



ACUCA NEWS



ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN ASIA

"Committed to the mission of Christian higher education of uniting all people in the community of service and fellowship."

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ACUCA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

HONG KONG

Chung Chi College, CUHK
Hong Kong Baptist University
Lingnan University

INDONESIA

Parahyangan Catholic University
Petra Christian University
Satya Wacana Christian University
Universitas Kristen Indonesia
Maranatha Christian University
Duta Wacana Christian University
Soegijapranata Catholic University
Universitas Pelita Harapan
Krida Wacana Christian University
Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta
Sanata Dharma University

JAPAN

International Christian University
Kwansei Gakuin University
Meiji Gakuin University
Nanzan University
Doshisha University
Aoyama Gakuin University
Momoyama Gakuin University
J.F. Oberlin University
Tohoku Gakuin University
Seigakuin University

KOREA

Ewha Womans University
Sogang University
Soongsil University
Yonsei University
Keimyung University
Hannam University
Jeonju University
Handong Global University
Mokwon University

PHILIPPINES

Ateneo de Manila University
Central Philippine University
De La Salle University
Philippine Christian University
Silliman University
Trinity University of Asia
Filamer Christian College
Miriam College
St. Paul University

TAIWAN

Fu Jen Catholic University
Soochow University
Tungshai University
Chung Yuan Christian University
Providence University
St. John's University
Chang Jung Christian University
Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

THAILAND

Asia-Pacific International University
Payap University
Assumption University
Christian University of Thailand

Duta Wacana Christian University, Indonesia

Intercultural Learning Strategy

Dr. Djohan, Rector of Duta Wacana Christian University and the Executive Committee member representing Indonesia, shared his view on higher education.

Life-long learning in a pluralistic society occurs in a dynamic social change in three generations. Each generation shares its own values, cultures, and perceptions to its previous and next generations. Undergraduate students should use their 4 year study times in the universities responsibly for the preparation of their 40 year career in the work force. They need to develop inter-generational learning skills for their accumulation of knowledge and community learning skills for their broader perspectives over time.

Lecturers in higher education institutions are exercising their teaching skills in an innovative way to meet the student and society needs. The multi-roles of lecturers have transformed gradually following the increasing complexity of the learning society. As Christian educators, the lecturers communicate the spiritual and cultural values of the society to the students and get the response from individual students. The student individual response is then used by the lecturers for character development. As professional educators, the lecturers design group projects meeting the expected standard in professional service and also practice some simulations of interactions among professionals from different expertise. As scientists, a group of lecturers may offer various interdisciplinary approach to find problems, processes, solutions, and or applications of certain topics or subjects. With this experience, students can respect different view of the other disciplines and can work well with other students. The multi-roles (Christian educators, professional educators, and scientists) of the lecturers can prepare the students as young adult learners in diverse groups of society.

Programs in higher education institutions incorporating cultural awareness in broader context may facilitate the practice of intercultural learning strategy. International student exchange program can be considered not only as the exchange of students between nationalities but also between cultural background. For example, exchange of students from Asian countries experiencing natural disasters, can help the students not only in learning natural disaster emergency responses and natural disaster recovery projects in two countries but also in sharing their social and spiritual values in helping the affected communities. In this circumstance, students from both countries share their work as academicians as well as future leaders of their own societies.

Interdisciplinary programs in certain school such as the school of the environment may apply intercultural and inter-generational learning strategies. Some topics and subjects are relevant to these strategies, such as inter-generational equity in environmental management; environmental impact assessment of heritage areas; roles of indigenous people in environmental conservation; and international environmental laws. Each school of the environment in pursuing the effort to be acknowledged as an international school with high academic standard, also bring, recognize, and share the values of its own cultural heritage to the international partners. Both schools together can promote fairness, peace, and welfare for their both societies in the spirit of international academic and cultural cooperation.



Rector Djohan

New ACUCA President

The 10th president in the history of International Christian University, Dr. Junko Hibiya began her tenure on April 1, 2012. At the Executive Committee Meeting in April, she was approved as ACUCA President, succeeding former president Norihiko Suzuki for the remainder of ICU's service as secretariat.



President Junko Hibiya

Most recently serving as Vice President for Academic Affairs, she has served as Director of Japanese Language Programs, Chair of Division of Languages, Director of Office of Academic Reform and served as professor in the division of Languages and the graduate division of Arts and Sciences. She also held academic positions at Keio University and Dartmouth College.

Born in Tokyo, President Junko Hibiya earned her B.A. degree in French Studies and her M.A. degree in Linguistics from Sophia University. She holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Her hobbies are Piano and Chorus. While she was a member of the Choral Society of the University of Pennsylvania she had the honorable chance to sing at the Carnegie Hall.

ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012

"Whole Person Education -Trends and Challenges"

The ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012 will be held at the Shinagawa Prince Hotel, International Christian University and Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan from **October 26 to 28**.

The theme of the Biennial Conference is "Whole Person Education -Trends and Challenges" which we think is very important for each of the ACUCA member institutions. We hope this conference will give your school a chance to enrich programs aiming for whole person education.

In the General Assembly, reports on the activities of ACUCA for the past two years will be given and the new President and Executive Committee members will be introduced.

We hope many presidents, faculty and staff members of each ACUCA institution will participate in the conference!

Following is some of the information from the program.

<Program>

Friday, October 26 (at the Shinagawa Prince Hotel)

Welcome Dinner

Saturday, October 27 (at International Christian University)

Keynote lecture 1

"The Embattled Academy: Sources of Hope and Renewal"

Dr. Thomas L. Benson (Chairman of the Board, Council for American Culture and Education)

Keynote lecture 2

"Educating Young People to Become Whole Persons Befitting the 21st Century – A Report from Hong Kong Baptist University"

Professor Albert S. C. Chan (President and Vice-Chancellor, Hong Kong Baptist University)

Parallel Sessions

- 1) Theoretical perspective of Whole Person Education
- 2) Practical perspective of Whole Person Education
- 3) Technological perspective of Whole Person Education

Sunday, October 28 (at Meiji Gakuin University)

Sunday Service

Plenary Session

ACUCA General Assembly

Tokyo city tour (optional)

<Registration>

The invitation letters were sent to the president of each member institution at the end of June. You can get further information and register through the ACUCA website: <http://www.acuca.net/>

The deadline for registration is September 12.



The green and spacious campus of International Christian University



The campus of Meiji Gakuin University in central Tokyo

2012 ACUCA Student Camp

**- Aiming for Tomorrow Where We Can Walk Side by Side: Our Dreams, Our Efforts -
Message from leader of student assistants for ACUCA Student Camp**

For the ACUCA Student Camp, which will take place at International Christian University (ICU) from August 20 to 24, 15 ICU students are devoting every effort to make the event successful. The following is the message from their leader, Mr. Naoya Kishida.

2 years ago, I visited Keimyung University, Daegu, Korea to participate in the ACUCA Student Camp. I spent one of the best moments of my life. Through the keynote speech, presentation and discussion, I learned how people from other countries consider environmental issues with respect to their faith.

And what made it beautiful was, without a doubt, the support from student assistants of Keimyung University; they provided us with a discussion room and connection to the Internet to prepare for the presentation; they guided us through the city. Their spirit of hospitality was unforgettable.

The same is expected for this year's camp. 15 young assistants have been trying their best to maximize participants' utilities for both academic and social programs. In terms of the academic one, with the assumption that facilitators would need a basic understanding of sustainable development and participating countries' environmental issues, we had a lecture from a guest speaker for the camp about faith and sustainable development, and made a presentation about environmental issues of participating countries.

Of late, we have been studying issues concerning United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, known as Rio+20. For the social program, each assistant is in charge of one of the sections such as a culture night, field trip, campus tour, or, in my case, a dorm stay, and we are getting

prepared for them.

Needless to say, we are all keen on issues regarding development, and thus highly motivated for the camp. I'm very much confident that all the participants will have an exceptional experience here at International Christian University.



The student assistants with Naoya in the center of the front row

April 2012 Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee held its first meeting of 2012 at Duta Wacana Christian University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on April 27. Thanks to thorough preparation by Rector Djohan and his team, the meeting went smoothly and the members enjoyed exchanging their ideas.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Junko Hibiya, new ICU President, was introduced, and was approved as new ACUCA President by the members.

The topics reported and discussed at the meeting are as follows.

1) Budget proposal

Budget proposal for the period between July 2012 and June 2013 was approved.

2) Indian institutions ready to join ACUCA

Following the proposal at the General Assembly in November 2010, to approach universities and colleges in other countries for the possible membership in the future, the ACUCA secretariat decided to contact institutions in India. Among institutions contacted, Christ University in Bangalore and Lady Doak College in Madurai showed interest in ACUCA. The General Secretary visited them in early April to explain ACUCA and its mission. The secretariat is now assisting them with the application procedures and their membership will be presented at the General Assembly in October for approval.

3) Mokwon University joins ACUCA

Membership of Mokwon University in Daejeon, Korea was approved at the meeting. It will be presented at the General Assembly for the final approval.

4) Change in the procedure to join ACUCA

In order to join ACUCA, a prospective institution previously needed to submit the following documents to the secretariat:

1. Application form

2. Endorsement by an Executive Committee member from the home country
 3. Two letters of recommendation from ACUCA member institutions of the home country
- The Executive Committee members reconsidered the application documents in view of ACUCA's internationalism, and decided to change the item 3 as follows:
3. One letter of recommendation from an ACUCA member institution of the home country and one from an ACUCA member of another country.
- 5) New members joined the Student Mobility Scheme (SMS)
Parahyangan Catholic University and Sanata Dharma University in Indonesia and Meiji Gakuin University in Japan joined the SMS. Please visit ACUCA website <http://www.acuca.net/> for the information on the SMS.



The Executive Committee members at Duta Wacana Christian University

The Year 2 Program - ACUCA Network Model

The Year 2 Program of the ACUCA Network Model was carried out between mid May and early June.

The ACUCA Network Model is a project to jointly develop and test a sharable undergraduate learning modules on topic of 'Sustainable Development and Faith' through Moodle, a learning management system (LMS), and to create synthesized knowledge and increased confidence in e-learning module development and implementation among the ACUCA member institutions as well as strengthened network spirit based on the shared development experience.

Prior to the Year 2 Program, the tryout program was held in January 2012 as reported on the ACUCA Newsletter, January-March 2012. It achieved considerable success, yet the result was indeed mixed. These experiences have been shared and discussed with the Faculty Working Group members of the participating institutions to improve the project as the next step, the Year 2 Program.

The New Program was offered with the following activities: (1) Pre-Module orientation, (2) Module 1, Sustainable Development in the Contemporary World (3) Module 2, Development, Environment and Faith (4) Module 3, Possible Engagements/ Actions by Students (5) Post-Module, Wrap-up Seminar. Most of the platform remained unchanged, however, there were some changes in the learning scheme from the Tryout Program, which were a) Complementing structured web-based guidance with 'informal' communication means, such as Facebook, b) Replacement of reading assignments with brief notes on socio-economic, environmental and faith perspectives for guiding student discussions, c) Addition of a video lecture linking sustainable development to faith/religion more explicitly, and d) Clearer guidance for the discussion on engagements/actions by students.

The Program started with a video conferencing on May 17, which included a brief presentation in order for the participants to become familiar with the program as well as their self-introduction. Participants from Hong Kong Baptist University, Chang Jung Christian University and Silliman University were present and the members of Duta Wacana University later shared their video clips to make up their absence due to their national holiday on the day.

At each participating institution, the students exchanged their opinions through a face-to-face orientation, and made their summary to submit as a report for the Module 1. In the Module 2, they were assigned into one of the three groups that were formed heterogeneously from each different institution and discussed various topics after watching and reading videos and materials

pertaining to religious and environmental aspects. In the Module 3, each participant was assigned into one of the three groups, based on their preference, and made their summary for the report to the final video conference.

On June 4, all five institutions joined in the conference through Skype, that took place over one and half hour. The first 30 minutes were spent for faculty members to exchange their impressions about the program and to solicit their opinions. During the latter 1 hour, Professor Nagao, coordinator of the program at International Christian University, expressed his gratitude to all the participants and made a brief comment on the recent development of the program, followed by a report of each group leader. There was a vivid discussion among the participants and the conference ended with great success.

A part of the participants will be invited to the Wrap-up Seminar which will take place before the ACUCA Student Camp at International Christian University in mid August. The participants, whose airfare will be granted by the UBCHEA, are expected to exchange their opinions through face-to-face communication and will report their learning outcome during a session of the Student Camp.



Video conferencing on June 4 at International Christian University

Afghan Student Shares Her First-time Experiences at the Ateneo

Manila, Philippines—For 30 year-old Afghan student Zahra Hossainy, studying at the Ateneo has opened her eyes to a world of new experiences.

While the snow-covered landscape of Kabul is a stark contrast to sunny Manila, geographical location is not the only difference between the two countries. Zahra also observes that the way people dress and the food is really different.

She said that while in her country "women wear burkah, hejab (to cover entire body) or chadri" here in the Philippines "the way people dress is different." She also added that "food is different also" because in her country, people are used to spicy food. Here in the Philippines she noticed that "it seems people are used to eating sweet food."

Studying in the Ateneo: a lot of first-time experiences

So far Zahra is enjoying studying at the Ateneo. The scholarship she is part of—the Asia Leaders Programme is a dual campus program where Asian students study English and Peace and Conflict subjects at the Ateneo and later on at the University for Peace in San Jose, Costa Rica.

She relates that she considers the "Ateneo's campus and environment conducive for studying—I feel relaxed when I am here."

Another highlight of her studies here at the Ateneo are her first-time experiences like having "joint classes with boys and activities like group work" as well as to be able to ask her teachers/professors questions.

In her country, girls and boys are separated in class and they have minimal interaction. She added that "methods of teaching are very different (in her country and here)." Here she said "questioning or asking questions or giving feedback to teachers is highly appreciated and welcome." In her country, "it is better to keep quiet more than to ask questions." She said that this is because "there are only few teachers who welcome feedback and suggestions."

Empowering other Women

While education for women here in the Philippines is accessible, Zahra said she had to fight for her right to study. She related that she had to be "self-motivated to get her education." She also said that she had "to struggle to get basic education."

This is because in her country, educational opportunities are not only rare "but culture and tradition" sometimes does not allow women to study. Some women are only allowed to travel to study with a close male family member called "mahram" to accompany them.

And then there was also the time of the Taliban's rule in Afghanistan when among the restrictions were "the banning of all kinds of education for girls and women who were also prohibited from any kind of employment."

But this did not discourage Zahra. Since one of the restrictions of the Taliban was that only female nurses can attend to female patients, nursing schools remained open. Zahra then saw this as an opportunity and studied to become a nurse.

After taking her nursing course, Zahra went on to study her Bachelor

of Arts degree major in Literature and is also currently taking up political science studies as well. She shared that she believes education is important because it is the "woman who raises the children." A Dari proverb seconds this as it emphasizes the importance of a mother's role in educating her children and eventually an entire nation.



Ms. Zahra Hossainy, the first Afghan foreign student admitted in the Ateneo de Manila University

Future plans

Like other Afghan scholars who were sent abroad to study and eventually came back to teach in Afghanistan, Zahra envisions herself also going back to her country after she finishes her master's degree.

She said that "That's what I'm going to do, though I do know yet in what capacity I can help my countrymen." She added that "I would like to contribute in the peacebuilding process—because I think people (in my country) are in dire need for peace."

For more information about the Asia Leaders Programme you may visit their website at

http://www.upeace.org/academic/spec_masters/alp.cfm

or like them on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/UPEACE-Asia-Leaders-Programme/137398506279483>



Asia Leaders Program (Year 6) students engaging in a class discussion at the Ateneo Language Learning Center

Providence University, Taiwan

National Immigrant Agency in Taiwan Signed the Strategic Alliance with Providence University

National Immigrant Agency (NIA) in Taiwan signed Strategic Alliance with Providence University (PU) on April 25. Through this collaboration, both institutions plan to work together to develop human resources and international volunteers and, as a result, to provide better assistance to new immigrants and international students for improving their living in Taiwan.

During the signing ceremony, crucial issues were also discussed among top officials of two institutions, such as how to recruit international talents and assist students from around the world to study in Taiwan, as well as immigration policy amendment in order to expand the service field and improve the service efficiency of NIA. Both

NIA and PU see more possible ways to provide new immigrants assistances and build a friendly environment through government-university collaboration.

For Providence University, building an internationalized learning environment is the crucial goal. With the support from NIA, PU becomes more proficient in helping the students and professors from overseas with their visas, especially. As a Catholic university, Providence is committed to contribute to society and care for the needy. Through the alliance with NIA, students and professors in PU can apply their expertise and provide professional assistance to international students and immigrants in the areas such as communication, counseling, advocacy and education. For example, the professors of Department of Cosmetic Science have recently been teaching the method of making soap and essential oil for immigrants in order to equip them to develop employability skills. In addition to the efforts contributed by faculty, NIA also encouraged PU students who are interested in the service of new immigrants to take internship at NIA or civil examination so that they will learn practical ways to serve immigrants and international students through government-university collaboration.



Signing ceremony at Providence University

Dr Pan Wei-Ta, new President of Soochow University, brings limelight to the hundred-year old university

Dr Pan Wei-Ta, in an auspicious ceremony officiated by Chairman Wang Shaoyu, was inaugurated into presidency of Soochow University on 31st March 2012.

Pledging to bring more glorious pages to an already well-known university with more than a hundred years of history, "that is my duty, first and foremost," said Dr. Pan in his first statement as the new President of Soochow University.

President Pan Wei-Ta is a graduate from the Department of Law, Soochow University. Received his J.D. from the University of Nebraska in the U.S.A., and has since been teaching and serving in his alma mater as Dean of Student Affairs, Chairman of the Department of Law, and Dean of the School of Law. With more than 25 years of tenure at Soochow University, President Pan said he felt a strong sense of belonging, "when the grass turns green, and a tree should sway on our campus."

President Pan believes that the crux of college education should be the molding of positive attitude, open-mindedness, and critical thinking to help shape charac-

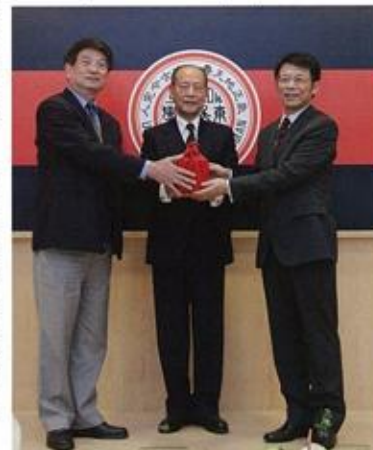
ter, enhance interpersonal interactions among students. With a solid Christian heritage and more than one hundred years of history, Soochow University endeavors to expand academic as well as student exchanges with Christian universities across Europe, America, and Asia-Pacific areas and to elevate her status to that of a first class university of excellence in Taiwan.

Upon assuming responsibility, President Pan arranged a Biking on the Riverbank with international exchange students. As they enjoyed the beautiful scenery, many managed to express how very impressed they were with the abundant resources, and enthusiasm among faculty members at Soochow University. To many, Soochow is now a sweet home away from home.

In an era of increased competition in educational exchanges, Soochow University stands ready as President Pan looks into the possibility of consolidating existing resources into a Mandarin Language Center to welcome more international exchange students from around the globe.



Biking on the Riverbank; President Pan (center) meets international students.



Inauguration of President Pan Wei-Ta (Right)

ASEACCU Conference to be Held at Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

One of the well-known events in Asia Catholic Educational circle, the 2012 conference for the Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU), is to be held on August 21st -26th by Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, which is one of the most famous Catholic Universities in Taiwan. This is the third time this important event has been hosted in Taiwan since 1998 in Providence University and 2005 in Fu Jen University.

The member institutions are from more than 70 universities around Asia countries, including Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, and Thailand. The ASEACCU conference is hosted each year in different countries and member institutions by turns.

The theme of this year is "Contribution by Catholic Higher Education to Sustainable Development in Modern World: From Service Learning to Social Entrepreneurship." This will be focused by all the faculty members and students who will join the 2012 ASEACCU conference. The current service learning educational programs in these Catholic Universities will be discussed and examined about how it can contribute to the sustainable development in a global view.

The ASEACCU conference put great emphasis on the discussion and ideas exchange between member institutions through the participation of featured speeches and seminars. This year, our featured presenters will share their service learning programs or experiences in dealing with the social entrepreneur development of their regions from a Catholic faith perspective. During the discussion periods, participants will have the opportunity to consider relevant issues from the cultural context of their own country. Students, on the other hand, will discuss how they can contribute to the service learning programs and sustainable development of the Asia-Pacific regions.

Besides, regarding the distinguished guests, the 2012 ASEACCU conference organizer team in Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages announced that the Secretary General of ASEACCU, Michael Calmano, S.V.D., the Apostolic Nuncio in China, Paul Fitzpatrick Russell, and Cardinal Shan, Kuo-Hsi will be invited to join the conference this year. It is expected that there will be more than 100 faculty and 50 student delegates from the member institutions of ASEACCU join the conference.



Wenzao students joined the cultural night 2010 ASEACCU conference for students in Thailand.



Wenzao students joined the 2007 ASEACCU conference for students in Philippines.



The vice-president of Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, prof. Kao, Ming-rea joined the 2011 ASEACCU conference in Japan.

O.S. House at Tunghai University

Last November, the Chaplain's Office had transformed two of its offices across the women's dormitory into an open-sharing lounge called "O.S. House." The abbreviation "O.S." was originally used by film making industry to stand for "off-screen" sounds. However, nowadays it has become a popular expression for people's unspoken minds. Through this venue, we aimed to create a heart-warming space for people to share their life stories. Hopefully, they would learn to hear God's whispers along the way. After all, that's where God is most of the time--outside church buildings and religious gatherings, in our ordinary lives.

In the O.S. House, there are multiple ways to share and hear stories. Novels and fictions with Christian values are handpicked for the place. Each month, there is a specific theme. Within that month, various story-telling methods would occupy this little corner on campus. Through movies, music concerts, discussions, story exchange markets, etc., all the guests who enter have the choice to lay aside their routine "businesses," learn to speak out their minds, and also try to listen to what others have to say.

This semester, we used C.S. Lewis' "Four Loves," to talk about the love between family, friends, and couples. Many

people came to give their thoughts.

Besides these story-sharing media, we believe that it is people who make values authentic. Therefore, we've invited Christian student volunteers to serve the people who come into this space. Not only do they teach the newcomers on how the space works, they also learn along with the guests what it means to share. People call them "S.O.S.," meaning, the servants of O.S. House. This year, we have witnessed the genuine care they've shown for those in need.

"We Share. We Trust. We are Invaluable." These are the values that we tried to permeate in the environment. In order to share, we must build trust. In order to experience the invaluable, we must show grace. The hospitality in this space advocates these values.

With these values within this petite space in such a gigantic campus, we wish to transform "our stories" into "our story." Hopefully, in a future which is not too distant, we may see both individuality and unity under HlStory at Tunghai.



The monthly activity in OS House
"Love in your life"



The friendly narrative space in Tunghai campus.

Campus Sustainability Initiatives

Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan

Vol. 6 Steps Toward Campus Sustainability at Chang Jung Christian University

The challenges of achieving sustainability in real practice are considerable, and Chang Jung Christian University (CJCU) is grateful for the platform that ACUCA is providing to its member institutions for sharing progress towards sustainability and encouraging one another to this goal. In Taiwan, there are also increasing opportunities for universities to cooperate with one another as active participants in the sustainability movement. In December 2011, Chang Jung Christian was one of eight universities represented at a meeting convened by Taiwan's Ministry of Education (MOE) to discuss the establishment of a Coalition of Green Universities. The proposed coalition is the most recent initiative in the MOE's Green University Project, which was begun in 2007. The purpose of the new coalition is to raise environmental awareness on university campuses, to coordinate strategies for the implementation of sustainable practices, to organize mechanisms for assessment, and to work toward the long-term goal of establishing a green university accreditation system.

On our own campus, recent steps toward sustainability in university

operations include several projects for carbon reduction and water conservation. In 2011, the university installed a solar water heating system that serves two dormitories. In addition to reducing the university's carbon footprint, the solar water heating system has reduced utility bills and extended the period of hot water service for dormitory residents. CJCU has also installed a reclaimed water system and is presently awaiting government approval to use treated wastewater in green irrigation. Such steps provide students with tangible demonstrations of sustainable practices in the campus environment and reinforce classroom learning. In courses such as Environmental Science, Environmental Toxicology, and the River Restoration Practicum, students are encouraged to participate in volunteer activities that benefit the environment.

Since its founding, CJCU has sought to incorporate sustainability into its core values and make it a key feature of our institutional identity and Christian witness. We therefore welcome the MOE's challenge to make sustainability a basic paradigm for higher education in Taiwan.



Students participated in a tree-planting activity by the ChiaNan Channel in Tainan.



Students cleanup trash in wetland of Tainan City SihCao Wildlife Refuge.



Solar system installed on the roof of student dormitory.

Vol. 7 Hong Kong Baptist University Recognised for its Green Efforts

Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) won the Silver Award in the Public Organisations and Utilities Category at the 2011 Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence organised by the Environmental Campaign Committee, the Environmental Protection Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and nine organisations. The award was presented to the University in recognition of its outstanding overall performance in environmental excellence and as a testament to its efforts in developing a sustainable low carbon campus.

Professor Albert Chan, HKBU's President and Vice-Chancellor, said: "HKBU was commended for the exceptionally strong cooperation among staff and students, and its unified and dedicated efforts towards cultivating and promoting a low carbon culture on campus. With a well-established staff and student ambassadors' network, the low carbon culture and messages have been successfully instilled in the University community, cultivating strong green habits that are practised in daily life and contributing hugely to the overall energy savings."

HKBU is the first university in Hong Kong that aims at becoming a sustainable low carbon campus. It launched the strategic Sustainable Low Carbon Campus Project in 2009 to increase staff and student

awareness of and participation in environmental conservation, and has devoted significant resources to developing energy-saving hardware facilities. Over the past three years, the University has had a number of energy reduction and green achievements, such as a five per cent carbon emission reduction, a four per cent reduction in total water consumption in 2010-11, a 30 per cent increase in total campus green space, reduced annual consumption of electricity by one million kWh, etc.

Professor Chan said: "As a higher education institution, HKBU puts great emphasis on the long-term educational impact and the sustainability of environmental conservation." The University has organised various student promotional activities, and set up a Low Carbon Event Funding Scheme to sponsor students to execute their green ideas and motivate their fellow schoolmates to experience a low carbon lifestyle.

HKBU has also drawn green education into its regular undergraduate, postgraduate and general education programmes to nurture environmental professionals. Staff members are committed to interdisciplinary research on green and environmental issues and their achievements have been well recognised in the academic arena worldwide.



President Albert Chan (right) receives the award which recognises HKBU's efforts in environmental protection.



HKBU purchases a 100 per cent electric-powered vehicle with zero roadside emission as one of its green initiatives.



Students learn about the damage to the environment resulting from the production of clothing and try a natural dyeing method at a workshop.

Miriam College, Philippines

Vol. 8 Go for the Green, Go for Green Accreditation!

Miriam College conducts Green Accreditation Training for Higher Education Institutions in Asia

As one of the first three academic institutions in the Philippines to receive the "Dark Green School" award from the Environmental Education Network of the Philippines (EENP) in 2009, Miriam College (MC), through its Environmental Studies Institute (ESI), is advocating for more campuses to aspire for Green Accreditation not just in the Philippines but in Asia.

At the start of school year 2012-2013, the Environment Studies Institute, in collaboration with the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia conducted a 3-day Training on Green Accreditation. Held at the Miriam College campus in Quezon City, Philippines from June 20-22, the training sought to address the practices and potential of green accreditation in higher education institutions in order to upgrade existing environmental practices and standards in schools, universities and colleges. The training included discussions on principles of green accreditation, observation of campus practices, interactive discussions of the best practices of participating schools, and hands-on practicum.

This training was attended by schools and universities in Asia, specifically Indonesia, India and the Philippines. It aimed to develop a pool of trainers equipped with the skills and knowledge for green accreditation. This growing pool of environmental educators will be advocates for schools in their region and country to Go for the Green, Go for Green Accreditation!



Advocating the seven environmental principles

Apart from its distinct integration of the Seven Environmental Principles into the curriculum, namely:

1. Nature knows best;
 2. All forms of life are important;
 3. Everything is connected to everything else;
 4. Everything changes;
 5. Everything must go somewhere;
 6. Ours is a finite earth;
 7. Nature is beautiful and we are stewards of God's creation.
- MC continues to be one of the higher education institutions in the country which offers Environmental Studies programs, namely: Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Management with the option to minor in Corporate and Environmental Management or Urban Planning and Green Architecture; Certificate program in Environmental Management, Environmental Studies, or Environmental Education; and Master of Arts in Environmental Education, Environmental Management or Environmental Studies.

For more information, please contact:

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Campus Sustainability Initiatives

Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

Vol. 9 UK donates P20 million to Ateneo and Haribon for the preservation of fish species dependent on coral reefs

The United Kingdom's Darwin Initiative Project is backing a P20 million joint project between Newcastle University in the United Kingdom, the Ateneo de Manila University Environmental Science Department and Haribon Foundation in an effort to rescue fish species inhabiting the country's coral reefs.

The project, called Responding to fish extirpations in global epicenter of marine biodiversity, was launched Monday morning by Project Leader Dr. Nicholas V.C. Polunin from the School of Marine Science and Technology of Newcastle University in the United Kingdom, project coordinator Dr. Margarita N. Lavides of Ateneo de Manila University's Environmental Science Department and Haribon Chair John Lesaca.

Polunin said the UK project is very timely since the Philippines is in the global marine biodiversity center, having an abundance of coral reefs which are the most biodiverse marine ecosystems containing more than 50% marine fish species in 0.01% of ocean water.

Fish extinctions have been detected in pilot studies off Bohol island in the southern Philippines and more of these studies have to be made to help prevent the eventual dying away of local marine ecosystems.

The Darwin Initiative actually assists countries rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to meet their objectives under one or more of the three major biodiversity Conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES); and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), through the funding of collaborative projects which draw on UK biodiversity expertise.

The British group has taken an interest in Philippine marine ecosystems and is extending a 294,151 pound grant (estimated at P20.28 million) to make sure coral reef fishes do not fall into extinction and to help maintain and even improve its coral reefs.

Specifically, the project will:

1. Determine which fish species are threatened at five locations, through capturing fishers' knowledge and well-replicated underwater survey. The interview protocol, and survey design will be rolled out to the 5 new study sites (Verde Island Passage, Palawan, Danaojon Bank, Bohol, Polilio Islands and Lanuza Bay).
2. Ascertain temporal abundance trends of fish species and groups and see how these trends vary among the five areas using fishers' retrospective knowledge of abundances on decadal scales.
3. Strengthen capacity in resource management in Lanuza Bay, Surigao del Sur, through training and work among local government units and fisherfolk organizations.
4. Reconcile conservation needs with sustainable livelihoods in Lanuza Bay through building on existing projects in which stakeholders and local partners have fully participated.
5. Make policy recommendations at local, national and international levels. Lessons pooled from the site conservation and threatened species work will be used to inform local, national and international conservation plans.



Ateneo administrators and representatives from Haribon Foundation with Project head Dr. Nicholas V.C. Polunin in center



British Ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Lillie

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Editor's Notes

- Four issues of the newsletter "ACUCA News" are published each year. If you have any stories to share, please send them together with print quality photos by e-mail to the ACUCA Secretariat (acuca@icu.ac.jp) no later than August 8 for the next issue.
- We were recently informed that Dr. Pradit Takerngrangsanit stepped down as president of Payap University at the end of May. Dr. Pradit was also the Executive Committee member representing Thailand. He supported the Executive Committee with his numerous advices, and his sense of humor made the ACUCA meetings all the more enjoyable. We are deeply grateful for his contribution to ACUCA. From June, Dr. Penpilai Ritthakananone, interim president of Payap University, serves as the Executive Committee member.
- The ACUCA Secretariat office will be closed between July 23 and August 6. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.