

## 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."



Volume XII No.3

July-September 2012

#### **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 Philippines

#### TAIWAN

Fu Jen Catholic University
Soochow University
Tunghai 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

## ACUCA Student Camp Ended with Great Success!



ACUCA Student Camp, which is held biennially, took place at International Christian University (ICU), Tokyo, Japan from August 20 to 24 and ended with huge success!

101 students joined the camp: 8 students from Hong Kong, 35 from Indonesia, 21 from Japan, 6 from Korea, 9 from the Philippines, 15 from Taiwan, 5 from Thailand, and 1 from India.

Following the previous student camp at Keimyung University, Korea in 2010, sustainability was the theme of the camp. The academic program of the camp started in the morning of the second day with the keynote lecture by Prof. Ryoichi Yamamoto, titled "Faith-based Sustainability – The Ethic of Eco-Theology and the Spirit of Natural Capitalism –." In the lecture, he explained concepts of Sustainable Development, the Ethic of Eco-Theology and the Spirit of Natural Capitalism, and encouraged the students to take actions towards the realization of sustainable development.

The students had opportunities to discuss freely about sustainable development in the "World Cafe" style, which is a method that allows participants to explore an issue by discussing in small table groups, and the room was filled with lively talk and laughter. In the wrap-up session, each discussion group made presentation on topics such as "What kind of future would we like to see in 10 years?" and "What kind of actions should we take to realize such future?" This session led to creation of "Tokyo Appeal," which was presented by one of the students at the Closing Ceremony on August 23. (See the column below.)

Students also enjoyed social activities; one of them is the Cultural Night, where students representing each country danced and sang, and made presentation about their own culture using colorful powerpoints. They also enjoyed Japanese cultural experience such as folk dance, flower arrangement and karate.

Students quickly made friends, and through all these activities, they deepened their friendship, talking and laughing as if they had known each other for a long time.

During the Closing Ceremony, at the height of excitement, they sang and danced "Soran-bushi", a traditional Japanese fishermen's song, each shouting phrases from the lyrics, such as "Soran, soran" and "Dokkoisho." Then they all danced to the Papaya song, which was performed by the Filipino students on the Cultural Night the previous day. Finally, Mr. Shin Takahasi, Chair of the ACUCA Student Camp Committee and lecturer at ICU, went onto the stage and made a closing statement. He introduced 15 student assistants, ICU students who had been preparing for this camp during past 6 months, and everyone applauded and thanked them for their efforts.

Even though, the Student Camp was held for only 5 days, and the students were going separate ways, their friendship would last for a long time. Their experience would indeed be a precious memory. Tokyo Appeal by ACUCA Student Camp 2012 "Green Asia Grows on Awareness"

#### Green Asia:

We would like to see the future of full of green trees, green economies, and eco-friendly attitude of people.

## How we plant awareness:

- 1. Communication
  - Simply telling others about our daily activities for protecting the earth.
- 2. Education
  - Education provides us with opportunities to learn and consider about the environmental problems.
- 3. Network

To make our awareness continuous and expanding, us, ACUCA students share our actions using the network. The network is referred not only to SNS (Social Networking Services), but also to our communities, universities, families, and this ACUCA team.

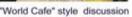
Through the discussions, we have learned that sharing and learning about the situations in each country is an element of confronting the environmental issues. However, the more important thing is to take actions, and spread our awareness. Awareness is difficult to see, but if the awareness leads us to the actions, it can make a big change, for the future we can walk side by side.

## **ACUCA Student Camp: Student Voices**

Following are some of the comments from the questionnaire conducted at the end of the Student Camp.

- I could get to know my brothers and sisters from other countires in Asia, share the idea with them and introduce my country and plan to save the environment and promise to make it happen.
- The most positive experience I had was during the world cafe. I was able to have close interaction with the participants. It made me realize that we should all be part of the solution, that we, as youth of the generation could make something different that can make an impact and enventually better the world.
- When we are singing and dancing together after cultural night. I will never forget that moment.
- (Wanted to) have more activities direct to the nature (ex. Farming).
- Thank you soooo--- much for this unforgettable camp. May this camp could be the start point for us to do act (the real one). God bless...





......



Students taking part in Tea Ceremony



Papaya dance at the Closing Ceremony

#### The First Indian Student to Join ACUCA Student Camp

One thing remarkable about this year's camp was participation of a student from India. Mr. Sujith Andrew from Christ University, Bangalore, was invited to the Student Camp as an "observer," since Indian institutions have not formerly joined ACUCA yet. During the Country Presentation, in which students from each country explained environmental issues of their country, although he was only one student representing India, he bravely went to the podium for his presentation. On the Cultural Night, he also appeared on the stage to sing an Indian song, and showed a slide of the Indian national anthem. The students cheered and encouraged him as he made presentation.

It may be said that his participation of the Student Camp opened a new epoch for ACUCA. Hopefully many more Indian students will join the next Student Camp.



Mr. Sujith Andrew

## The Wrap-up Seminar - ACUCA Network Model

The ACUCA Network Model Wrap-up Seminar took place at International Christian University (ICU) between August 18 and 20.

As already reported on the last issue of the ACUCA Newsletter, since spring 2011, ICU, as its coordinating institution, has implemented a new project, "ACUCA Network Model," to develop a sharable undergraduate learning modules on topic of 'Sustainable Development and Faith' through an E-learning platform.

After the tryout program in winter 2012, the Year 2 program as its next step was carried out in May and June. This program consisted of the following sequence of activities: (1) Sharing opinions of the participants on Sustainable Development in the Contemporary World through a face-to-face orientation at each participating institution, (2) Group discussion about various topics after watching videos and reading materials pertaining to religious and environmental aspects through Moodle, a learning management system and a platform that are used for this project and (3) Video Conferencing in order to report on the results of the discussion from the groups and share reflections by the students.

To offer the participating students an opportunity for face-to-face interaction with one another and mutual sharing of their learning from the program, the Wrap-up Seminar was held at our institution. It was intended to help the students finalize their deliberation on the theme of 'Sustainable Development and Faith' and generate a joint output to be shared with other students who took part in the Student Camp, held at ICU just after the

Seminar between August 20-24.

From 5 different institutions, namely, Hong Kong Baptist University, Duta Wacana Christian University, Indonesia, International Christian University, Japan, Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan, and Silliman University, the Philippines, 17 students participated in the seminar. It started with a brief introduction of the seminar by Ms. Nathalie Ahanda, who has just completed the master's program at ICU as a Rotary Peace Fellow and served as a facilitator during the seminar. The participants were first divided into three groups and requested to reflect on their impressions they had through the Year 2 program. After exchanging their views with other groups, the participants were asked to craft one presentation which were to be made during the Student Camp and to compose a report consisting of the impressions and the recommendations from the E-learning project participants.

......

With Ms. Ahanda's support to create relaxing atmosphere and appropriate suggestions given by Professor Masafumi Nagao, coordinator of this Wrap-up Seminar, the participants began to exchange their opinions actively although they seemed tense at the beginning.

On August 21, representatives of the group delivered a presentation, that were made after they had spent long hours for its preparation, and shared their experience with the ACUCA Student Camp participants. Their report was also approved unanimously at the end of the Camp and it will be delivered to the ACUCA General Assembly in October.



Discussion led by Ms. Natahlie Ahanda on the right



ACUCA Network Model Team gathered outside , the conference room.



Presentation at the Student Camp

## **ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012**

October 26 - 28

### International Christian University & Meiji Gakuin University

As the date of the ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012 approaches, the ACUCA Secretariat is getting busier with all the preparations. Here are some of the updates from the Secretariat.

- The United Board is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. The United Board and ACUCA are planning to make speeches on the history of the United Board and its relation to ACUCA at the Welcome Dinner on October 26. President Nancy E. Chapman of the United Board will be there to celebrate with us.

 ICU and Meiji Gakuin student clubs are preparing for their presentation:
 Cheerleading Squad from Meiji Gakuin University will perform a unique Japanese style cheerleading at the Welcome Dinner. ICU Glee Club will sing at

the Opening Service. Participants will enjoy Wadaiko (Japanese drum)

performance in the evening of 27th, followed by lovely music of handbells performed by ICU Bell Peppers at the Dinner.

 J. F. Oberlin University is assisting the ACUCA Secretariat by arranging the optional half day Tokyo city tour on 28th. The tour includes a visit to Asakusa, one of the favorite tourist spots in Tokyo, a water-bus ride and traditional Japanese dinner.



Water-bus with Tokyo Sky Tree

# The Founder and Educational Philosophy of Meiji Gakuin University

The Plenary Session of the ACUCA Biennial Conference and 19th General Assembly will be held at Meiji Gakuin University on October 28. The following article is about its foundation and recent student volunteer activities.

In 1859, just after the opening of the port of Yokohama, American Christian missionary and doctor James Curtis Hepburn arrived in Japan with his wife Clara. Hepburn was already a famous medical doctor in his home country, but he also wanted to offer free medical treatment to the people of Japan.

So, he opened a clinic in Kanagawa at Soko Temple, and within 6 months he had treated more than 3500 patients.

In 1863, Hepburn and his wife opened the Hepburn School, a private school for young boys and girls learning English. It has been almost 150 years since Hepburn laid that first stone in the foundation of Meiji Gakuin University.

At the same time as Hepburn was putting his heart into his privately-funded school, he himself immersed in his own study – of the Japanese language. Some of his tremendous achievements are very well known. He is the namesake and inventor of the Hepburn Romanization system for the Japanese language, and he edited the very first Japanese-English dictionary in Japan. He also translated the Bible into Japanese.

At the heart of Meiji Gakuin University is its founding spirit: individualized education based upon Christian teachings. "Do for others" serves as our educational philosophy, and just as Hepburn's devotedness was based on his high own ideals, we strive to teach and research in a way that passes that spirit on to future generations.

#### Volunteer Activities at Meiji Gakuin University

Meiji Gakuin's educational philosophy "Do for others" lives on. Right after the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11 last year, the Volunteer Center at Meiji Gakuin University launched "Do for Smile @ East Japan" Project, in collaboration with Tohoku Gakuin University and Iwate Prefectural University to support afflicted people in Tohoku area.

One of its activities is support for Otsuchi-cho, a seaside town located in Iwate Prefecture, hit hard by tsunami. Meiji Gakuin University students visited Kirikiri Junior High School in Otsuchi-cho constantly once a month to support students' learning. Students also interviewed people in Otsuchi-cho and recently published a pamphlet that includes the townspeople's experience of the earthquake and tsunami and their hope for recovery. It also introduces their unique culture such as their dialect and local dishes.

In March this year, Meiji Gakuin University and Otsuchi-cho concluded partnership agreement, in order to strengthen their ties with regard to reconstruction activities, promotion of local economy, conservation and inheritance of local culture, and people-to-people exchange.

Soegijapranata Catholic University, Indonesia

# Soegijapranata Catholic University Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

......

Commemorating its 30th Anniversary, Soegijapranata Catholic University (SCU) has many activities started from April to September this year. It began with "Research and Community Service Day," a one-day workshop in which participants from several universities throughout the country presented their activities, findings and applied methods in their respective research and community service events.

Following the workshop, SCU invited rectors from our partners universities in Indonesia to have a Seminar on "Indonesian Higher Education: Global Competitiveness and Beyond." This seminar was attended by Rectors, Vice-Rectors, and Government Officers from The Directorate General of Higher Education and representatives from business sectors.



Dr. Ryoichi Yamamoto in the public lecture on Environmental Ethics: The Ethics of Eco-Theology and the Natural Spirit of Capitalism"

Through the collaboration of SCU and International Christian University-Tokyo, on July 20, 2012, SCU invited Dr. Ryoichi Yamamoto to present a public lecture on Environmental Ethics; The Ethics of EcoTheology and the Natural Spirit of Capi-

talism"

Without the opportunity provided by ACUCA to meet other member i.e. ICU-Tokyo, this public lecture would not be able to be conducted.

SCU was also visited from Providence University to discuss the possibil-



Seminar on "Indonesian Higher Education: Global Competitiveness and Beyond" at Soegijapranata Catholic University (SCU)

ity of having a dual degree in Master of Business Administration. This will be followed up by sending SCU lecture to Providence University Taiwan and stays for Four months to materialize it.

The most exciting event, the International Cultural Evening in Lawang Sewu (a historical building and a landmark of Semarang), will be held on September 14, 2012. The program will range from an International Cultural Evening to a ceremony to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Soegijapranata Catholic University on 19 September 2012. This event will be attended by rectors, professors, and representatives from partner universities abroad.

Providence University, Taiwan

## A Visit to the Dominican Republic and Peru by Youth Ambassadors of Providence University

Prof. Lin, Lih-Twun, lecturer from the Department of Spanish Language and Literature, Providence University, together with the 7 student- members of Youth Ambassadors Taiwan (ROC) arrived in the Dominican Republic on July 1st for a two-week exchange visit. ROC Ambassador, Ping-fu Hou, received them with a warm welcome and later accompanied them to see Mr. Franjul, the Chief Director of "Listin Diario," the largest news company in the Dominican Republic, and Mr. Tejade, the Chief Director of "Diario Libre," another news company. Both directors expressed their deep appreciation to Taiwan government for exerting immeasurable effort in improving people's living condition and promoting social development through the execution of many cross-cultural projects.

In order to expand and promote Taiwan's public image, Ambassador Hou hosted a luncheon press conference attended by the press from all over the world. Ambassador Hou gave a briefing on the purpose and schedule of their visit saying that he hopes this visit and exchange activities from both sides would enhance Taiwan's relationship with the Dominican Republic.

In the morning of July 3rd, the group, along with Ms. Lin went to visit Ministerio de la Juventud de República Dominicana and received an overwhelming welcome from Deputy Minister José Felix Medrano and Vice-Minister Claritza de la Cruz. They are very glad and grateful to Taiwan for allowing 140 Dominican Republic young people to study, "Nation-Building" in Taiwan for more than two years now. They believe this

project effectively enhances human relationship and is beneficial especially to their country. Mr. Medrano also gave the Youth Ambassadors Taiwan memorable gifts.

Providence University Youth Ambassadors Team also visited Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), Universidad APEC, Hogar Campestre Adventista "Las Palmas" de Bonao, and Casa de Juventud.

Another group from the Youth Ambassadors Team led by Professor Liang, Wen-Fen, from the Department of Spanish Language and Literature, Providence University arrived in Peru on July 17th for a two-week exchange visit as well. Their itinerary for this trip included a visit to the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina where they introduced to college students Taiwan's culture, such as; tea ceremony, Chinese, Tai chi, puppet show, etc.

By introducing Taiwan history, culture and heritage, the members of Youth Ambassadors were able to promote mutual understanding and build better partnership with the people of the Dominican Republic and Peru which fulfilled their unofficial diplomatic mission.

This annual visit of Youth Ambassadors Taiwan ROC sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is now in its third year.



Hogar Campestre Adventista Las Palmas



Cultural night in Peru



Calligraphy practice in Dominican Republic

Tunghai University, Taiwan

# Henry Luce Theological Lecture

......

The Henry Luce Theological Lecture was created in honor of Rev. Henry Luce. Rev. Luce is an American missionary in the late 19th century who devoted himself to the ministry for higher education in China. He assisted in founding Chi-lu University and Yenching University. Since 1996, United Board has supported the Chaplain's Office to hold a lecture every year. The topic this year is "Career Transformation from the Book of Daniel." We invited Rev. San-Jarn Wu, Old Testament professor from China Evangelical Seminary to speak on April 28, 2012.

How can Christians survive in this risky era? This question can pop up for the Christian who wants to start a career or who has been in a certain career for a long time. The topic is relevant to this current time for those who already face difficulties in their jobs. On April 28, two hundred brothers and

Rev. Wu is delivering speech.

o hundred brothers and sisters from different denominations came to participate in this grand event. Rev. Wu used the book of Daniel to give a new perspective in treating the issue of being a career warrior, Daniel is one who influenced the kings' and people's understanding toward the Lord. He also used Jeremy Lin as another example.

He shared his testimony and claimed that he is one who can influence the whole world. Rev. Wu addressed the temptations one faces in his career, which are money, power and sex. How do Christians fight these temptations? He provided us with the answers from the book of Daniel and encouraged people to be good



More than two hundred people participated in this speech.

witnesses. To be an effective career warrior, one should be a missionary, like what Jesus told us, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). The workplace is the mission field. He pointed out that one's career is his calling, the gospel goes beyond culture, and the church should be without walls to encourage believers to exert their influence in the workplace.

After the lecture, many stayed behind to ask more questions. They all know that being a missionary in the workplace is very important. They all regained the energy to stand steadfast in their faith. Very good responses were received from the participants. We hope to see many practical applications in the workplace.

Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, Taiwan

## We All Speak Chinese at Wenzao

Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages in southern Taiwan has successfully hosted 2012 Chinese Summer School from July 9 to 27, 2012.

This year Wenzao was delighted to welcome 65 participants from 11 countries and more than 20 sister universities, including 9 faculty members from UK, US, Spain, Vietnam and Thailand. This year also marks the first year that Wenzao receive students from two catholic universities in Africa – Mozambique and South Africa.

The unique composition of this year's participants creates another special and exciting 3-week Chinese summer school, specially designed for international students and professors from Wenzao's foreign partners. The framework of 2012 Summer School kept the basic design similar to the programs of previous four years but added more depth and richness in academic exchange.

For the 10 Taiwan/Asia lectures, topics includes Taiwan's political and economic development, small and medium enterprise development, democratization, Japanese colonial experience, Buddhism religion, natural disaster and media study, Taiwan external relation and tropical agricultural development, etc. For the traditional hands-on activities, they integrate contemporary and the traditional folk arts and crafts, music and play show the unique development of Taiwanese culture and history. Also, the "Culture Night" activities intentionally designed for international participants to present their own culture and

tradition by dancing, singing and acting will provide a wonderful platform for the international youth across the world to learn different culture and tradition and creativeness from each other.

Furthermore, the summer school had recruited and trained 22 enthusiastic Wenzao students as volunteers to receive these coming international participants in the most popular and welcomed homestay program to make them an unforgettable and valuable Taiwan family experience. Lastly, all participants including faculty member or student participants have all presented a final project as the concluding assignment of this summer school before receiving the official summer school certificate. The project either demonstrates their progress in the Chinese language learning or presents a topic of their interest related to Taiwan or Asia in general.



Cultural Activity: Participants learn and experience the Taiwanese Opera.



Cultural Night: participant from South Africa introducing and sharing the culture of his country.

Silliman University, Philippines

## Service-Learning Center Hosts 4 Students from Japan

Four female students from International Christian University of Tokyo (ICU) arrived in Silliman University to complete a month-long service learning program.

These students, Naoko Iiyama, Moe Kitamura, Yurika Michishita and Mariko Saito, are being supervised by the University's Service-Learning Center (SLC) for the program running June 30 to July 26.

They are assigned to partner communities and socio-civic organizations of SLC, including La Casa Ezperanza, Bloomington Farm Housing Village, Gawad Kalinga 2 and Habitat for Humanity.

Service-learning is a teaching pedagogy that offers a more comprehensive

and interactive understanding of community issues and local culture, through personal and first-hand experiences. Participants are monitored and processed through focus group discussions and journal entries.

Students serving meals to children at the Bloomington Farm Housing Village.



## **Campus Sustainability Initiatives**

.....

Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

## Vol. 10 Linking European and Asian Academic Networks: Experiences in Climate Change and Disaster Research and Education

Created under the Erasmus Mundus Action III Programme of the European Commission Education, Audiovisual, and Culture Agency, the Linking European, African and Asian Academic Networks on Climate Change (LEAN-CC) launched its first promotional seminar last June 28 to 30 2012, at the Escaler Hall of the Ateneo de Manila University.

The conference was structured around the mandate of LEAN-CC, which is to "promote European higher education, to help improve and enhance the career prospects of students and to promote intercultural understanding through cooperation with third world countries, in accordance with EU external policy objectives in order to contribute to the sustainable development of third world countries in the field of higher education."

As such, the first day featured experts and their assessment of the current situation of climate change studies and issues from the different perspectives of the academe, national and local government, and civil society.

During the second day, the focus shifted to the field of education and the related issues of research and training; as in the first day, a cross-section of different perspectives made sure that the different stakeholders were equally represented.

Finally, on the third day the more practical concerns of studying in Europe were discussed; here, representatives from several European embassies, as well as some students, shared valuable knowledge and experience.

Throughout the conference, a balance between European and Asian (Philippine) perspectives was assured; and to facilitate dialogue between the participants and the organizers, a workshop was conducted at the end of the first two days to discuss concerns and gather recommendations, which served to synthesize each day as well.

For more information on climate change education please visit www.ClimateChangeEdu.eu



Participants at the LEAN-CC Conference



The LEAN CC partners discussed the importance of climate change education.

## **Campus Sustainability Initiatives**

Silliman University, Philippines

## Vol. 11 Scientists Explore Role of Genetics in Marine Conservation

A new technology that uses genetics in biodiversity conservation is the main feature of an international program that has gathered at Silliman University scientists, professors and graduate students from around the world.

The 1st Pan-Pacific Advanced Studies Institute (PacASI) hosts 61 participants from ten countries for a series of case study and research presentations, discussions and synthesis workshops related to the use of advanced genomic applications in marine science and resource management in Southeast Asia

Being conducted from July 15 to 25, PacASI is an initiative supported by the National Science Foundation of the United States to propagate advance knowledge and training between leading scientists and researchers, particularly in the field of next generation sequencing (NGS).

Participants to the Institute had to apply and go through screening before they were admitted. They come from the United States, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, Iran, Thailand, Sweden, Brazil and the Philippines.

The ten-day program is guided by six topics: (1) genetic diversity in natural populations, phylogeography, and applications to marine management in Southeast Asia; (2) genetics of local adaptation; (3) genomic signatures of natural selection; (4) functional ecology based on global gene expression profiling; (5) RAD approaches to marine and conservation sciences; and (6) single nucleotide polymorphisms versus microsatellites in population ecology.

PacASI is spearheaded by the Old Dominion University (ODU) in Virginia, United States. ODU professor and marine conservation biologist Dr. Kent Carpenter is the Principal Investigator.

Silliman University's inclusion in the Institute is born of its formal tie-up with ODU on the Coral Triangle Partnership in International Relations and Extension (CT-PIRE) project. IEMS Director Dr. Hilconida Calumpong headed the CT-PIRE project for Silliman last year, with Dr. Carpenter overseeing the overall project. Dr. Calumpong is one of the organizers of PacASI.

Most of the case study presentations at PacASI are products of the CT-PIRE project that uses NGS.

PacASI elevates the understanding of NGS and its potential in preserving the marine environment. With leading scientists and researchers from both sides of the Pacific in attendance, it builds on the knowledge gained by traditional Sanger sequencing methods that are beginning to identify corroborated patterns of marine population structure in the Southeast Asian region. These patterns test hypotheses about the ecological and evolutionary origins of the high marine biodiversity in the region and provide guidelines on how to protect and sustainably manage these resources. Advanced genomics has demonstrated potential to greatly enhance this line of research.

Establishing the relevance of CT-PIRE to PacASI and the connection between the two, Dr. Calumpong said CT-PIRE tested major biogeographic hypothesis on the origin and accumulation of high biodiversity in the Philippines, using a multidisciplinary approach that combined geospatial modeling of ocean currents with comparative population genetics. It brought to Silliman researchers and graduate students from ODU to undertake with their Silliman and other Filipino counterparts joint research activities on the country's marine biodiversity and that of the broader Coral Triangle region.

The Coral Triangle region covers the waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and the Philippines. The region is highly abundant with species of corals, fishes, crustaceans, mollusks and marine plants. Its biodiversity is the highest around the world.

Dr. Carpenter explained that CT-PIRE looks at "transforming the Coral Triangle, a hotspot of marine biodiversity, into a hotspot of marine research and education."

He said CT-PIRE seeks to test hypotheses on speciation and origins of high diversity of the Coral

Triangle, apply population genetic results for improvement and marine resource management and conservation, and train and build collaborative ties for a new international cohort of scientists for a stronger genomic research and applied genetic foundation in the region.

PacASI culminates on July 25 with its topics covering the theme "marine resource management and NGS applications to aquaculture".



Participants of the 1st Pan-Pacific Advanced Studies Institute

ACUCA NEWS is published four times a year by the Secretariat of ACUCA. It is published primarily for circulation among member institutions. Hence, contributions from members are most welcome. Organizations and scholars interested in obtaining a copy may contact:

Dr. Johannes Unsok Ro General Secretary, ACUCA International Christian University 3-10-2 Osawa, Mitaka-shi, Tokyo, Japan Tel +81 422 33 3043 Fax +81 422 33 3355 E-mail: acuca@icu.ac.jp

ACUCA Officers and Executive Committee Members 2011-2012

#### President

Dr. Junko Hibiya International Christian University Japan

## Vice President

Dr. Chin-Seng Chen Chang Jung Christian University Taiwan

#### Treasurer

Prof. Albert Chan Hong Kong Baptist University Hong Kong

#### **Board Members**

Dr. Djohan Duta Wacana Christian University Indonesia

Dr. Jong-Wook Lee Sogang University Korea

Dr. Ben Malayang III Silliman University Philippines

Dr. Penpilai Ritthakananone Payap University Thailand

#### **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 November 16 for the next issue.
- of twas such a pleasure to see participants enjoying activities and deepening friendship at the ACUCA Student Camp. It is through such an event that we realize and appreciate true benefit and value of ACUCA. Please visit ACUCA website http://www.acuca.net/ for more info.
- ACUCA Secretariat at ICU would like to express deep gratitude to all the Japanese members for their assistance for the Student Camp
  and the General Assembly. At the same time, we feel that such cooperation is indispensable because of the secretariat's wide range of
  duties. We hope that future secretariats will receive similar support from the members of their countries.