



# ABEST21 e-News

No.130, July - November 2025

**ABEST21 International**

THE ALLIANCE ON BUSINESS EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOMORROW,  
a 21<sup>st</sup> century organization

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## I. ABEST21 International General Information

### 1. ABEST21 International Office Report

#### July

- 11<sup>th</sup> : Visit to Director General, Domestic Strategy and Partnership Department, Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), Japan
- 15<sup>th</sup> : Visit to International Affairs Division, Higher Education Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)-Japan
- 16<sup>th</sup> : Holding the ABEST21 International PRT Training Seminar 2025

#### August

- 07<sup>th</sup> : Holding the ABEST21 International PRT Leader's Training Seminar 2025
- 18<sup>th</sup> : Visit to Rector of the United Nations University
- 22<sup>nd</sup> : Online Meeting with Director of Office for Professional Graduate Schools, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)-Japan

#### September

- 02<sup>nd</sup>-03<sup>rd</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with Universitas Telkom, Indonesia
- 08<sup>th</sup>-09<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with PPM School of Management, Indonesia
- 11<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Interview with Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia
- 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia
- 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia
- 29<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Interview with SP Jain School of Global Management, Singapore

## October

- 02<sup>nd</sup> : Conducting Online Interview with SBI Graduate School, Japan
- 06<sup>th</sup>-07<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Peer Review Visit to Kyoto University, Japan
- 08<sup>th</sup>-09<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia
- 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Peer Review Visit to IPB University, Indonesia
- 16<sup>th</sup> : Holding ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar 2025 in Bogor, Indonesia
- 17<sup>th</sup> : Visit to Embassy of Japan in Indonesia
- 17<sup>th</sup> : Meeting with FEB UI in Jakarta, Indonesia
- 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit with Universitas Jenderal Soedirman, Indonesia
- 23<sup>rd</sup> : Conducting Online Interview with Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Indonesia
- 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> : Conducting Online Peer Review Visit to Labuan-Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia

## November

- 04<sup>th</sup> : Conducting Online Interview with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
- 20<sup>th</sup> : Visit to Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)-Japan
- 27<sup>th</sup> : Visit to Waseda University Legal Clinic LPC, Japan

## 2. ABEST21 International Annual Meeting 2026

We are glad to inform you that ABEST21 International Annual Meeting 2026 will be held on Thursday, May 28th, 2026. This year, the Annual Meeting will be held at Kyoto International Conference Center, Kyoto, Japan as follows;

**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2026

**Venue:**

Room D, Kyoto International Conference Center  
422 Iwakura Osagicho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto  
606-0001, Japan

URL: [Getting Here & Parking | Kyoto International Conference Center](#)



**Program:**

Session I

- General Assembly 2026
- Accreditation-granting Ceremony 2026
- KAIZEN Award-granting Ceremony 2026

Session II:

International Seminar "Nurturing Human Resources and Developing Competitive Education Programs in the Global South"

Updated information about the meeting can be confirmed at the ABEST21 International Website.

## II. "Assessing Today for Tomorrow"

### 1. The ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar 2025 in Indonesia

"The Role of ABEST21 International Accreditation in Advancing the Globalization of Management Education."



**School of Business, IPB University, Bogor, Indonesia**

On October 16, the ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar was held at the School of Business, IPB University, Bogor, Indonesia, under the theme "The Role of ABEST21 International Accreditation in Advancing the Globalization of Management Education." The seminar, supported by IPB University, gathered over forty lecturers and business representatives to share their knowledge and exchange their opinions. The summary of the seminar is shown below;





## Welcome Address

The seminar opened with a welcome address delivered by Dean Professor Dr. Ir. Noer Azam Achsani of the School of Business, IPB University. With great enthusiasm, Dean Professor Ir. Noer Azam Achsani introduced the university's picturesque campus and outlined its ongoing initiatives to advance the field of management education. He emphasized the School's strong commitment to internationalization and continuous improvement, in alignment with the principles of ABEST21 International accreditation. Furthermore, he underscored the institution's dedication to fostering a global academic and research environment aimed at producing graduates and scholarly contributions, that can compete at the international level.



## Opening Remarks

In the Opening Remarks, ABEST21 International President and CEO Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH explained about the aim of this seminar and emphasized that institutions must continuously evolve to remain viable as a Going Concern under a rapidly changing global environment. ABEST21 International Accreditation plays a critical role in identifying institutional challenges and guiding reform, especially in updating education and research systems to meet social needs. Schools generally adopt either a passive or active stance toward such assessments. Passive institutions comply only to fulfill legal obligations, often focusing on declining enrollment. In contrast, proactive universities embrace assessment as a strategic opportunity to enhance quality, aiming to transform from "what they want to be" to "what they should be." This forward-looking mindset can be confirmed during peer review visits and stakeholder interviews. To support further development of management education, applicant schools are encouraged to fully implement the PDCA cycle and KAIZEN principles, fostering continuous improvement and innovation across all operations.



## Keynote Speech

In the Keynote Speeches, Lecturer Ainur Rofiq, Ph.D., Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Brawijaya made his speech with the title of Quality Improvement through ABEST21 International Accreditation in Indonesia on behalf of Dean Abdul Ghofar, DBA, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Brawijaya, Indonesia. Dr. Ainur Rofiq, through his leadership at ABEST21 International, has been a driving force in promoting continuous improvement and advancing global recognition. ABEST21 International supports Indonesia's "Kampus Berdampak" Vision by promoting quality assurance rooted in Asian Perspectives and sustainable development. Through this process, schools clarify strategic goals and align academic activities accordingly. ABEST21 International also encourages curriculum innovation to



meet industry and social needs emphasizing experiential learning, sustainability and digital transformation. Then, he introduced about success case obtained by FEB UB through ABEST21 International Accreditation journey.

## ABEST21 International Accreditation System and Process

At the next session, Yuka NAKAGAWA, ABEST21 International delivered details about the ABEST21 International Mission Statement, Accreditation System and Process, Also, she introduced activities of Global Knowledge Network that has been organized only Accredited Schools. The receiving Accreditation is not their goal, but the accredited school just stands Start line for further development of management education through ABEST21 International Accreditation Journey. ABEST21 International, as an international accreditation institution originating in Asia and officially approved by Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, has committed to promoting quality enhancement through introducing "KAIZEN philosophy". This is achieved by conducting meticulous evaluations and fully implementing the PDCA cycle. In addition to reviewing past practices, ABEST21 seeks to explore present and future possibilities by bringing together the collective wisdom of academic experts. Its aim is to support the continuous development of future applicant institutions.



# ABEST21 International Accreditation Application

Professor Dr. Ming-Yu Cheng from the Faculty of Accountancy and Management, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, delivered an insightful presentation titled "ABEST21 International Application." Drawing on her extensive experience as a Peer Review Team member/leader, she provided a detailed overview of the evolution, basic principles, and core philosophy of ABEST21 International Accreditation. She emphasized the value of ABEST21 accreditation and highlighted the benefits institutions can gain from engaging in the accreditation journey. Her presentation underscored how the process not only strengthens academic quality but also fosters continuous improvement and international recognition. During her presentation an interactive discussion, where participants shared their impressions of accreditation and reflected on its impact. During her presentation, she posed a thought-provoking question to the audience: "What is your understanding of accreditation?" The responses varied, offering valuable perspectives and highlighting the opportunities that accreditation journey provides for institutions. The active exchange of ideas between participants and the speaker created a lively atmosphere. This interactive dialogue not only deepened the collective understanding of accreditation but also enriched the overall presentation, making it both informative and engaging.



## **ABEST21 International Quality Improvement**

The session IV of the seminar focused on deepening understanding of how management education can respond to the evolving challenges posed by globalization in the economy, society, and culture through Quality Improvement.

### **1) Globalization of Management Education**

Associate Professor Arief Wibisono Lubis, Ph.D., from the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia, shared FEB UI's experiences in adapting to the global shift in management education. He pointed that globalization in education entails increased cross-border movement of students, faculty, programs, ideas, and knowledge. In the context of the global economy in which we are embedded, graduates must be equipped with both global competence and cultural intelligence. FEB UI's approach extends beyond student development to include faculty engagement and contributions to social services.



### **2) Humanizing Management Education**

Professor Popy Rufaidah, Ph.D., from the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Padjadjaran, presented insights gained from her participation in the International Council of Women held in Johannesburg, South Africa (October 10–15, 2025). She introduced the concept of “Humanizing Management Education” as a core philosophy that redefines leadership development in MM/MBA programs. Rather than focusing solely on technical skills or financial performance, her school emphasizes moral awareness, empathy, and global responsibility. The goal is to cultivate not only competent managers but also conscientious global citizens who understand the ethical implications of their decisions.



### **3) Quality Improvement through ABEST21 Accreditation**

Associate Professor Dodie Tricahyono, Ph.D., from the School of Economics and Business, Universitas Telkom, discussed the role of ABEST21 International Accreditation in driving sustainable excellence in management education. He explained that ABEST21 shifts the focus from basic quality assurance (QA)—ensuring schools meet international minimum standards—to quality enhancement (QE), which encourages institutions to implement KAIZEN Plans for continuous improvement. The accreditation process evaluates the effectiveness of a school's Internal Quality Assurance and Management (IQAM) system and its commitment to future excellence.





#### 4) Collaboration with Industry

Dr. Ir. Yunus Triyonggo, MM., CAHRI, Chairman of the Indonesia HR Institute and Founder of Gerakan Nasional Indonesia Kompeten, highlighted the importance of cross-border collaboration in human resource development. Using the case of PT Bridgestone Tire Indonesia's training program, he emphasized that partnerships involving multiple countries are essential to meet the demands of Indonesia's rapidly growing economy and to secure a skilled workforce.



#### Q&A and Closing Remarks

The seminar concluded with a lively Q&A session moderated by Professor Dr. Ming-Yu Cheng. In closing, Vice Dean Dina Sartika, Ph.D., Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Padjadjaran, expressed gratitude to the School of Business, IPB University, for their cooperation and support, representing ABEST21 International. She emphasized the seminar's role in fostering meaningful exchange of ideas and reaffirmed the importance of collaborative efforts in advancing management education across Asia and beyond.



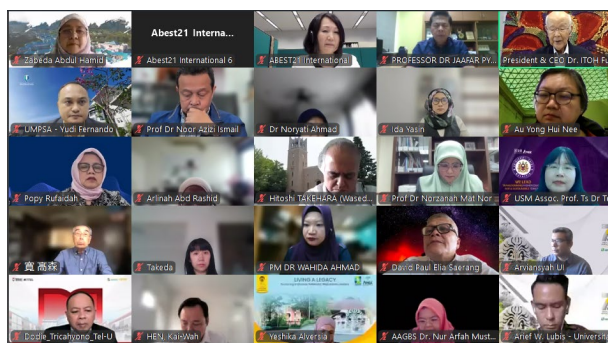
## 2. The ABEST21 International PRT Training Seminar 2025

ABEST21 International conducted the training seminars for Peer Review Team (PRT) members and leaders. These sessions covered the objectives and perspectives of ABEST21 accreditation, provided detailed updates on the peer review process, and facilitated the sharing of experiences and opinions among PRT members.

### 1) ABEST21 International PRT Training Seminar 2025 (July 16<sup>th</sup>)

The ABEST21 International PRT Training Seminar 2025 took place on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This training session was specifically designed for Peer Review Team (PRT) Members who are involved in the international accreditation process.

Professor Yudi Fernando, Ph.D., Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Malaysia, presented the over view of ABEST21 International Accreditation System including the explanation of the evaluation framework, criteria, and recent updates and the ABEST21 Peer Review Process for 2025.



Then, the schedule and the documentation details of Peer Review Visit 2025 were informed by ABEST21 International office. Last of all, Q&A session was held to provide participants with an opportunity to ask questions and clarify any doubts about the process or expectations.

## 2) ABEST21 International PRT Leaders' Training Seminar 2025 (August 7<sup>th</sup>)

ABEST21 International Online PRT Leaders' Training Seminar 2025 was held on Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. This seminar was specially intended for PRT Leaders and it was held to explain the structure and objectives of the ABEST 21 International Accreditation system and to help PRT Leaders better understand their roles and responsibilities in the peer review process.

It opened with the message from Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH, President of ABEST21 International. Then, Professor Ming-Yu Cheng, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Malaysia, presented the ABEST21 International Accreditation System and process 2025. During the session, an overview of the accreditation framework and criteria was presented. After that, ABEST21 International Office informed the Peer Review Schedule of PRT Leaders and noticed about the designated format of the Reports to be submitted. Lastly, the Q&A session was conducted to allow participants to ask questions and clarify expectations. The seminar provided useful information and promoted the exchange of insights among PRT Leaders from different institutions and countries, contributing to the preparation for the upcoming accreditation cycle.



## 3. Upcoming) ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar for 2026

ABEST21 International is scheduled to hold the ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar online for 2026 Accreditation.

- December 17, 2025  
ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar 2026 (Pre-Accreditation Analysis and Quality Improvement Strategies)
- January 20, 2026  
ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar 2026 (Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report)
- January 28, 2026  
ABEST21 International Accreditation Seminar 2026 (KAIZEN Report)

Further details, please visit to ABEST21 International bulletin board below or ABEST21 International Accreditation Unit.

ABEST21 International Bulletin Board -> [ABEST21 International bulletin board](#)



### III. ABEST21 Global Knowledge Network

#### 1. Visit to United Nations University

On Monday, August 19, 2025, the President and CEO Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH visited the United Nations University in Tokyo for a meeting with Professor Tshilidzi Marwala, Ph.D., Rector of the United Nations University. The meeting built upon the outcomes of ABEST21 International's 20th Anniversary International Symposium, held on May 26, 2025, under the theme *"Nurturing Human Resources and Developing Competitive Education Programs in the Global South."* In response to these dialogues, President ITOH proposed the launch of a Joint Research Project aimed at deepening the symposium's impact and translating its insights into practical, collaborative frameworks. Rector Professor Tshilidzi Marwala welcomed the initiative and expressed his support for the proposed partnership. For further details regarding the 20th Anniversary International Symposium, please visit the following webpage: [International Symposium – ABEST21](#)



#### 2. Visit to the Japan Embassy in Indonesia

On Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the President and CEO Professor Emeritus Dr. ITOH Fumio visited Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, where he held a substantive discussion with Mr. HATA Hideyuki, Second Secretary (Education). The meeting provided a valuable opportunity of exchange perspectives on the evolving landscape of higher education in Indonesia. Mr. HATA Hideyuki offered insights into the country's strategic efforts to cultivate globally minded human resources and to enhance the quality of its skilled workforce. These priorities reflect Indonesia's boarder ambition to align its educational infrastructure with international standards. During the discussion, both parties explored avenues for academic collaboration, particularly in the management education. The discussion underscored the growing importance of student mobility between Indonesia and Japan, with emphasis on fostering leadership capacity and cross-cultural competencies among future executives. ABEST21 International reaffirmed its commitment to advancing management education across Asia and recognized the significance of continued engagement with key diplomatic and academic stakeholders. The organization views such exchanges as instrumental in shaping a more integrated and globally responsive management education ecosystem.



### 3. Promoting the Student Mobility

In the age of increasing globalization, it is a great challenge for business schools to create and maintain first-class educational programs in management education. No single institution can recruit, develop or retain all the resources required to cover every aspect of management education. We, with our diverse strengths and unique abilities, have to work together to make most of our complementary resources on a global scale.

The ABEST21 Rectors and Deans Forum 2018 "Promoting Student Mobility and Nurturing Global



Management Professionals" was held on November 2 and 3, 2018 at Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Indonesia. The Forum was cosponsored by ABEST21 and ITB, supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan and assisted by the Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, authorized as a project commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Japan-Indonesia Diplomatic Relations.

One of the aims of the Forum is to establish the Council for Human Resource Development and to promote the Inter-University Exchange Program. Based on the 2-day discussions, President Itoh suggested setting up the Council for Human Resource Development in Indonesia and Malaysia, with ABEST21 accredited schools as the members. 19 accredited schools as below agreed and signed the Founding Partnership Agreement. The schools also signed the Partnership Agreement to develop a "Credit Transfer System" among the ABEST21 accredited schools which will help to promote the Global Knowledge Network activities.

Institut Teknologi Bandung, International Islamic University Malaysia, Management & Science University Malaysia, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana, Universitas Islam Sultan Agung, Universitas Brawijaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Naresuan University, Universitas Telkom, PPM School of Management, Institut Pertanian Bogor, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Universitas Airlangga, Burapha



University, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Kyoto University, Universitas Andalas, Universitas Padjadjaran, Putra Business School



For further details about the ABEST21 Rectors and Dean Forum 2018, please visit our webpage below;

[Global Knowledge Network – ABEST21](#)

## 4. Welcoming New Members

### 1) New Dean

**Dean Associate Professor Yulianti Abbas, Ph.D.**

**Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia**

Dr. Yulianti Abbas, Ph.D. is an accomplished academic leader, researcher, and finance professional, currently serving as the Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia (FEB UI) since June 2025. She is also an Associate Professor and has previously held key strategic positions at FEB UI, including Director of Accounting and Finance, Chair of the Accounting Department, and Director of the Graduate Program in Accounting.

Dr. Yulianti earned her Ph.D. in Public Affairs from Indiana University Bloomington, USA, majoring in public finance and public management, and minoring in accounting. Her academic journey is marked by prestigious fellowships, including the Fulbright Foreign Student Fellowship, and international recognition from the American Accounting Association for outstanding dissertation.



With over 20 years of academic and professional experience, Dr. Yulianti has led transformative curriculum reforms, expanded research capacity, and advanced international collaborations and accreditations. Under her leadership, the Accounting Department at FEB UI achieved a QS World University Ranking by Subject of #101–150 globally. Her strategic vision is rooted in institutional transformation, financial sustainability, and strengthening global partnerships.

Dr. Yulianti is also active in public sector consulting, leading major projects in tax education, fiscal policy, and domestic resource mobilization with various government agencies and international organizations. She is a prolific author, having published in leading journals and contributed to books on taxation, public finance, and accounting.



As Dean, Dr. Yulianti champions a collaborative and innovative academic culture and is dedicated to developing talent ready to meet global challenges. She envisions FEB UI as a leading institution for impactful research, professional excellence, and international engagement—shaping the future of business and economics education in Indonesia and beyond.

## **2) New School Members**

### **Graduate School of Management, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

The International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) Graduate School of Management (IIUM GSM) is dedicated to shaping leaders with wisdom and integrity who can make a meaningful impact in today's dynamic business world. Upholding the IIUM's mission of integrating Islamic values with contemporary knowledge, GSM postgraduate programmes, namely Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Management (MOM), and Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), blend academic depth, professional excellence, and ethical principles that guide value-based decision-making in business and society. Through a flexible hybrid learning mode, GSM enables working professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills while maintaining a balance between their career and personal commitments.



At IIUM GSM, we believe that education extends beyond academic performance. We strive to develop individuals who uphold ethical ideals, value sustainability, and lead with trust and compassion. Our diverse student population reflects a global perspective and the collaborative spirit that characterises our learning environment.



We are honoured to join the ABEST21 network and look forward to learning from and contributing to this prominent group. Through shared knowledge, collaboration, and innovation, we seek to boost our collaborative efforts to improve the quality and relevance of management education around the world. We are grateful to ABEST21 for the warm welcome and the opportunity to be a part of this amazing network of institutions dedicated to excellence and continual progress.

### **International Programmes at Universitas Triatma Mulya (UNTRIM), Bali, Indonesia**

As Executive Dean of International Programmes at Universitas Triatma Mulya (UNTRIM), I am pleased to announce our university's membership in ABEST21. This marks a significant milestone in strengthening the international recognition and ongoing development of our academic programmes. UNTRIM has long been committed to delivering high-quality, future-focused education that combines global standards with the cultural richness and entrepreneurial character of Bali. Our (International) Business Management & Entrepreneurship programmes reflect this mission by preparing students to become innovative thinkers and capable young leaders. Through problem-based learning, design-based education, industry-linked assignments, company visits, and internships, students gain practical experience that enables them to apply theory directly in real-

world contexts. A strong international dimension underpins our curriculum. Our students benefit from academic and cultural exposure through collaborations with partner universities across multiple countries, including the Netherlands, Italy, Thailand, South Africa, and Japan. These partnerships provide a range of opportunities from international courses to cross-cultural learning experiences that broaden perspectives and foster global readiness. Joining ABEST21 further supports our commitment to curriculum enhancement, quality assurance, and alignment with international expectations. While ABEST21 offers a valuable framework for continuous improvement, our primary focus remains on empowering students to succeed as ethical entrepreneurs, adaptive professionals, and global citizens. We are proud to take this next step in UNTRIM's growth and look forward to a productive collaboration that will continue to elevate the quality, relevance, and international visibility of our programmes.



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Universitas Triatma Mulya, Bali, Indonesia, Website: <https://international.untrim.ac.id>