ABEST21 Office Report

2018
August 2018
・ 27th -- Visit to Kyoto University, Japan

September
・ 4th -- Peer Review Visit to Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia
・ 10th -- No. 34 meeting of The Council for Human Resource Development
・ 11th -- Visit to MEXT of Japan
・ 14-15th -- Peer Review Visit to Burapha University, Thailand
・ 18-19th -- Peer Review Visit to Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
・ 20-21st -- Peer Review Visit to International Islamic University Malaysia, Malaysia
・ 24-25th -- Peer Review Visit to Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia
・ 28-29th -- Peer Review Visit to Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan

October 2018
・ 2-3rd -- Peer Review Visit to Hitotsubashi University, Japan
・ 5-6th -- Peer Review Visit to University of Tsukuba, Japan
・ 12-13th -- Peer Review Visit to Universitas Sriwijaya, Indonesia
・ 22-23rd -- Peer Review Visit to Northeastern University, China
・ 31st -- Peer Review Committee, FEB-Universitas Padjadjaran, Indonesia

I. Quality Improvement and Peer Review System - No. 36

“Aiming at enhancement of PRT quality” -2 : “Peer Review Visit”

ABEST21 Accreditation Process consists of 1) screening of accreditation application eligibility, 2) Review on Quality Improvement Plan (QIP), and 3) Review on Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report (SCR). Peer Review Visit by the Peer Review Team (PRT) serves as part of the third stage of the process and implies on-site review based on the Desk Review of the SCR. The main purposes of the visit are to 1) check and clarify the issues which were not clear in the SCR Desk Review, through interviews with various stakeholders, 2) check the condition of the educational research facilities and infrastructures analyzed in the SCR, and 3) provide advice for kaizen on the school’s educational and research environment as checked through the Desk Review and the Peer Review Visit.

In particular, in order to understand the facts accurately, it is important to meet as many
stakeholders as possible. Under the present system, ABEST21 conducts interviews with the following parties during the Peer Review Visit:

1. University management
2. School’s management
3. School’s Administrative Staff members
4. School’s Faculty members
5. Current Students
6. Alumni.

With the changes in the educational and research environment, in order for a school to assure its stakeholders of the quality of education, it is essential to solve the current kaizen issues and realize the strategies that enable the school to shift from “how the school wishes to be” to “how the school should be”. Here the financial support from the parent university is indispensable. During the interview with the University management, the key point is to check whether the kaizen issues analyzed in the SCR are actually feasible under the University strategy. In the past we have learned a lesson from a Kaizen Report where the applicant school’s Action Plan for kaizen was not approved by the University management and therefore no budget was provided. In this case the Action Plan was not implemented. Based on such experience ABEST21 puts an emphasis on the interview with the University management and aims to understand whether the school’s strategies are in line with those of the University.

7. Survey of the educational and research facilities

After the interviews, educational and research facilities are examined to check the status of educational environment for both the faculty members and students. This survey is based not only on physical space perspective, but also the convenience for actual use.

8. Suggestions to the School by the PRT

At the end of the 2-day Peer Review Visit, conclusive comments on SCR are provided by the PRT. For the quality assurance of education, “Mission Statement”, “Learning Goals” and “Learning Outcome” must be connected, and consistent feedback from the stakeholders needs to be provided, so as to build a quality enhancement system for kaizen. Unless this is realized, “Accreditation” may have no practical significance.

“Educational and research system” is not a closed system, but an open system. In this modern world of rapidly changing environment, it is necessary to analyze the factors of “changes in the educational and research environment” appropriately, clarify the “human resources to be nurtured”, and define “how the school should be” following the “Mission Statement”. I think the main concerns of the stakeholders are to know whether universities are equipped with such power to educate and power to promote research. (Fumio Itoh, President)

II. Accreditation

1. General Assembly 2019

The General Assembly 2019 is scheduled on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at the Shinagawa Season Terrace Conference. On Friday, March 8, 2019, a tour visit to Toshiba Machine Co., Ltd. is scheduled.
III. Accreditation

1. The First Peer Review Committee in 2018

The First Peer Review Committee (PRC) for 2018 was held on October 31 and November 2, 2018 at the Faculty of Economics and Business-Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia.

Peer Review Committee members and Peer Review Team leaders

This PRC at FEB-Universitas Padjadjaran is the second PRC meeting held in Indonesia, following the meeting at Universitas Airlangga last year. For this year’s meeting, we would like to express our special thanks to Universitas Padjadjaran Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Keri Lestari (upper photo) and Dean Dr. Yudi Azis (photo) for their kindness and support.
On Day 1 (October 31) the SCR review was conducted in a closed meeting, with PRT Leaders reporting on the draft PRT Review Reports. 11 Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Reports (SCR) and 2 Kaizen Reports (KR) were reviewed. Of the 11 SCR reviews, 1 report was ratified with condition precedent, and 1 report was suspended. The number of SCR reports by country is as follows.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>China</th>
<th>Indonesia</th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>Malaysia</th>
<th>Thailand</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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APAS=Abest21 Program-based Accreditation System

On Day 2 (November 1) QIP review was conducted, with explanations on QIP report provided by the Deans of the 12 schools which submitted the QIP. This was an open meeting since it gives an opportunity to learn about the approaches to enhancing university educational and research quality in various countries for both APAS and AAAS system. As a result, the meeting was attended by many parties related to member schools which plan to apply for accreditation.

![Image of a meeting with a person speaking]

Dean Prof. Shigeru Asaba, Ph.D., Waseda Business School

This meeting was also an opportunity to study how to enhance the quality of educational and research environment for nurturing human resources based on diverse educational systems in Asian countries. Particularly, we once again realized that since nurturing of human resources through education is based on the culture of respective countries, nurturing is not the same process as producing for example television sets or radios. Since the ideal human resources to be nurtured differ among the countries with different labor markets and economic development stages, we recognized that it is not easy to introduce a global standard to an educational system.

The number of QIP reports by country is as follows.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Indonesia</th>
<th>Japan</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAAS</td>
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APAS=Abest21 Program-based Accreditation System

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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
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2. Next Peer Review Committee

The next Peer Review Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at the Shinagawa Season Terrace Conference. It will be held jointly with the Accreditation Committee. Details will be announced later.

3. On-site Interview 2018

For the Accreditation review in March 2019, the 2-day Peer Review Visits for Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report (SCR) and KAIZEN Report (KR) were conducted with the cooperation of Peer Review Teams (PRT). The Peer Review Visits include the following:
1) Interview with University management
2) Interview with the School’s management
3) Interview with the School’s Administrative Staff members
4) Interview with the School’s Faculty members
5) Interview with the School’s Students
6) Interview with the School’s Alumni
7) Survey of the educational and research facilities
8) Suggestions to the School by the PRT.

A: Professional Graduate School of Business-Japan
(1) Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan (conducted on September 28 and 29, 2018)
(2) Hitotsubashi University, Japan (conducted on October 2 and 3, 2018)
(3) University of Tsukuba, Japan (conducted on October 5 and 6, 2018)

B: ABEST21 International Accreditation
(1) Lomonosov Moscow State University Business School, Russia (conducted on September 6, 2018)
(2) Burapha University, Thailand (conducted on September 14-16, 2018)
(3) Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (conducted on September 18 and 19, 2018)
(4) International Islamic University Malaysia, Malaysia (conducted on September 20 and 21, 2018)
(5) Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia (conducted on September 24 and 25, 2018)
(6) Universitas Sriwijaya, Indonesia (conducted on October 12 and 13, 2018)
(7) Northeastern University, China (conducted on October 22 and 23, 2018)

Associate Dean Bukhshtaber Natalia (second left) Lomonosov Moscow State University Business School

Acting President Assoc. Prof. Somnuk Theerakulpisut, Ph.D. (third left), Burapha University

President Prof. Dr. Isarji Hj Sarudin (center) Universiti Kuala Lumpur

Deputy Rector Prof. Dato’ Dr. Mazliham Mohd Su’ud (center), International Islamic University Malaysia

Dean Prof. Dr. Azlan Arman (center) Universiti Sains Malaysia

Rektor Prof. Dr. Ir. H. Anis Saggaff (third left) Universitas Sriwijaya
IV. Membership
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1. New Deans
   The changes of representatives at school members reported to the ABEST21 Office are as follows.
   1) Dean Prof. Dr. Shahizan Hassan
      Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business, Universiti Utara Malaysia, Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia
   2) Dean Prof. Dr. Sulaiman Sajilan
      Universiti Kuala Lumpur Business School, Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
   3) Dean Prof. Yoshinori Hara, Ph.D.
      Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
   4) Program Chair Prof. Takahiko Hirai, Ph.D.
      MBA Program in International Business, Graduate School of Business Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Tokyo, Japan
   5) Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Puan Yatim
      Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia
   6) Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lampang Manmart
      College of Graduate Study in Management, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand

2. New Dean's Profile
Dean Associate Professor Dr. Lampang Manmart
College of Graduate Study in Management, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lampang Manmart completed her Bachelor of Arts in Library science from Khon Kaen University in 1979. In 1984, she received Master of Arts in Library Science from Chulalongkorn University and received Master of Education in Educational Technology from University of Tsukuba, Japan in 1996. Later, she earned her PhD in Communication Information Studies from University of Canberra, Australia in 2003. For more than 30 years, she has been teaching courses for both undergraduate and graduate students including Introduction to
Management Information System, Information System Analysis and Design, Knowledge Management, Strategic Management, Research Methodology and Statistics for Information Studies. Her research interests focus on information and knowledge management, information and communication, and organizational management. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lampang also worked for strategic planning projects and as a consultant for the government organizations. She had experience of being the Dean of Graduate School, Khon Kaen University, for 8 years. Currently, she has been serving as the Vice President for Strategic Planning of Khon Kaen University and became the Dean of College of Graduate Study in Management on 10 October, 2018.

Name: Dean Associate Professor Dr. Lampang Manmart
Email: lamman@kku.ac.th

3. **Topic articles’ contribution by members**

   It was reported at the Deans Forum Group 4 Discussion that sharing of information is a must for building the educational and research environment to meet the needs of globalization. As a first step we call for members’ contribution to the eNews describing their educational and research activities, or affiliate members’ business activities. We welcome your contributions that will help all the members to enhance the understanding of the practices that shape educational and research activities in response to the environmental changes. The guidelines for the articles are as follows.

1) Title: “Member Topics”
2) Published in ABEST21 eNews
3) Maximum number of English letters/characters: 500
4) 1 photo to be attached
5) Deadline: end of every month
6) send to: staff in charge of ABEST21 eNews.