



ABEST21 e-News

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**THE ALLIANCE ON BUSINESS EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOMORROW,
a 21st century organization**

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1. ABEST21 Office Report

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- Magister Management Program on-site interview held at Jakarta, on the Salemba Campus of Universitas Indonesia, attended on January 7, 2013.
 - Professor Ruslan Prijadi, the coordinator for Joint Research Project 7, and Secretary Dr. Dwiwahju Sasongo of BAN-PT visited on January 8.
 - Peer Review Committee-Group A at Minami Aoyama Kaikan attended on January 11.
 - Accreditation seminar for Chiang Mai University and Naresuan University of Thailand held on January 28.
 - Malaysia Qualification Agency visited on January 30 with ABEST21 Executive Secretary Professor Ming Yu Cheng to discuss Joint Research Project 7.
 - Joint seminar on Accreditation seminar for IIUM, UiTM, UKM, UPM, USM, and UUM held at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) on January 30.
 - Joint seminar on Accreditation held at Bandung co-sponsored by AFEBI and ABEST21 Indonesia Committee attended on January 31.

2. Quality Assurance and Accreditation System-1

Fumio Itoh

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ABEST21 was approved by MEXT as accreditation institution for business schools on October 12, 2007, and for professional graduate school of intellectual property on October 31, 2011. In the past five years, we have accredited 8 Japanese business schools and 1 business school each in Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia. At present 5 schools are under the accreditation process in Japan, 1 each in Russia, China, and Australia, 2 in Thailand, 5 in Malaysia, and 4 in Indonesia.

Based on our experience from the past ABEST21 Accreditation activities, quality assurance of management education has become an important issue in order to nurture management professionals who play an active role in the globalized society in Asia. Quality assurance is a mission for ABEST21 as an accrediting institution. In our early stage, we focused on analyzing the educational and research activities of the applicant schools to check whether these are in line with the assessment criteria. However, considering the fact that the value of nurturing human resources is a future value, and that such human resources must apply the knowledge and skills acquired at companies, etc., I begin to think that to achieve "educational quality enhancement", we will need to assess the educational system from the viewpoint of combining appropriately the components of "Faculty", "Student", "Curriculum" and "Supporting staff and infrastructure" to realize the "Mission Statement".

3. Network Information

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1) Visit to BAN-PT

On January 8, 2013, President Itoh, Professor Ruslan Prijadi and Lecturer Yasmine Nora (both from Universitas Indonesia) visited Secretary Dr. Dwiwahju Sasongo (second from the left) of BAN-PT. Professor Ruslan Prijadi, the Joint Research Project 7 coordinator, discussed the progress of the Project 7. We exchanged views on relationship between BAN-PT and the model of accreditation system to be developed as a result of this Project. The model will be presented at the international symposium to be held on March 9, 2013.



2) Visit to Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA)

On January 30, 2013, President Itoh and Professor Ming Yu Cheng (ABEST21 Executive Secretary) visited the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) to meet Mr. Mohamad Dzafir Mustafa (Head of Public and International Affairs Unit). After reporting the progress of Joint Research Project-7, opinions were exchanged on the progress of Research Project 7 in Malaysia. Since it was recognized that the Project requires support from AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network), we will work on coordination with AQAN.

3) ABEST21 Conference 2013

ABEST21 Conference 2013 will be held on March 7-9 in Tokyo. There are three objectives of this conference. The first objective is to hold the annual ABEST21 General Assembly. ABEST21 Annual Report will be presented by the President, followed by exchange of views on ABEST21 activities and strategies. The second objective is the final assessment of schools applying for ABEST21 Accreditation. This time accreditation reports on 3 business schools will be presented at the Accreditation Committee to be held at Toshiba Corporation Head Office. The results of accreditation will be finalized. The third objective is to hold an international symposium. Keynote speeches on Joint Research Project 6 and Joint Research Project 7 will be given by Mr. Kazunobu Asada, Director, Higher Education Policy Planning Division, Higher Education Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and Mr. Takeshi Hibiya, Full-time Corporate Auditor of Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd. Panel discussions will be held after the speeches.

Day 1: Thursday, March 7, 2013

Peer Review Steering Committee 2012

Time: 13:00-16:00

Venue: Conference Room, Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa, Tokyo

Day 2: Friday, March 8, 2013

Accreditation Committee 2012

Time: 9:30-11:30

Venue: Conference Room# 3912 in Toshiba Corporation, Head Office, 39F

Toshiba Lecture

Time: 11:30-12:30

Venue: Conference Room# 3912 in Toshiba Corporation, Head Office, 39F

Toshiba Plant Visit

Time: 14:00-16:00

Venue: Toshiba Corporation Fuchu Complex, Fuchu-city, Tokyo

Day 3: Saturday, March 9, 2013

Venue: International Conference Hall, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo

Time: 9:30-11:00

ABEST21 Board Meeting 2012

Time: 11:00-11:30

ABEST21 General Assembly 2012

Time: 12:30-13:30

School Presentations

Time: 13:30-17:30

International Symposium

4. Research Information

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1) The 2nd Project-7 Country Chair meeting

On February 21, 2013 the 2nd Country Chair meeting for Joint Research Project-7 will be held at Management & Science University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Participants are as follows: ABEST21 President Fumio Itoh, Executive Secretary Professor Ming Yu Cheng (Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman), Joint Research Project-7 coordinator Professor Siriwut Buranapin (Chiang Mai University), organizer Lecturer Hen Kai Wah (Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman) and the Chairs of the countries where research is conducted, i.e. Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Progress of the research will be reported by the Chairs to prepare for presentation at the international symposium on March 9.

5. Accreditation Information

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1) ABEST21 Peer Review Committee-Group A Committee

On January 11, 2013, Group A Committee of the Peer Review Committee was held. Traditionally, the Peer Review Committee was held three times a year, in July, November, and January. Peer Review Committee consisted of Group A and Group B due to differences in higher education system in Asia. Group A discussed accreditation for Japanese business schools every January, while Group B discussed accreditation for business schools in Asia every July. In November a joint committee was held in Tokyo, to coordinate the assessment process by the two Groups. Based on the two years' experience in such group system, in order to promote the accreditation activities internationally, we have decided to modify the system effective 2013. The Group A and B will be abolished, and Peer Review Steering Committee will be established as part of the Peer Review Committee. Accreditation for all business schools in Japan and other Asian countries will be processed under the same schedule, by the same committees. For this reason, the meeting held on January 11 was the last Group A Committee meeting. The Committee discussed the assessment results for a Japanese business school prepared by the Peer Review Team based on the document assessment and on-site interview of the Self-Evaluation Report.



2) On-site interview at MM-FEUI

On January 7, 2013 at Salemba Campus in Jakarta, the Peer Review Team conducted an on-site interview for Magister Management (MM-FEUI) Program at Graduate School of Management, Faculty of Economics, Universitas Indonesia. At first President Itoh and the Peer Review Team asked questions to the university executives on the supporting system for MM-FEUI educational and research activities. Then assessment based on the Self-Evaluation Report was examined with the faculty executives, followed by a tour to the school facilities. MM-FEUI student interview was conducted after 6 p.m., since during the daytime the students are working.



3) Malaysia Accreditation Seminar

On January 30, 2013, ABEST21 Accreditation Seminar was held at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) located in Putrajaya. Details of ABEST21 Accreditation were explained by the Malaysia Committee Chair, Dean Ali Khatibi (Management and Science University) and the Accreditation system was explained by Executive Secretary Dr. Ming Yu Cheng (Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman). Then President Itoh explained about some details of the assessment item analysis which became an issue in the past. This was followed by an active Q&A session focusing on specific items. The seminar was attended by many participants, including the Deans of business schools at International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), and Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM).



4) Indonesia Accreditation Seminar

On January 31, 2013, at Universitas Padjadjaran (UNPAD) in Bandung, Indonesia, a joint Accreditation Seminar was held co-sponsored by AFEBI (ASOSIASI FAKULTAS EKONOMI DAN BISNIS INDONESIA) and ABEST21 Indonesia Committee. Chaired by AFEBI General Secretary and UNPAD Vice Dean Popy Rufaidah, the Indonesia Committee Chair, Dean Sudarsono Kaderi Wiryono (Institute Teknologi Bandung) provided detailed explanation on ABEST21 Accreditation system and process. President Itoh also explained about the objectives of accreditation, the significance of Self-Evaluation, and various issues concerning enhancement of management education and accreditation, based on actual cases. Views on accreditation issues were exchanged actively with the AFEBI members. Their interests toward international accreditation were raised.



6. Membership Information

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New Affiliate Member: Institute for Complex Strategic Studies

We are pleased to announce that the Institute for Complex Strategic Studies (Moscow, Russia) has joined ABEST21 as an affiliate member - the first affiliate member based outside Japan. Institute for Complex Strategic Studies is an institute focusing on Russian economic policy issues. Its activities include research and consultations on monetary policy, tax policy, financial markets, external economic activities, social policy, as well as seminars and meetings, teaching at Moscow State University Business School and publishing. Professor Oleg Vikhanskiy, Dean of Lomonosov Moscow State University Business School, is the Director General of the Institute.

The website: <http://www.icss.ac.ru>