



ACUCA NEWS

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN ASIA

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



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ACUCA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

HONGKONG

Chung Chi College, CUHK
Hong Kong Baptist University
Lingnan University

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Parahyangan Catholic University
Petra Christian University
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Universitas Kristen Indonesia
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Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

THAILAND

Payap University
Assumption University
Christian University Of Thailand
Mission College

Message from the President

During the ACUCA Executive Committee meeting last April, a remark from Dr. Shinye Kim got us engaged in a lively discussion on the growing experience of multiculturalism in our countries and our universities. She remarked that Korea has historically been a monocultural country.

But now they were seeing more migrants, including Filipino migrants, and Keimyung University was reflecting on this new experience of multiculturalism. We said that the Philippines was also noting a large influx of Korean migrants and so this might perhaps be an opportunity for our two universities, Keimyung and Ateneo, to engage in a research project on migration and our growing multicultural experience.

During the 35th General Congregation of the Jesuits, January 7 to March 6, this year in Rome, we focused a lot on migration as a central phenomenon of our time. People on the move is a global reality. We noted that there have always been many cultures in our world. The difference today is that we experience these different cultures in our immediate neighborhoods and communities. Universities and other institutions are challenged to find their role in integrating the different cultures that now have to learn to live in close proximity with one another.

Much of the public discussion on migration focuses on economic issues, in particular, job gains or losses. But as Christian universities, we are invited to reflect and do research on the impact of migration and mobility on the spirit and culture. At the Ateneo de Manila, we have established a research project on Migration and Family. Keimyung University has established a Centre for Research and Education in Multicultural Korea. There are a rising number of publications on Migration and Identity. Identity, individual or community, has traditionally been so rooted in particular times

and places - in the neighborhood we grew up in, the religious practices and customs of our upbringing. What is the shape and form of identity today in a world much more mobile, much less rooted, much more multi-religious and multi-cultural?

During our Jesuit General Congregation, the Holy Father described our time as "a period of great social, economic and political changes, sharp ethical, cultural and environmental problems, conflicts of all kinds, but also of a more intense communication among peoples, of new possibilities of acquaintance and dialogue, of a deep longing for peace."

As an association of Christian universities and colleges, we might ask at ACUCA how we can address together this world of people on the move, a world of "more intense communication among peoples, of new possibilities of acquaintance and dialogue, of a deep longing for peace" and "announce to our contemporaries the Word of hope and salvation."



BIENVENIDO F. NEBRES, S.J.

President, Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia (2007-2008)

News from the Secretariat



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CREM proposes collaboration with ACUCA

The Center for Research and Education for Multicultural Korea (CREM) proposed the following collaborative activities with the ACUCA:

- * Academic conference on the issues of multicultural society (family, foreign workers, language, and cultural conflicts, and others)
- * Publishing working paper series
- * Faculty lecture program (short or long-term faculty exchange among the ACUCA members and offer courses on multicultural issues)
- * Joint program among the ACUCA members (bilateral arrangement to provide an academic program in the relevant field)
- * Students' participation in Community Outreach Program or Service Learning Program

Keimyung opened the CREM) on May 14, 2008 as the institution's research, education and policy response to the

Keimyung officials proudly display their institution's ABT entitlement.



changing socio-demographic profile of Korean society.

The CREM seeks policy- and action-oriented research and education activities concerning migrants and residents. These projects must promote local distinctiveness vis-à-vis global standardization and gender-sensitivity, and emphasize not only cultural but social, economic, and political representations of various ethnic and racial groups.

The opening of the CREM has brought KU the entitlement of an Active Brain Tower university authorized by the Ministry of Justice and Law of Korea. The ABT universities are region-based partners of the ministry to develop and administer programs on immigration and multicultural understanding.

News from the members



Fr. Calmano

New Presidents

The ACUCA officers and directors wish to extend their felicitations to the following newly appointed Presidents:

FR. MICHAEL CALMANO, SVD
 Nanzan University
DR. HARUKI ONISHI
 Meiji Gakuin University
PROF. SOICHI SUGIHARA
 Kwansai Gakuin University

Ateneo de Manila (PH) and Keimyung (KOR) sign partnership agreement

A memorandum of understanding has been signed between Ateneo de Manila University and Keimyung University that will develop academic and cultural interchange between the two institutions in education, research, and other areas.

Specifically, the cooperative efforts would be in the form of the exchange of faculty members, exchange of students, joint research activities, participation in seminars and academic meetings, exchange of academic materials and other information, special short-term academic programs, and staff development projects to be developed and implemented over the next five years.

The MOA signing between Fr. Bienvenido F. Nebres, S.J.,



Dr. Jin-Woo Lee (seated, left) and Fr. Bienvenido Nebres with Keimyung and Ateneo administrators.

President, Ateneo De Manila University, and Dr. Jin-Woo Lee, President, Keimyung University, took place on April 11, 2008 at Xavier Hall, Ateneo de Manila University.

It was witnessed by Dr. Shin-hey Kim, Director of International Affairs, Keimyung University and by Ateneo administrators: Dr. Antonette Palma-Angeles, Academic Vice President, Dr. Ma. Assunta Cuyegkeng, Vice President for Loyola Schools, Dr. Ma. Luz Vilches, Dean, School of Humanities, and Mr. Glenn de Leon, Assistant to the AVP for International Programs. The Keimyung officials later met with Ms. April Fernandez, Director, Ateneo Language Learning Center, who talked to them about the Summer English Language Learning Program.

CUHK (HKG) to establish Lee Woo Sing College

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) has approved a major pledge of HK\$150 million for the establishment of Lee Woo Sing College, in honor of the eminent entrepreneur and civic leader Mr. Lee Woo Sing. Lee served for many years as a member of the Council of CUHK and the Board of Trustees of Shaw College. He is the Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College, as well as a member of the Executive Committee of the Council of the university.

The new college will be able to accommodate up to

News from the members

1,200 students, consisting of 600 residential students and up to 600 commuters. It is part of CUHK's commitment to further develop and strengthen the college system in its 10-year strategic plan. It is envisioned that the college will help broaden the students' understanding of and liaison with Hong Kong, the Mainland and the world so as to enable them to build successful careers in the future.

In just 18 months, the university has been able to obtain donations to establish five new colleges that will provide the needs of over 3,000 additional undergraduates in 2012. The five new colleges, in conjunction with the original four colleges, will provide a spectrum of courses and experiences that the students can select from.

ICU (JPN) hosts farewell symposium for JDS fellows



Since 2001, International Christian University has participated in the Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) program by accommodating young bureaucrats, researchers and business people from Japan's official development assistance (ODA) recipient countries in the Graduate School Division of Public Administration. On June 18, a farewell symposium was held for 11 JDS fellows from China, Mongolia, the Philippines and Uzbekistan. The JDS fellows gave a presentation on their research with an action plan outlining how they plan to contribute to development in their home countries after completing their M.A. programs. A tea party was held after the presentation.

Keimyung (KOR) opens International Education Center

Keimyung University opened a 13,000-square-meter International Education Center which aims to expand the university's educational programs and develop linguistically competent leaders for the globalized world. English classes for spoken and written communication are offered



for different levels of students and an Intensive English program is offered during the school break. Japanese and Chinese language programs are also offered.

Soochow (TW) receives anew the Award for Teaching Excellence

The Ministry of Education awarded Soochow University with 103 million NT dollars for academic year 2007 as part of the Award for Teaching Excellence Project. The total award received by Soochow for the past three consecutive years has reached 334 million, indicating the ministry's high regard for the institution's teaching performance.

Collaborative agreements. The School of Business signed a cooperation agreement with the Helsinki School of Economics (HSE). The purpose of the agreement is to enhance the management skills of students to make them at par with their Asian and international counterparts. John Marshall Law School and Soochow University Law School also signed an agreement for research exchange and cooperation. The agreement includes mutual recognition of course credits offered by both schools and the teaching of summer courses at Soochow University by faculty of John Marshall Law School.

HKBU (HKG) establishes joint social work research network with Taiwan and Macau institutions

The Faculty of Social Sciences of Hong Kong Baptist University recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with National Taiwan University and the Macao Polytechnic Institute for academic exchange and collaboration through a new Joint Social Work Research Network established by the Social Work departments of the three institutions.

Under the network, the three institutions will jointly publish occasional papers and professional and research reports, and will conduct annual in-house seminars and roundtable meetings in which colleagues of the three institutions will participate. Academics of the three



News from the members

parties will also conduct joint research, and organize joint conferences to be held on a biennial basis on selected social work and social policy themes.

As the initiator of the joint network, the HKBU Department of Social Work is responsible for housing and managing the joint network for the first two-year term.

Visiting faculty from Providence (Tw) shares experience at Ateneo (PH)

Students from the Ateneo de Manila University have “a sharp mind in cross-cultural knowledge” and “are eager to learn more about Chinese (language) and Chinese culture.”

Thus observed Alice Liu, visiting faculty from the Chinese Language Center, Providence University, who taught Chinese at the Ateneo’s School of Social Sciences last semester.

However, what impressed Liu was the school’s “holy environment, hard-working students and devoted faculty and staff.” She noted that the students worked hard on their academics but also involved themselves in leadership and social activities. Further, interactions between the students and faculty were not limited to the classroom but also in churches, on the campus and even at the dinner table, she observed.

“I really learned a lot about the Catholic and Philippine culture, which is (characterized) by hospitality, kindness and optimism. I hope that I can go back again,” she said.



ACUCA NEWS is published four times yearly 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:

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