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2011 Doctoral and undergraduate student activities take place in China

APRU's 12th Doctoral Students Conference and 6th Undergraduate Summer Program were held in the cities of Beijing and Hangzhou respectively. Doctoral students and undergraduate students from a variety of different disciplines participated in the two events.

12th Doctoral Students Conference

Tsinghua University hosted the 12th Doctoral Students Conference (DSC) from July 4 to 7, 2011 in Beijing. The 2011 conference comprised research presentations and group discussions based on this year's theme, "Innovation: Fostering Sustainable Development and Harmony among Pacific Rim Communities". The four-day event also featured lectures by distinguished Tsinghua University faculty: Professor Qian Yi, a leading environmental scientist and scholar, Professor Xue Lan, a public policy expert and Dean of Tsinghua's School of Public Policy and Management, and Professor Hu Jie, chief designer of the Beijing Olympic Green Master Plan and Olympic Forest Park. Tsinghua University Vice President and Provost, Professor Yuan Si and APRU Secretary General, Dr Christopher Tremewan addressed participants at the opening session while Professor Shi Zongkai, Vice Chairman of the Tsinghua University Council gave a speech at the closing ceremony.

New Secretary General

[Christopher Tremewan](#) took up his appointment as Secretary General from 7 June. His appointment was by election by all 42 APRU presidents and was announced on April 19, 2011.

Dr Tremewan came to APRU from being Vice President (International) at The University of Auckland. He holds degrees in social anthropology, political science and public administration from Auckland, Canterbury and Harvard respectively. He has been elected senior associate member of St Antony's College, Oxford University, where he published a book on Southeast Asian politics. He has held positions in international organizations based in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore. He has been a visiting professor at Peking and Georgetown universities. He established the New Zealand Centre at Peking University and the Cambodia Trust in New Zealand.

His current research focuses on the globalization of higher education and he is a member of an EU-funded research project on this theme.



DSC participants visit the Capital Museum of China in Beijing.

More than 100 doctoral students from 26 APRU member universities and 5 other invited institutions were selected by the 12th DSC Organizing Committee and its academic review committee to present their research work at the conference. Presentations were based on six sub-themes: human development through inclusive growth, science and technology, globalization and international cooperation, sustainable development, life sciences and health, and leadership. In addition to oral presentations, there was a poster session featuring the development of research projects by the doctoral students.

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2011 Doctoral and undergraduate student activities take place in China *continued...*



Unveiling of the APRU DSC Tsinghua Declaration led by Doctoral Students Network (DSN) representatives.

Other activities during the conference included visits to various laboratories at Tsinghua University, cultural activities and optional tours to Xi'an and Suzhou, two culturally rich cities in China. Mr Xia Guangzhi, Deputy Director of the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange at Tsinghua University hosted a dinner on July 4 which provided a good networking opportunity for participants. Another highlight of the conference was the unveiling of the APRU DSC Tsinghua Declaration, a statement of commitment of future leaders and scholars towards the promotion of innovation, cooperation and social responsibility.

6th Undergraduate Summer Program

Zhejiang University in Hangzhou hosted the **6th Undergraduate Summer Program (USP)** from July 6 to 17, 2011 with the theme, "Developing Entrepreneurial and Innovative Talent in the 21st Century". Taking advantage of Zhejiang Province's strong tradition of entrepreneurial leadership, the program offered students a unique opportunity to learn about innovation and entrepreneurship in the context of globalization.

A total of 59 students from 27 member institutions participated in the 6th USP. Participants were warmly welcomed by Professor Li Min, Deputy Director of International Relations Office (IRO) at Zhejiang University and APRU Secretary General, Dr Christopher Tremewan at the opening ceremony. Students also received a warm reception from Professor Fan Jieping, Assistant Vice-President and Director of IRO who hosted a dinner for them on July 6.

During the two-week program, students engaged in a variety of activities, including seminars and talks by faculty and outstanding local entrepreneurs on topics related to international new ventures and the Zhejiang model of innovation and entrepreneurship. These talks were complemented by site visits to local companies and commodity markets. Students were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in traditional Chinese culture and gain insight into the rapid economic development of contemporary China.

To encourage students to apply the skills and knowledge they learned from the program, and to promote exchange and interaction among the participants, a business plan contest on innovative ideas or approaches to web-related new business was held at the end of the program. The top three teams received monetary awards. Special awards were also given to teams voted the most popular or most creative by their peers.

From the Secretary General



APRU is poised to build on its accomplishments of the past 14 years and to provide even greater value to its members and to the Asia-Pacific region. It is a privilege to take part in this new phase of APRU's life. I pay tribute to those whose efforts have brought us to this point.

APRU is the forum where current and emerging global powers in education, research and innovation engage. It provides the platform for universities with an impressive combined capability to respond to geopolitical shifts and global issues. Our response potentially will impact not only higher education but also the political, economic and social landscapes of the world's most dynamic region.

The challenge is to find ways to focus expertise collaboratively on issues such as education and employment, resources and climate change, international relations, public health, and inequality in a way which constructively informs public policy even while countries compete.

Because of the quality and reputations of APRU universities, our presidents are global leaders who, together, can exert a level of influence throughout the region which would be difficult individually.

We are now embarking on a review of our strategic plan in order to re-focus the organization on achieving selected key outcomes. I look forward to working with you on this and I thank you for the warm welcome I have received as I meet with members to obtain their insights.

Best wishes

Chris Tremewan



Students wave their national flags during the group photo.

Provosts Forum joins list of successful APRU programs

APRU events in the first half of the year saw strong participation from member institutions. The virtual conferences of CIOs and IT experts and the meeting of Law School Deans were well-attended while the annual meetings of university presidents and senior administrators drew a large number of attendees. The inaugural Provosts Forum in April saw strong positive feedback from the high turnout of provosts and chief academic officers at the meeting in Singapore.

Video Conference Sessions: Learning Spaces and e-Learning

A Video Conference Session on Learning Spaces was hosted by University of Oregon on March 2, 2011. Chief Information Officers and IT experts from 11 APRU member universities discussed various ways to develop new technologies to support faculty teaching, student learning, and research innovation. Presentations at the virtual conference focused on principles and challenges in designing learning spaces such as collaborative classrooms and interactive learning zones on various APRU campuses.

Another Video Conference Session was jointly hosted and facilitated by University of Indonesia and University of Malaya on July 15, 2011. The virtual conference featured discussions and presentations on e-Learning 2.0 and how digital collaboration was gaining popularity among universities.

The both sessions were part of a series of virtual conferences for APRU members which began in October 2009.

8th Senior Staff Meeting

Thirty member universities were represented at the 8th Senior Staff Meeting (SSM) which was held from March 9 to 11 in Bangkok, Thailand. Chulalongkorn University hosted the meeting which featured panel sessions and group discussions on "The Role of Universities in Addressing Sustainable Health Challenges in the 21st Century".

Chulalongkorn University President Pirom Kamolratanakul welcomed participants at the opening session while Professor Dr Charas Suwanwela, Chairperson of the Chulalongkorn University Council gave a keynote address on the role higher education in addressing regional and global health challenges.



Photo credit: Chulalongkorn University
President Pirom giving a speech during the opening session.

Examples of how APRU universities were meeting sustainable health challenges faced by their respective economies were presented by invited speakers comprising APRU Senior Staff and distinguished faculty from Chulalongkorn University.



Photo credit: Chulalongkorn University

Senior Staff Panelists: (L-R) Professor Susan Elliott (University of Melbourne) and Dr Donald Brooks (University of British Columbia) listen to Professor Naoyuki Agawa (Keio University) as he discusses the rapid aging of Japan's population over the past decades.

At the Senior Staff Session, the Senior Staff Advisory Committee led by Professor Susan Elliott, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Global Engagement), University of Melbourne called for inputs from fellow Senior Staff regarding future strategic priorities and activities to further advance APRU's goal of being a leading academic consortium. The 8th SSM concluded with a Business Meeting with updates on APRU events in 2010 and upcoming activities for 2011 to early 2012.

15th Annual Presidents Meeting

More than 300 academic leaders and representatives from leading universities across the globe including 34 APRU member universities, came together in Beijing, China for the Global Summit of University Presidents (GSUP) and APRU's 15th Annual Presidents Meeting (APM). The theme of the joint GSUP and APM was "Global Socioeconomic Development and Higher Education". The combined event was hosted by Tsinghua University from April 22 to 24, 2011 in conjunction with its 100th anniversary celebrations.

The GSUP and APM provided presidents with the opportunity to examine the linkage between higher education and socio-economic development, define the role of universities in the promotion of social development and economic growth, and assess factors critical to the future development of universities. Distinguished speakers at the combined event comprised university presidents and government officials from the Chinese State Council and Ministry of Education.

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Provosts Forum joins list of successful APRU programs *continued...*

On April 24, APRU presidents and delegates attended Tsinghua University's centennial celebrations at the Great Hall of the People which featured speeches by distinguished speakers with ties to the university, including an address by Chinese President Hu Jintao, one of many illustrious Tsinghua University alumni.

Photo credit: Tsinghua University



GSUP and APM delegates gather in front of Tsinghua University's Main Building.

The APRU Business Meeting was conducted in the afternoon of April 24 which included a report on APRU activities, annual finances, the Steering Committee electoral process, an invitation to APM 2012 to be hosted by University of Oregon and the ratification of Dr Christopher Tremewan's appointment as APRU's 4th Secretary General.

2nd Law Deans Meeting

In conjunction with its 100th anniversary celebrations, Tsinghua University hosted the **2nd Law Deans Meeting** from April 22 to 23, 2011. A total of 27 deans and representatives from 20 APRU member universities participated in the meeting. APRU law deans also met with deans from non-APRU law schools from China, France, South Africa and the U.S. who were invited to attend Day 2 of the meeting which featured an International Conference of Legal Education.

The overall theme of the meeting, "Legal Education in the Context of Globalization" covered three main topics, "Cultivating of legal talent with international vision", "Training of practice-oriented talent" and "The mission of legal education in modern society". Comparative legal education and research from law schools of common law and civil law systems, and the impact of globalization on these systems were key areas of discussion for the law deans.

Provosts Forum

The inaugural **Provosts Forum** was hosted by National University of Singapore (NUS) from April 26 to 27, 2011 with the aim of bringing together APRU provosts and chief academic officers to discuss topics of strategic and collective interest and importance to their respective institutions. The engagement of provosts further strengthens the APRU network, linking senior leaders of APRU member universities and their respective faculty and research colleagues.

Topics on faculty recruitment and retention, interdisciplinary research and academic quality assurance for study abroad programs were widely discussed and best practices shared. Roundtable sessions, case studies and an invited keynote speaker from the corporate sector, Mr Tsun-yan Hsieh, Chairman and Lead Counselor of the LinHart group, were some of the highlights of the forum.



APRU provosts at the forum's summary session.

NUS President Tan Chorh Chuan hosted a dinner on April 26 where he and APRU Secretary General-elect Dr Christopher Tremewan addressed participants of the forum. A total of 40 provosts and delegates from 26 member universities met in Singapore.

Share it with us!

We welcome comments, suggestions and contributions you might have for our e-newsletter. If you wish to use any part of this e-newsletter, please email us at apru@apru.org with "APRU E-newsletter" in the subject heading.

Gerontology symposium to focus on dynamic and participatory aging

The 4th [Research Symposium on Gerontology](#) will be hosted by Fudan University from October 28 to 29, 2011 in Shanghai, China. Jointly organized by the State Innovative Institute for Public Management and Policy Studies, the School of Social Development and Public Policy, and the Institute of Population Research, the two-day event will feature research presentations on "Productive Aging: Creating a Dynamic and Participatory Aging Society in Asia". Discussions at the symposium will focus on the building of an active aging society as well as the construction of a productive social welfare system. In addition to research and knowledge exchange, one objective of the symposium is to publish a research compilation of selected papers in August 2012.

The symposium will bring together experts and junior researchers from multidisciplinary fields related to aging such as population studies, sociology, finance, public health, aging studies, medicine, public management and policy.

The submission of papers and posters for the symposium will close on September 15, 2011. Interested participants are invited to submit their papers to Fudan University at apruaging2011@gmail.com.

Multi-hazard initiative to run its seventh research symposium

The Pacific Rim has been the center of many geological and meteorological incidents over the years and most recently the region has been hit by disasters including a major earthquake in New Zealand, a tsunami in Japan and a volcanic eruption in Chile. This continued threat of natural calamities prompted APRU to launch a symposium series in 2005 focusing on multi-hazards around the Pacific Rim.

This year, APRU's multi-hazard initiative will run its [seventh research symposium on "Physical and Human Dimensions of Natural Hazards: From Research to Practice"](#), which will be hosted by The University of Auckland from November 24 to 26, 2011.

Presentations at the three-day symposium will be based on four overarching topics: Understanding natural hazards; Hazards, universities and public facilities; Future-proofing cities; and Rebuilding cities and communities.

Participants will include engineers, scientists, social scientists, architects, government and university leaders who will discuss approaches and methodologies to advance earth science and technology. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to examine particular cases of natural calamities and learn from the experience of those who have confronted these crises, including those from academic institutions. A field trip will also be organized to familiarize participants with the volcanic field, its potential hazard and possible mitigating strategies.

Abstracts on geological and meteorological hazards, disaster risk reduction, disaster management and recovery, social and economic impact of disasters, university crisis management and other related studies are to be submitted online at <http://www.apru2011mh.com>. Submissions close on September 16, 2011.

Combined IT events to be held in Mexico

National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) will host APRU's combined IT events from October 10 to 14, 2011 in Mexico City. The [4th Chief Information Officers Forum](#) and the [2nd Education and Research Technology Forum](#) will bring together academics, IT experts, practitioners and students from across the Pacific Rim to discuss and share best practices in the use of technology in the academic field. Parallel thematic sessions will feature latest technological advancements and IT trends in both education and research.

More information on the combined forums is available at <http://www.apru2011.unam.mx/index.html>.

Media Snapshot

China pushing to be Asia's top draw among students

[\(CHINA DAILY US Edition – April 2011\)](#)

Chinese State Councilor Liu Yandong says China to expand the numbers of students sent overseas and international students coming to China through cooperative educational programs with the U.S. and ASEAN.

1st APRU Provosts Forum held at the National University of Singapore

[\(KYOTO UNIVERSITY NEWS – May 2011\)](#)

Opportunity to create new network for knowledge exchange among APRU members.

Australian National University

Professor Ian Young was appointed Vice-Chancellor of Australian National University (ANU) in March 2011. He is a leading expert in coastal and ocean engineering, and physical oceanography. Throughout his academic career, Vice-Chancellor Young has received accolades for his research and has held key positions in various higher education institutions in Australia.



Photo credit: ANU

Far Eastern Federal University



Photo credit: FEFU

Dr Vladimir V. Miklushevskiy took office as President of Far Eastern Federal University (FEFU) in October 2010. He served as the Director of the Department for Budget Planning and Operation under the Ministry of Education and Science in 2007 and was appointed Deputy Minister of Education and Science in 2008.

Korea University

Professor Byoung-Chul Kim became Korea University's (KU) new President in December 2010. President Kim is also a board member of the Korea University Alumni Association and held various positions in the university including Dean of College of Life Science & Biotechnology and Graduate School of Life & Environmental Science, Vice President for Campus Planning, and Provost and Executive Vice President before he was elected 18th President of KU.



Photo credit: KU

Seoul National University



Photo credit: SNU

Professor Oh Yeon-Cheon took office as Seoul National University's (SNU) 25th President on July 20, 2010. President Oh was a Professor of Public Administration in SNU for nearly 30 years and served as Dean of the Graduate School of Public Administration prior to being elected SNU President. He also led various institutions and government boards that contributed to the development of Korea.

Osaka University

Professor Toshio Hirano became the 17th President of Osaka University on August 26, 2011. An expert in immunology, Professor Hirano served as Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine and Administrative Councilor of the National University Corporation at Osaka University until March 2011.



Photo credit: Osaka University

University of the Philippines

President Alfredo Pascual assumed leadership of University of the Philippines (UP) in February 2011. His prior positions at UP were as a member of the University's Board of Regents and President of the UP Alumni Association. In his 19-year career as an international development banker, President Pascual made significant contributions to the Asia-Pacific region through various institution-building initiatives and investment projects particularly in developing economies of the region.



Photo credit: UP

University of Southern California



Photo credit: USC

Professor C. L. Max Nikias became University of Southern California's (USC) 11th President on August 3, 2010. As an accomplished scholar and patent-holding electrical engineer, President Nikias garnered numerous accolades for his research on digital signal processing, digital media systems and biomedicine. Prior to his current appointment, President Nikias served as Dean of the USC Viterbi School of Engineering, Executive Vice President and more recently as Provost from 2005 to 2010.

University of Washington

Professor Michael K. Young started his term as University of Washington's new President on July 1, 2011. He was most recently President of University of Utah and was Dean and Lobingier Professor of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence at The George Washington University Law School from 1998 to 2004.

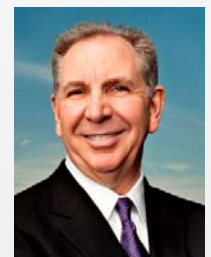


Photo credit: University of Washington

Waseda University



Photo credit: Waseda University

Professor Kaoru Kamata became President of Waseda University in November 2010. President Kamata served as an Associate Dean at Waseda's School of Law in 1990 and was appointed Dean of the Graduate School of Law in 2005. He has held key positions in various associations and authored numerous publications on civil and property laws.