A Final Project Report

AC21 Special Project Fund (SPF) 2018: Joint Mini-Symposium on Agro-Industry Research for Well-Being

12-14 November, 2018

Faculty of Agro-Industry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Introduction

This Joint mini-symposium on “Agro-Industry Research for Well-Being” is a mini-symposium collaborated among 4 partners in AC21 including

1. Kasetsart University, Thailand
2. Nagoya University, Japan
3. Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
4. Stellenbosch University, South Africa

The objective of this symposium is to share research work in the area of Agro-Industry under the theme of “Well-Being” among AC-21 members. The activity is organized during 12-14 November, 2018, by Faculty of Agro-Industry, Kasetsart University, Thailand. A program of this activity includes 2-full days of oral presentations and 1 day of field study/excursion. AC 21 members who participate in this mini-symposium are sponsored accommodation, local transportation, meals and activities during the symposium period. Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses, personal expenses, visa expenses and insurance. Non-AC21 members are also welcome to participate using their own expenses.
Summary of Activities

In the first 2 days of this activity, a total of 24 presenters presented their research work under 6 themes including Agro-Industry Management, Material Science, Functional Food Ingredients, Biotechnology, Food Quality and Security, and Molecular Biology. There are 5 presenters from Nagoya University, 6 presenters from Gadjah Mada University, 5 presenters from Stellenbosch University, 7 presenters from Kasetsart University, and 1 presenter from Gifu University (non-AC21 member). Each presenter was given 20 min for presentation including Q&A. Abstract book containing program, abstract, and CV of presenter are attached at the end of this report (Appendix 1). During the first 2 days of symposium, there are a total of 55 participants including presenters, faculty staffs, and graduate students. List of participants are available in Appendix 2.
In the last day of the symposium, all presenters visited C.P. Retailing and Marketing Co., Ltd. or CPRAM, one of the affiliated companies in the marketing and distribution business within Charoen Pokphand Group that is the leading company in production and distribution of ready to eat food and bakery products at Phatumtani Province. During the visit participants, had chance to see the production lines and discussed with vice manager of factory regarding on quality assurance system, logistic and supply chain management. In the afternoon, the group also visited Chao Sam Praya National Museum and the Ancient Palace in Ayutthaya Province.
**Outcome:**

1. Raise awareness of AC21 and AC21 activities
2. Learn about other AC21 member universities (i.e. facilities, administrative system, and research focus)
3. Update information and share research work under the theme of Agro-Industry Research for Well-being
4. Expand networking among participants, especially among AC21 members university
5. Learn about Thailand Agro-Industry (Field trip)
6. Learn about Thai culture (Excursion)
7. Initiate possible future collaborations

**Future Collaborations**

During the symposium many future collaborations were discussed for example:

1. Undergraduate student exchange: summer school and internship
2. Graduate student exchange: research work
3. Staff Exchange
4. Future Joint symposium