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1 / Introduction

13 GIP-TRIAD students finished the 1st semester at the University of Tsukuba successfully, and started a new life in Taiwan from the end of February, 2018. In this, the first issue of 2018, we report on the campus and the facilities of Bordeaux Sciences Agro (BSA). Finally, we report on the recent activities of GIP-TRIAD students.

2 / Activities

University of Tsukuba team visits University of Bordeaux and Bordeaux Sciences Agro

From November 20th - 22nd, 2017, the University of Tsukuba International Joint Degree Master’s Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (GIP-TRIAD) team toured and visited the GIP-TRIAD related facilities at the University of Bordeaux and Bordeaux Sciences Agro to promote GIP-TRIAD. Three members from the University of Tsukuba, Professor Yoshito Kumagai (director of GIP-TRIAD), Assistant Professor Yoshihiro Okabe (Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences), and Youmei Wang (GIP-TRIAD administrative staff member), participated in the tour and conversed with educators from the University of Bordeaux and Bordeaux Sciences Agro.

On November 20th, Professor Caterine Bennetau (University of Bordeaux, Bordeaux Sciences Agro) introduced the e-learning courses offered by the University of Bordeaux. Composed of three courses (Course 1 Food-supplements: Safety, Efficiency Innovation; Course 2 Agronomy of plants with Health Benefits; Course 3 Food-supplements (from 2018): Physiology and Medical Approach), the system enables students to attend lectures from afar using Polycom. Later that afternoon, the team held an introductory meeting for University of Bordeaux students who were interested in GIP-TRIAD. Professor Yoshito Kumagai and Youmei Wang introduced the program and the university, respectively, to the six participating students. Later, the team photographed and filmed the University of Bordeaux campus and visited the research lab of Professor Thierry Noel.

Novemeber 20th: Scenes from the Bordeaux tour
Top Left: Professor Caterine Bennetau explains the E-learning course, Top Middle: Introducing GIP-TRIAD Top Right: Group photo after the introductory session, Bottom Left: Meeting with Professor Thierry Noel, Bottom Middle and Left: UB facilities

On November 21st, the three universities held a joint video-conference at INRA-Bordeaux-Aquitaine (INRA-Green campus). The team took their lunch at the facility cafeteria after touring the INRA-Green campus tomato cultivation greenhouse and laboratories. Later that afternoon, the team visited Bordeaux Sciences Agro (BSA, Grandes Ecoles) and
met with Professor Olivier Lavialle, president of BSA, to discuss the participatory framework for BSA in GIP-TRIAD. Later, Professor Caterine Bennetau guided the team on a visit through the BSA-administered dormitory where the GIP-TRIAD students are scheduled to live from September, the cafeteria, and the lecture halls.

On November 22nd, the BSA educators introduced the content of their research, and the team met with students who were interested in GIP-TRIAD. Later, the team promoted GIP-TRIAD in the auditorium to first-year BSA students. After Professor Caterine Bennetau provided an overview of GIP-TRIAD, Professor Yoshito Kumagai held a special mock lecture on Toxicology and on Food and Health. Approximately 100 BSA students attended, to whom leaflets and souvenirs were distributed. We hope that many of these students will apply to GIP-TRIAD in two years. Later that afternoon, the team took their lunch at the winery (Château Luchey-Halde) owned by BSA, after which Associate Professor Alfredo Coehlo introduced the Master of Business and Science in Vineyard & Winery Management at BSA. Later, Guilherme Martins provided a general explanation of the Luchey-Halde vineyard and winery.

Although the schedule was tight, the team’s time in Bordeaux was fruitful in terms of providing support for GIP-TRIAD students in the future and strengthening the cooperative framework between the universities.
November 22nd: Touring the Bordeaux Sciences Agro (BSA) winery (Château Luchey-Halde)
Left (3 photos): Wine-making facilities at Château Luchey-Halde
Top Middle: Château Luchey-Halde vineyard, Top Right: Associate Professor Alfredo Coehlo explains the Master’s Program
Bottom Right: Post-tour group photo

GIP-TRIAD holds farewell party for the 1st semester

On January 15th, 2018, GIP-TRIAD held the 1st semester farewell party to provide thanks for their hard work during the 1st semester and to bid farewell to the students heading to Taiwan in February. In part because it was the first year for the program, these six months were hectic for students and educators alike, but the 1st semester came to a close without a hitch. The groupwork, lectures, and laboratory work during this time seem to have strengthened the bond between the students. Meanwhile, GIP-TRIAD has received many requests regarding the program from the students, which have also brought to light the points that must be improved going forward. By applying the points of reflection from the first year to coming years, GIP-TRIAD will work to improve the course content and the program administrative framework to build an even better program for the students.

Scenes from the 1st semester (Tsukuba) GIP-TRIAD farewell party
The first GIP-TRIAD class cooperated with GIP-TRIAD staff to produce a promotional video for GIP-TRIAD. The video can be viewed on the GIP-TRIAD website (http://www.gip.tsukuba.ac.jp/index.html). For anyone interested in viewing the video, please access the website.

We will continue to post the activity status of the GIP-TRIAD students in Taiwan on Facebook and provide reports through this newsletter. Along with this newsletter, we have also posted video messages about GIP-TRIAD from the students on the website. We are also planning to enrich our public relations activities, including updates to our website and Facebook page, and preparing leaflets.

Our goal is to make this newsletter more informative for everyone, so if you have any comments or requests, please contact us at the following address.

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