminar



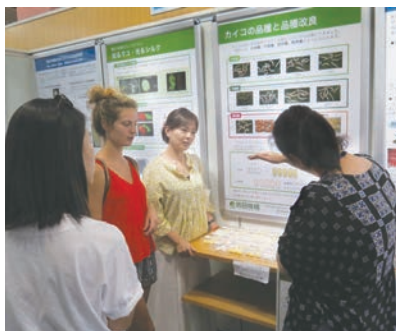


Upper & middle: Scenes from self introduction in GIP-TRIAD initiation seminar  
Lower: Scenes from welcome party for GIP-TRIAD students



Tour of Hydroponic lettuce culture and Solar-sharing farm in TOYO Energy Farm CO., LTD.





Tour of Tsukuba Agriculture Research Hall



Scenes from group work

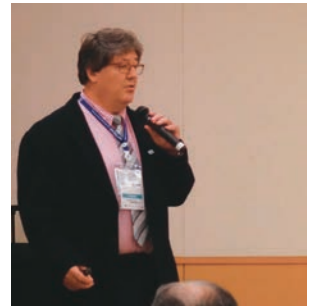
On September 27, a commemoration ceremony was held at the Kick-off Symposium for International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health held, with congratulatory addresses by representatives from the three universities: Kyosuke Nagata (President of the University of Tsukuba), Tei-Wei Kuo (Vice President of National Taiwan University), Vincent Dousset (Vice President of the University of Bordeaux). Then, Professor Yoshito Kumagai, Coordinator of the International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (GIP-TRIAD), provided an overview of the program, and the faculty responsible for the program at the three universities: Ryosuke Ohniwa (Associate Professor of the University of Tsukuba), Tsai-Kun Li (Professor of National Taiwan University), and Dominique Rolin (Professor of the University of Bordeaux) each provided an explanation of the learning content. Each student group made excellent presentations of equally high standards at the student session and lots of questions raised by people attending, making it a good session. We were all impressed by the potential for further development in the future. We have great expectations for these students' activities in the future, making use of the special characteristics of this program, when the lectures and special project research begins in earnest from October.



Commemoration Ceremony at the Kick-off Symposium for the TGSW2017 International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health



Commemoration Ceremony at the Kick-off Symposium for the TGSW2017 International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health



Introduction of study in each University at the Kick-off Symposium for the TGSW2017 International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health



Student session at the Kick-off Symposium for the TGSW2017 International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health



Group photo after student session in TGSW2017



## ... University of Bordeaux, Bordeaux Sciences Agro and INRA Nouvelle-Aquitaine-Bordeaux Centre visited University of Tsukuba

From September 25th to 27th, a party from the University of Bordeaux's College of Health Sciences, Bordeaux Sciences Agro (BSA), and INRA Nouvelle-Aquitaine-Bordeaux Centre came to Tsukuba University on the invitation of GIP-TRIAD and our Bordeaux office. BSA is a public institution of higher education in the field of agricultural science that works closely with the University of Bordeaux and INRA in both education and research through cooperating graduate schools, joint research units (UMRs), and others. These members have also been indirectly involved in the planning of activities such as the joint/double degree program and the Japan-France Joint Laboratory developed by the University of Tsukuba together with the University of Bordeaux and INRA, but had

not had direct contact with our university previously. Therefore, to strengthen the possibilities for cooperation with our university, we invited Prof. Olivier Laviaille, Director of BSA, Prof. Jean-Philippe Fontenelle, delegate for international relations at BSA, and Prof. Catherine Bennetau, a core faculty member of GIP-TRIAD on the Bordeaux side, at the same time as TGSW 2017. Also attending from the University of Bordeaux were Prof. Antoine de Daruvar, Director of the Doctoral School of Health and Life Sciences, Prof. Dominique Rolin, core faculty member of GIP-TRIAD on the Bordeaux side, and Associate Prof. Kentaro Mori, while from INRA Nouvelle-Aquitaine-Bordeaux Centre came Dr. Thierry Candresse, UMR 1332 Unit Director, and Dr. Norbert Bollier. This was the first visit to our university for Prof. de Daruvar and Dr. Candresse. In the morning of the 25th, the party met with our life and environmental sciences senior staff including Prof. Hiroshi Matsumoto, Director of the Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, Prof. Yutaka Kitamura, Director of the College of Agro-biological Resource Sciences, and Prof. Hiroshi Ezura, Director of Tsukuba Plant Innovation Research Center (T-PIRC) to discuss our future collaboration with BSA and the potential for expanding the double degree master's program currently offered in Agro-bioresources to a doctoral program. In the afternoon, there was a visit to inspect the T-PIRC genetic test center and farm.

On the 26th, the party paid a courtesy call to Caroline Benton, our Vice President of Global Affairs, and attended a TGSW symposium organized by T-PIRC titled "Leading University Forum on Plant Resilience and Innovation", given by Prof. Norbert Bollier. Their busy itinerary continued on the 27th, including the GIP-TRIAD kick-off symposium (lecturer: Prof. Rolin) held to welcome Kyosuke Nagata, President of the University of Tsukuba, Vincent Dousset, Vice President of International Relations of the University of Bordeaux, and others, before the party departed from Tsukuba on the 28th.

This was the first time that Prof. de Daruvar, Dr. Candresse and others had visited our university, and such senior faculty interaction is expected to further strengthen the partnership that our life and environmental sciences staff and Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences have with the University of Bordeaux and INRA in future. Also, starting with this visit, BSA intends to carry out a substantial dialog going forward.



Meeting with our life and environmental sciences senior staff [Front row, from left: Prof. Antoine de Daruvar (Director of the Doctoral School of Health and Life Sciences, University of Bordeaux), Prof. Dominique Rolin (University of Bordeaux), Prof. Hiroshi Ezura (Director of T-PIRC), Prof. Hiroshi Matsumoto (Director of Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences), Prof. Olivier Laviaille (Director of BSA), Prof. Yutaka Kitamura (Director of College of Agro-biological Resource Sciences); Back row, from left: Prof. Chiaki Matsukura, Dr. Thierry Candresse (INRA Unit Director), Associate Prof. Kentaro Mori (University of Bordeaux), Prof. Kazuo Watanabe (Deputy Director of T-PIRC), Prof. Yoichi Kainoh (Deputy Director of T-PIRC), Prof. Jean-Philippe Fontenelle (BSA, delegate for international relations), Prof. Catherine Bennetau (BSA), Associate Prof. Nakao Nomura, Assistant Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe]



Meeting with our life and environmental sciences senior staff



Top left: Prof. Hiroshi Ezura introducing T-PIRC

Top right: Visit to T-PIRC genetic test center

Left: Courtesy call to Caroline Benton, Vice President of Global Affairs [Far left: Prof. Takeshi Hirose (Office of Global Initiatives), 5th person: Prof. Yoshito Kumagai (Director, of the GIP-TRIAD Preparation Office), 6th person: Ms. Benton, Vice President, 11th person: Prof. Osamu Ohneda (Office of Global Initiatives), far right: Prof. Joji Kijima (Director, Bordeaux Office)]

## University of Tsukuba holds Fall Study Abroad Fair

The Fall Study Abroad Fair was held at the University of Tsukuba on October 25, 2017. The six faculty and non-faculty members of GIP-TRIAD who took part were Prof. Chiaki Matsukura, Assistant Prof. Junichi Peter Abe, Assistant Prof. Masahiro Akiyama, Assistant Prof. Yoshihiro Okabe, and GIP-TRIAD administrative staff Masako Tsubomi and Youmei Wang. Our booth was in the Joint Degree/Double Degree Program area. The students who visited our booth were mainly from the College of Agro-biological Resource Sciences, as well as from the College of Geoscience, the College of Social Sciences, and others. We hope many of them will apply to join GIP-TRIAD.



## 3 Editor's Note

This issue is the first newsletter since the launch of GIP-TRIAD. From now on, we will focus mainly on the activities of GIP-TRIAD students while continuing to provide information about exchanges of faculty and non-faculty staff members.

We are planning to extend our public relations activities, such as by updating our website, launching a Facebook page, creating leaflets, and so on.

We want to make this newsletter more useful to you all, so please send any comments or requests you may have to the contact person below.

Inquires / Comments can be directed to:

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