



ABEST21 e-News

No.118, April-June 2022

ABEST21 International

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

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"Due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have conducted all meetings online for avoiding the so-called "Three Cs" -- Closed places with poor ventilation, Crowded places and conversations in Close proximity."

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I. ABEST21 General Information

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1. ABEST21 Office Report

April

- 19th : Conducting the online Accreditation Seminar II
- 20th : Visit to JICA
- 25th : Conducting online Accreditation Seminar for Putra Business School, Malaysia
- 26th : Conducting online Accreditation Seminar for AAAS KAIZEN Report
- 28th : Conducting online Accreditation Seminar for UPSI, Malaysia

May

- 17th : Conducting the online Accreditation 2022-granting Ceremony
- 24th : Conducting online Accreditation Seminar for Waseda Business School, Japan

June

- 07th : Conducting the online KAIZEN Award-granting Ceremony
- 09th : Conducting the online Accreditation Seminar for Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia
- 16th : Holding the 41st online meeting of ABEST21 Council for Human Resource Development
- 17th : Holding a meeting with Japan Foundation for United Nations University

- 28th : Meeting with CEO Prof. DATO' Dr. Mohammad Shatar Bin Sabran, Malaysia Qualifications Agency, Malaysia
- 28th : Visit to Faculty of Management and Economics, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia
- 29th : Visit to Embassy of Japan in Malaysia

2. Visit to Embassy of Japan in Malaysia

In 1982 the Malaysian government launched the Look East Policy (LEP) aimed at accelerating social and economic development of Malaysia through learning from Japan. Since that time, 26,000 bright Malaysian youngsters have studied in Japan. They've been active in Malaysia, serving as a bridge between the two nations. The LEP's benefits aren't restricted to Malaysians who study in Japan due to government assistance. It's extended to encompass infrastructure and human resource development, boosting Malaysia's economy.

The 40th anniversary is a great chance to highlight the LEP's contributions and inspire Japanese and Malaysians to promote mutual understanding and cordial collaboration in the future.

ABEST21 President Professor Emeritus Dr. ITOH Fumio met MQA CEO Prof Dato' Dr Mohammad Shatar Bin Sabran on June 28, 2022 and First Secretary, Education and Science Attaché Mr Yuki Yoshi SAITO on June 29, 2022 to discuss the collaboration between Malaysian higher education institutions and ABEST21. (reported by Dean Ali Khatibi, MSU)

On the Look East Policy, we can learn from a pamphlet issued by the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia as follows:

“The Look East Policy (LEP) is a Malaysian policy launched in 1982, with the aim to develop Malaysia’s economy and society through learning from Japan. The idea was that economic development of modern Japan was supported by Japanese values, such as work ethic, enthusiasm for learning and working and morality. Since then, about 26,000 Malaysian students and government officials have studied in Japan at universities, KOSEN (National Institute of Technology), private companies, local governments, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JAICA). After returning to Malaysia, these alumni have been active in a wide range of public and private industries. The LEP will continue to evolve to cope with the changing times. The Government of Japan and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia will continue to support the LEP for future generations.” (from “THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOOK EAST POLICY” p.3)



3. Meeting with CEO Prof. DATO' Dr. Mohammad Shatar Bin Sabran, Malaysia Qualifications Agency

On June 28, 2022, President Itoh had a meeting with Chief Executive Officer of Malaysian Qualifications Agency CEO, Professor Dato' Dr Mohammad Shatar Sabran at Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. As a result, a general agreement was reached to work on the renewal of Memorandum of Arrangement (MOA) between MQA and ABEST21 which was signed previously by both parties. The signing ceremony of the said MOA will be held in Kuala Lumpur this year as a part of the 40th anniversary of Malaysian Look East Policy (LEP). During the meeting, Professor Itoh had also invited Professor Dato' Mohammad Shatar to attend ABEST21 Annual General Assembly which will take place on March 9, 2023 in Kyoto, Japan. (reported by Dr. Zulkornain Yusop)



The main areas of co-operation covered by the Memorandum are: a) exchange of operational information, b) exchange of information on status of accreditation, c) mutual understanding of approaches to enhance the understanding of quality assurance in higher education, d) quality system to ensure the role of both agencies, e) promotion of developmental opportunities for the staff of both agencies, f) engaging reviewers from both parties, g) collaborative accreditation programs, h) sharing Good Practice Database, etc.



4. New Dean

Dean Prof. Norio SAWABE, Ph.D.

Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Norio Sawabe, Professor of accounting, has been appointed Dean of Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University (GSM-Kyoto), since April 2022. Prof Sawabe has studied accounting at Kyoto University and awarded his PhD in 1998. He has been active in research and education both nationally and internationally. He is currently a director of European Accounting Association representing Asia and vice president of Japan Cost Management Association. He also served as vice dean of Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University, vice president of Japan Management Accounting Association, advising committee member of Global Management Accounting Principles, international committee member of the management accounting section of American Accounting Association, and so on. He is a founding member and a director of Maki Makoto Foundation, which is a research foundation with a particular aim to promote management accounting research and education in Japan.



GSM-Kyoto was established in April, 2006 in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan where culture/tradition and technology/innovation meets. GSM-Kyoto is proud of having highly competitive faculty members from a wide range of academic disciplines and practice areas, such as management science, economics, accounting, engineering, informatics. Together they collaborate to develop unique educational programs that offer opportunities for students to master valuable knowledge and skills that are in need more than ever in this turbulent economic environment. GSM-Kyoto has established strong research practice alliances in various fields, that are illustrated by the number of endowed chairs. As the Dean of GSM-Kyoto, Prof. Sawabe is committed to lead developing research and educational activities to promote meaningful working life that contributes to improve sustainability of our world.

5. New School Members

Faculty of Management and Economics, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia

Dean Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Asri Mohd Noor

The faculty began its journey when it started offering Bachelor of Education (Business Management) with Honors and Bachelor of Education (Accounting) with Honors programs under the administration of the Faculty of Cognitive Sciences and Human Development.

The Faculty of Business and Economics was officially established in October 2002, with the approval of the Ministry of Education Malaysia. Upon the establishment, two more programs were introduced: Bachelor of Education (Economics) with Honors; and Bachelor of Education (Educational Management) with Honors. Yet another



program (Bachelor of Education (Entrepreneurship & Commerce) with Honors) was introduced in 2005/2006 academic year.

In June 2010, UPSI went through a major restructuring. As a result, the Faculty was renamed, and became a Faculty of Management and Economics (FPE). Starting from 2013, the Faculty has further increased the number of programs offered in various fields including Bachelor of Accounting with Honors, Bachelor of Economics (Finance) with Honors, Bachelor of Economics (Islamic Finance) with Honors, Bachelor of Business Administration (Human Resource Management) with Honors, and Bachelor of Business Administration (Financial Services) with Honors.

Today, in addition to the programs described above, FPE also offers Diploma in Entrepreneurship at the undergraduate level. At the postgraduate level, the Faculty offers Masters of Education, Masters in Management, Masters in Economics, Masters in Accounting, Masters in Business Administration, Doctor of Philosophy, and Doctor of Education.

With a strength of 83 academic and 18 administrative staff, the Faculty continues to strive in providing high quality, comprehensive, practical and up-to-date education to its more than 3000 students. The Faculty believes that in order to maintain high quality of education, it needs to benchmark its programs against standards set by various agencies and professional bodies. Hence, besides getting full accreditation from the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), the Bachelor of Accounting program has also been accredited by the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). The Faculty's various programs have also been accredited by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) which allows students to be enrolled in its Chartered Global Management Accountant Finance Leadership Program (CGMA FLP). The Bachelor of Business Administration (Financial Services) program, on the other hand, has also been accredited by the Malaysian Financial Planning Council (MFPC) which ensures that students become Registered Financial Planners upon graduation.

With "Leading Future Minds" as its motto, the Faculty of Management and Economics is determined to become a leader in the field of education specializing in business, management, economics and accountancy. We hope that by joining the Alliance of Business Education and Scholarship for Tomorrow, a 21st Century Organization (ABEST21), we will move closer to our aim.



Visit to Faculty of Management and Economics, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia on June 28, 2022.

6. Holding the ABEST21 General Assembly 2023

The ABEST21 General Assembly will be held on March 8-10, 2023 in Kyoto University, Kyoto.

7. Holding the 2nd online Japan Studies Seminar

The Seminar will be held in October and November 2022.

II. Member's Voice for Tomorrow-No. 5

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"To know the status of the Learning Outcomes, we need to observe how the students' ability acquired at school is actually demonstrated in the society. We also need to collect observation data from various stakeholders."
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"A Reflection on Project 8: Humanizing Management Education for Sustainable Economic Development"

Prof. Dr. Ming Yu Cheng

Faculty of Accountancy and Management, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia

The research team met for the first time in Kuala Lumpur on June 19, 2019, to brainstorm ideas on a special task assigned by ABEST21. We have been asked to work on a project focusing on issues related to developing humanizing management education among ABEST21 schools, to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. ABEST21 has introduced "Humanizing the School's Research and Education" as one of the criteria of its accreditation system since 2016. Hence, it is timely to review how has the humanizing concept been incorporated into our management education and what are the implications to the business world.



President Itoh, Dr. Riani, and Dr. Rapeenporn travelled from Japan, Indonesia and Thailand to attend the meeting, while Prof. Arfah Salleh joined the meeting online. On that sunny beautiful morning in Kuala Lumpur, we were quite productive in coming out with a proposal for the research project. We didn't spend too much time reaching a conclusion that it is extremely important and timely to look into the "human" aspect of what we do every day. We were too excited to be given the opportunity to work on this topic. As educators, we play an important role in educating our future generation. In the increasingly complicated and fast-changing environment, it is particularly crucial for business schools to develop humanizing management education to nurture responsible management professionals to resolve complex problems. Business is not just about making money; it is more about creating value in responsible ways. But how shall we convey the message clearly and effectively to all stakeholders?

We decided to work on this project gradually so that we can delve further and deeper into the topic with various stakeholders. We planned to complete the project in early 2021 and present the findings at the ABEST21 annual international symposium in March 2021. Prof. Ma Qin Hai from China

joined the team later, and we were guided by President Itoh and Prof. Arfah in our effort to understand more about humanizing management education among ABEST21 member schools.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our plan significantly. We put our project on hold for a few months and only resumed after July 2020. Our activities have changed to phone and online interviews, as physical meetings were completely impossible. It was quite challenging, but we managed to get support from our respondents and collected the required information. Unfortunately, we lost a good friend and a great mentor in late 2020. Prof. Arfah, who was a strong advocate of human governance, passed away on December 19, 2020. The late Prof. Arfah strongly believed that business schools play an important role in nurturing responsible and ethical leaders to create a peaceful and harmonious world. She never missed our meetings and participated actively to share her ideas and thoughts about the essence of humanizing management education. She has taught me the meaning of humanizing through her actions and interactions with us, on how she respected each individual as a "human", not as a "resource" or "object" to achieve certain objectives. According to her, the relationships and interactions among humans define the role of humans in the respective systems. *"Every decision made and action taken will have an impact on others"*, hence we need to be responsible for all our actions and inactions.

I have learned a lot from this project, and I am grateful to have a great team accompanying me throughout this learning journey. We supported each other in completing the project, amidst many unexpected changes and challenges introduced mainly by COVID-19. Indeed, the values of humanizing become more vivid and relevant during crisis times like COVID-19. COVID-19 is a wake-up call for everyone, inviting us to rethink what we want to achieve in our life. For us in the business schools, we should continually reassess our roles and re-examine our curriculum to better connect and improve the well-being of our society. How we define the role of "human" in the business environment would depend on how we implement humanizing management education for sustainable development. Let's think about it!

III. "Assessing Today for Tomorrow"

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"There will be no problem if the School exists in a vacuum. However, in the society where the real environment is changing, improving the educational and research activities is essential in order for the School to survive as a "Going Concern" in the future."
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1. ABEST21 International online Accreditation Certificate-granting Ceremony for March, 2022

ABEST21 International online Accreditation Certificate-granting Ceremony for March, 2022, was held on May 17, 2022. The accredited schools for March 2022 are listed below:

- Master of Business Administration Program, Graduate School of Business
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia
- Master of Business Administration Program, Faculty of Industrial Management
Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Malaysia

Normally, the Accreditation-granting Ceremony is held face-to-face. However, due to the spread of Omicron Covid-19 variant, in 2022 we held the ceremony online. Moreover, the ceremony became a part of celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Look East Policy adopted by Malaysian Government in 1982. So, some Deans of ABEST21 School members in Malaysia joined the ceremony to celebrate.

For the 40th Anniversary of the Look East Policy, please visit the website below:

[The 40th Anniversary of the Look East Policy | Embassy of Japan in Malaysia \(emb-japan.go.jp\)](http://The 40th Anniversary of the Look East Policy | Embassy of Japan in Malaysia (emb-japan.go.jp))



Program of the ceremony was as follows.

Opening Remarks/Congratulations:

ABEST21 President and CEO, Professor Emeritus Dr. ITOH Fumio

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Afternoon and greetings to all.

First and foremost, on behalf of the ABEST21, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to First Secretary (Education Attaché) SAITO Yuki Yoshi Embassy of Japan in Malaysia for your attendance to the ABEST21 online Accreditation Certificate-granting Ceremony, and I would like to express my gratitude to Deputy Dean Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali, Graduate School of



Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and your faculty members, and Dean Senior Lecturer Dr. Mohd Hanafiah Ahmad, Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang and your faculty members.

My congratulations on gaining the ABEST21 management accreditation approved by the ABEST21 peer review system in March 2022. Normally, the Accreditation-granting Ceremony is held face-to-face. However, due to the spread of Omicron Covid-19 variant, we have to hold the ceremony online in real time and using the teleconference system. I hope you understand this situation. Congratulations on being accredited under ABEST21 Peer Review System.

Today, we would like to celebrate successful accreditation of both accredited schools UKM and UMP. We would like to highlight that the Accreditation-granting Ceremony is recognized as a part of the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Look East Policy adopted by Malaysian Government in 1982. We would like to remember that the present ceremony is one of the fruits of the Look East Policy.

Also, we believe that ABEST21 accreditation will build stronger bonds between our accredited schools, and this will help them to collaborate. Collaboration is a key for quality enhancement, because it is very difficult for the individual schools to recruit, develop or retain all the resources needed for quality management education.

I sincerely hope that we can work together to enhance the quality of management education for fostering management professionals who will contribute to peace and prosperity in Asia-Pacific.

Congratulations:

First Secretary (Education Attaché) SAITO Yuki Yoshi Embassy of Japan in Malaysia

Prof. Emeritus Dr. ITOH Fumio, Deputy Dean Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali and Dean Senior Lecturer Dr. Mohd Hanafiah Ahmad, distinguished guests and ladies and gentlemen.

Thank you very much for inviting me to the ceremony. Please accept my hearty congratulations on the two certificates of Accreditation for UKM and UMP. I can imagine how challenging and exciting this assessment was for both ABEST21 and the two universities. I surely believe that the process will enhance the quality of education in the two universities.

Let me introduce bilateral relation between Japan and Malaysia. The relation has been strong and dynamic since diplomatic relations were established in 1957. What is unique about the relation between Japan and Malaysia is that mutual trust has been cultivated through educational exchange and cross-border business interaction under the Look East Policy which was launched by the Malaysian government in 1982. This year, we celebrate the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, and also the LEP anniversary. Today's ceremony also commemorates the 40th anniversary of LEP. Japanese universities are expected to increase global competitiveness through collaboration with foreign institutions. More than ever, society expects universities to create technology and knowledge that drive innovation. In order to tackle social problems, problem solving and management skills are necessary for students.

In the era of drastic changes, MBA program and ABEST21 will become more important. We, the



Japanese government, always would like to support the future of the youth and promote student exchange. I would like to commend the tremendous efforts of ABEST21 that tries to contribute to the enhancement of the quality of education in Japanese universities and abroad since 2005.

There are more than 10 ABEST21 members from Malaysia, and I hope more Malaysian schools will take assessments and obtain accreditation certificates for the development of higher education in Malaysia. Lastly, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of you and offer you my hearty congratulations again. Thank you very much.

**President and CEO Professor Dr. Zulkornain bin Yusop
Putra Business School, Malaysia**

Congratulations, Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH and First Secretary SAITO Yukiyoshi. Congratulations, Dean Dr. Mohd Hanafiah Afmad from Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Malaysia, Deputy Dean Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali from Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. I would like to extend my gratitude to ABEST21 for inviting me to this ceremony.



My further congratulations to my colleagues for working together as PRT members. University of Indonesia is one of the top 10 schools in Indonesia, which is a very good ranking, and UPM is one of the top 7 business schools in Malaysia. My further congratulations to the Faculty of Industrial Management, Dean Dr. Mohd Ahmad for the successful efforts. Congratulations to the both schools. I believe more and more business schools will join ABEST21, and I think it is a very important time for Professor ITOH. Hopefully ABEST21 accreditation will be one of the important criteria that the school needs to meet in order to be acknowledged as a top business school. I am very happy and fortunate to be a part of ABEST21. Once again, congratulations for Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang.

**Dean Professor Dr. Syed Jamal Abdul Nasir Syed Mohamad
Arshad Ayub Graduate Business School, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia**

Thank you very much for President ITOH. Congratulations UPM and UKM for successfully receiving accreditation from ABEST21. We hope that more schools will join ABEST21 as this will help us to offer better quality of education for the future.

Congratulations to UKI and UPM. Thank you.



PRT Comments:

**Leader for GSB-UKM, Professor SHIGETA Takao
Graduate School of Business Administration, SBI Graduate School, Japan**

Thank you for President ITOH, distinguished guests, the fellow members of ABEST21. First of all, I would like to congratulate Deputy Dean Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali from Graduate School of Business, UKM, and all members of UKM. It was my



privilege to be a part of the PRT last year. It has been a great experience to study self-check reports of ABEST21 member schools and exchange opinions for better future. By preparing Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report, the school answered the following questions. (1) What is our mission, why does the school exist in the first place? (2) Who are our customers? What is our target profile? (3) What does our customer value? What do we provide to our stakeholders? (4) How do we measure success? (5) What is our plan? What are the strategic objectives, and action plans to achieve these strategic objectives? These questions are the most important questions. We have to continue to improve our performance, and therefore KAIZEN is an important aspect of ABEST21 accreditation. UKM is a well-known prestigious national university, and it is also internationally recognized. I would like to express my gratitude to President Itoh. Thank you very much for your attention.

**Leader for FIM-UMP, Assistant Professor Dodie Tricahyono, Ph.D.
School of Economics and Business, Universitas Telkom, Indonesia**

Thank you very much. My name is Dodie Tricahyono and I am the leader of the PRT for the Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Malaysia. First, I want to say congratulations to Dean Mohd Ahanfiah Ahmad and all the team that provided us with a good SCR. To quote the school, "FIM UMP nurtures holistic graduates who are skilled to excel in the competitive and globalized marketplace based upon the business and technological knowledge". I believe that this mission is unique. The school also shows a very good progress in terms of humanizing management education. Collaborating with industry is also one of its strengths. Thank you for your listening.



Reply Speech:

**Deputy Dean Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali
Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia**

It is an honor for me to be a part of this ABEST21 Accreditation Certificate-granting ceremony. We are proud of our educational activities and satisfied with the accreditation. Ladies and gentlemen, we are being affected by the COVID-19, and there are many issues to address, but this unpredictable situation allowed us to succeed.

Therefore, we would like to achieve sustainability. Today, there is global transformation of higher education. We are moving forward to a new era. We hope that ABEST21 accreditation will contribute to enhancing the quality of management education at the business schools. I wish this international accreditation will improve the quality of education. Thank you very much.



**Dean Senior Lecturer Dr. Mohd Hanafiah Ahmad
Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Malaysia**

Thank you very much. Good afternoon. I would like to thank ABEST21 for organizing this event, and for its feedback on the quality of our program. This is our second time. Once again, thank you ABEST21. We will continuously improve the quality of our program, and we will benefit in other ways through our network with ABEST21 members. We can enhance our global competitiveness, and contribute more to the industry. We are very happy. Once again, we thank ABEST21 and the Peer Review Team. Continuously, we will improve the quality of our education program in every aspect.



Congratulations/Closing Remarks

**ABEST21 Vice President, Professor Dr. Ali Khatibi
Dean, Graduate School of Management, Management & Science University,
Malaysia**

I would like to thank President Itoh for his leadership for more than 20 years in ABEST21. He has taken the lead to continuously improve the quality of business education. And thanks to the government of Japan and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia for the support and commitment. The ideal of continuous development of the business schools was one of the priorities of President ITOH: how to build a good education system. Through this system, we are going to produce better leaders to support the future. This can happen with all the hard work and leadership of president ITOH in ABEST21. We are different from any other accreditation organization around the world because we are focused on continuous improvement, not just spotting the weak points. Today we are very happy to see two accredited schools in Malaysia. On behalf of ABEST21, I would like to visit them. They have done a good job. We are going to be proud of our achievements, and we are looking forward to seeing each other face-to-face in March 2023 in Japan. Thank you.



**ABEST21 Vice President, Assistant Professor Teguh Dartanto, Ph.D.
Dean, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia**

Thank you very much, Professor Emeritus Fumio ITOH. Today I would like to congratulate Professor Dr. Mohd Helmi Ali from Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, and Dean Dr. Mohd Hanafiah Ahmad from Faculty of Industrial Management, Universiti Malaysia Pahang. The accreditation is a long process, but it's worth it. The accreditation is not the end of process but the starting point of improvement. When we join the accreditation process, it is very hard. We hope that not only the universities, but also ABEST21 continuously improve the standards of accreditation to address future challenges in society and economics. I hope that both schools are competitive in future. Thank you



very much.

2. ABEST21 online Accreditation Seminar II 2022

1) ABEST21 online Accreditation Seminar II 2022 – KAIZEN Report 2022

On Tuesday, April 19, ABEST21 online Accreditation Seminar II 2022 was held. At first, ABEST21 President Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH talked about the Contents of ABEST21 International Accreditation and the Peer Review System. Then, ABEST21 explained about the schedule of the Peer Review this year and the Peer Review Visit. After that, an active Q&A session was held.



2) ABEST21 online KAIZEN Report Seminar 2022 for AAAS

On Tuesday, April 26, ABEST21 Online Intensive Accreditation Seminar 2022 – KAIZEN Report 2022 was held. The topic of the seminar was focused on KAIZEN Report 2022 under ABEST21 Academic Unit-based Accreditation System (AAAS). President Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH explained about how to analyze the AAAS-KAIZEN Report. At the Q&A Session, participants clarified the characteristics of KAIZEN under AAAS.



3) ABEST21 online Accreditation Seminar for APAS

In April and May, several ABEST21 Online Individual Accreditation Seminars were held for the applicant schools who submitted their reports by the end of June, 2022. These seminars aim to support the schools in their preparation for accreditation. They are held upon request and designed individually because we believe that each school has questions specific to their unique educational system. The seminars were held for the following schools:

- Putra Business School, Malaysia
- Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Malaysia
- Waseda Business School, Japan.



PBS



UPSI



Waseda

3. online PRT Training Seminar 2022

online PRT Training Seminar for 2022 is scheduled as below.

- 1) Seminar for Group A: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 14:00-15:30 (Tokyo time)
- 2) Seminar for Group B: Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 14:00-15:30 (Tokyo time)
- 3) Seminar for Group C: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 14:00-15:30 (Tokyo time)
- 4) Seminar for Group D: Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 10:00-11:00 (Tokyo time)

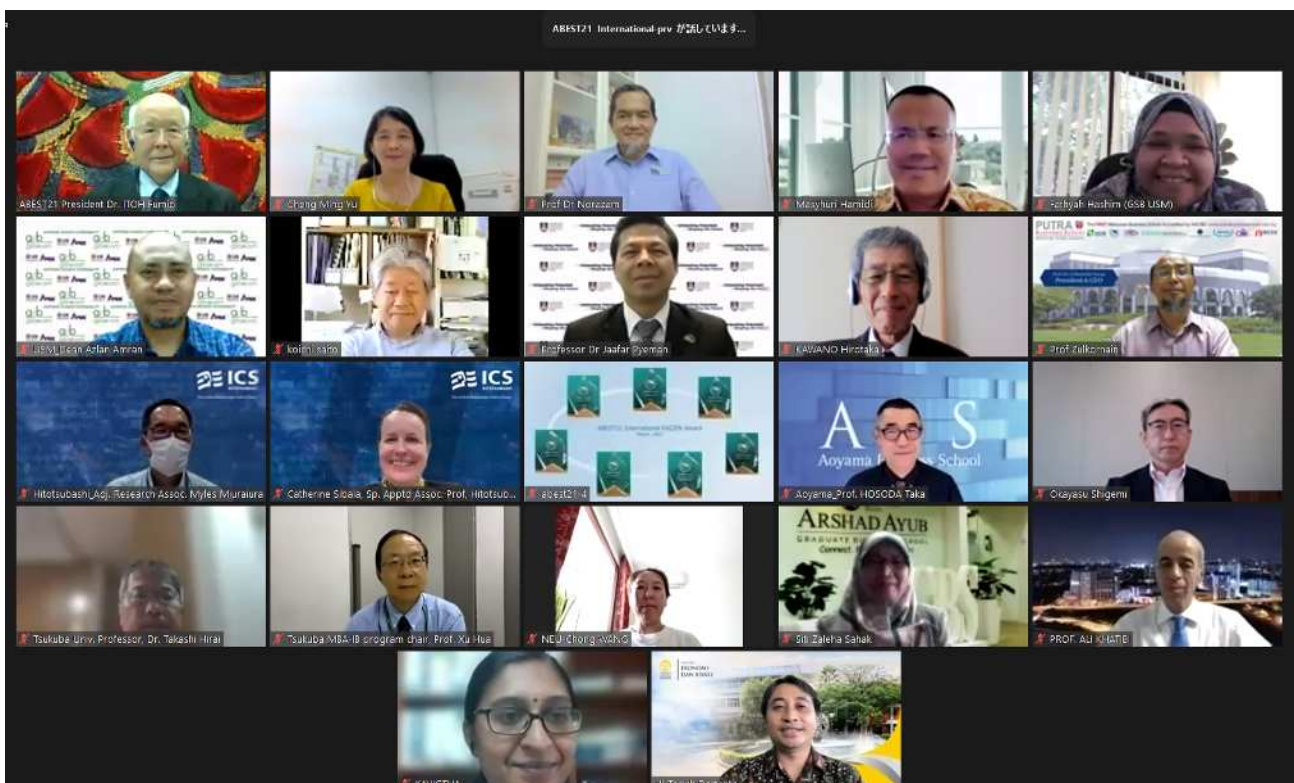
4. online PRT Leader Training Seminar 2022

online PRT Leader Training Seminar for 2022 will be scheduled in August, 2022.

IV. "Assuring Quality for Tomorrow"

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"In the age of increasing globalization, it is a great challenge for the schools to create and maintain first-class educational programs in management. But no single institution can maintain all the required and ever-changing resources at hand nor continually keep those resources updated. It is important for us to work together to leverage our complementary resources on a global scale."
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1. Conducting the online KAIZEN Award-granting ceremony



ABEST21 accredits schools in the full confidence that their Action Plans to improve the KAIZEN issues found in the analysis of the Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report (SCR) are promising. Since one of the aims of ABEST21 accreditation is to assure a substantial improvement of the educational quality to the stakeholders, we need to check the progress of the accredited schools on their Action

Plans found in the analysis of the SCR, and provide a status report to the stakeholders.

Therefore, after the accreditation, the accredited school must implement the yearly plan according to its Action Plans, and respond to the expectations of the social stakeholders. In the SCR, the school planned the "Basic Improvement Initiatives" based on the "Improvement Issues", and drew up three-year Action Plans on the basis of the planned "Improvement Initiatives." So, the school has the responsibilities to perform the yearly plan according to its Action Plans. Also, as quality enhancement of the school's education must keep pace with the changes in the environment, the school is responsible for monitoring the progress of the Action Plans to ensure that the PDCA cycle is working efficiently.

The PRT conducts the Desk Review and the Peer Review Visit in order to confirm the school's quality improvement. The Peer Review Team (PRT) will have serious discussions with the school on the results of implementing the Action Plans, including items accomplished, items not accomplished with the reasons for failure, modification of Plans according to the changes in the environment, etc.

If the School performed all or most of the Action Plans and made a dramatic improvement in the quality of the management education, ABEST21 would like to recognize the school's performance by giving it the "KAIZEN Award". KAIZEN Award is endowed based on the recommendation of the Accreditation Committee.

The online Board of Trustees meeting held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 ratified the accredited schools to be granted KAIZEN Award as recommended by the Accreditation Committee. Following this decision, ABEST21 KAIZEN Award plaque will be granted to the 7 schools:

- Graduate School of International Management, Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan
- School of International Corporate Strategy, Hitotsubashi University, Japan
- MBA Program in International Business, Humanities and Social Sciences, Graduate School of Business Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan
- School of Business Administration, Northeastern University, China
- Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Hasanuddin, Indonesia
- Faculty of Economics, Universitas Sriwijaya, Indonesia
- Graduate School of Business, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia.

On June 7th, ABEST21 International Online KAIZEN Award-granting Ceremony for March 2022 took place. Normally the Certificate Granting Ceremony takes place at the ABEST21 General Assembly held every March. However, due to the spread of COVID-19 the ceremony was held online for the recipients of ABEST21 KAIZEN Award 2022. ABEST21 KAIZEN Award plaque was granted to seven schools listed above.

For further details about the ABEST21 KAIZEN Award, please visit our webpage below:

<https://www.abest21.org/accreditation/>

2. Holding the ABEST21 Council for Human Resource Development

1) The online 41st meeting of Japan Council for Nurturing Global Management Professionals

The Council meeting was held online on Thursday, June 16. The meeting started with ABEST21 President's explanation on the agenda, objectives of the meeting and introduction of some projects recently organized by ABEST21. Mr. Takuya MIYAGAWA, Assistant Director of the Office for Professional Graduate School, Technical Education Division, Higher Education Bureau, MEXT, talked about the recent topics at the Subcommittee of the Central Council for Education such as Innovative strategies for higher education in Japan. At the Q&A session after his presentation, participants actively discussed the development of joint-degree program with overseas business schools, introduction of data science program, and so on. At the next session, specially appointed professor Takeshi HIBIYA, Sophia University shared his findings and insights that he had gained over 40 years of his working experience at Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd, followed by Q&A session. The next 42nd Council meeting is scheduled in October 2022.

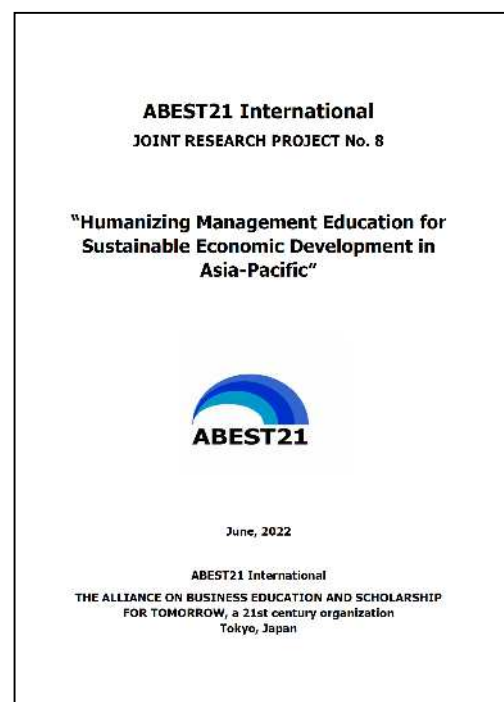


V. Global Knowledge Network

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"In the age of increasing globalization, it is a great challenge for the schools to create and maintain first-class educational programs in management. But no single institution can maintain all the required and ever-changing resources at hand nor continually keep those resources updated. It is important for us to work together to leverage our complementary resources on a global scale."
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1. Publishing "Humanizing Management Education for Sustainable Economic Development in Asia-Pacific"

We would like to express our deep gratitude and appreciation to each business school that took part in the survey. Also, this survey report was the result of the warm consent and effort of Professor Dr. Ming Yu Cheng (Universiti Tunk Abdul Rahman, Malaysia), Professor Dr. Qin Hai Ma (Northeastern University, China), Assistant Professor Dr. Riani Rachmawati (Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia), and Assistant Professor Dr. Rapeeporn Srijumpa (Burapha University, Thailand). They put a lot of time and effort into analyzing the data and framing the findings. This book was published as the result of Research Project 8, and is based on the presentations made by the schools who took part in this project. We extend our appreciation to all our



school members who made this project possible. The results of the research were published on June 7 under the title of "Humanizing Management Education for Sustainable Economic Development in Asia-Pacific" (ISBN: 978-4-905204-02-2).

Please scan me for more information.

