



AC21 Newsletter

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Announcement of 6th AC21 Student World Forum 2015

Sharing our knowledge and expertise to foster greater cooperation in our society

Francis Kern
Vice-President
University of Strasbourg

Hans-Jochen Schiewer
Rector
University of Freiburg

The sharing of our knowledge, expertise and experience to move our society forward is the idea that we seek to uphold together through our commitment to AC21. At the University of Strasbourg and the University of Freiburg we have developed a strong track record in cross-border cooperation and broad knowledge of the issues surrounding local and regional democracy at the European level. These two areas of expertise are what we have chosen to share with the AC21 students at the 6th Student World Forum.

Strasbourg is one of the strongholds of Europe. Hosting many European institutions such as the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the European Court of Human Rights, the city is involved in many debates on democracy, and in particular its application at the local and regional levels. And it is in Strasbourg that, for the past 3 years, the Council of Europe has been holding the World Forum for Democracy, at which participants from all socio-economic backgrounds discuss

their points of view.

We have decided to introduce these international organisations dedicated to promoting European cooperation. The participating students will have the opportunity to visit the Council of Europe, which treats cooperation as a central issue in order to meet the challenges facing European

society. They will discover the principles set out in the European Charter of Local Self-Government, which is a fundamental pillar of the Council of Europe in its construction of participatory democracy. The Association of European Border Regions will also present tools that can be deployed to foster inter-regional cooperation.

For many years, cross-border cooperation has been an essential part of the activities of the University of Strasbourg. Indeed, the University is located in the tri-national area of the Upper Rhine (France-Germany-Switzerland), a quintessential European region. It plays an important role in the cohesion of the European Union and has long served as a sort of laboratory for European policy. Thanks to its experience, it provides best practices in order to further regional cooperation in other areas. Many globally renowned companies have come to fully appreciate the potential of this internationally-oriented local area, setting up their businesses here.

In this environment, which promotes the free flow of ideas, the universities of this region have initiated multiple opportunities for collaboration. In 1989 they founded EUCOR, or the European Confederation of Upper Rhine Universities, which includes the Universities of Strasbourg and Freiburg and fosters intensive cooperation

in the areas of education and research. This collaboration has expanded constantly, and will soon give rise to the first European campus.

How do people work in a multicultural, multilingual environment? What factors must be taken into account to take full advantage of the local area and collaborate effectively on shared themes? These are questions that we plan to discuss with the students who will participate in the SWF. Through the workshops offered, students will experience the process of building a regional cooperation project. To this end, they will be able to make use of a study offered by Biovalley, a globally oriented competitive cluster in the life sciences and health, which coordinates a tri-national cluster. The work will also progress with a day planned in Freiburg, where the students

will experience cross-border cooperation first-hand and discover exceptionally advanced initiatives in sustainable urban development.

A very popular tourist area, the Upper Rhine region is also well known for the richness of its heritage and its natural and cultural diversity. A prime example of this is Haut-Kœnigsbourg, a medieval castle and one of the most visited monuments in Europe. This is where, with the University of Freiburg, we have chosen to finish up this SWF 2015 and bring together the SWF students and participants in the AC21 steering committee hosted by the University of Freiburg.

We are very pleased that, through this 6th SWF, we will be contributing to the exchange of ideas between, and developing a global mindset in, the participants of AC21!



AC21 Special Project Fund 2014 Report ①

AC21 International CFD Workshop for Young Nuclear Engineers at Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Jinbiao Xiong
School of Nuclear Science and Engineering
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

With the rapid development of computer hardware and computation techniques, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) analysis has become a potential advanced tool to assist nuclear engineers in screening and optimizing their designs for nuclear power systems and in understanding the phenomena occurring in the reactor system during operational and accidental conditions. In order to satisfy the demand for multi-scale simulations in the reactor systems, scientists have devoted themselves to developing innovative computational methodology, such as coupling CFD simulation with neutronics calculation, subchannel and/or system analysis. To satisfy the requirements for reactor design and safety analysis tools, CFD technology itself must evolve and CFD users have to learn more.

Aiming to provide a platform for young nuclear engineers and students to share their experience in CFD application in nuclear engineering, the AC21 International CFD Workshop for Young Nuclear Engineers

(AC21 CFD4You workshop) co-organized by three AC21 universities (Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Nagoya University and North Carolina State University) and one non-AC21 university (Xi'an Jiao Tong University) was held at Shanghai Jiao Tong University from September 22 to 24, 2014. The event attracted more than 30 participants from 11 institutes in 3 countries. During the workshop three invited lectures were given by leading professors in their field, including Professor Seiichi Koshizuka from the University of Tokyo, Professor Hong Luo from North Carolina State University and Professor Yanhua Yang from Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The lectures provided the participants with a chance to learn about the cutting-edge front of CFD technology development and application.

For the sake of promoting the exchange of experiences in CFD application, the students and young engineers participating in the workshop were encouraged to perform one of the two CFD benchmark exercises released by the workshop technical committee in May 2014. In total, 15 benchmark reports were received from 7 institutes. Two oral benchmark sessions and two poster benchmark sessions were organized during the workshop. During



these sessions the participants presented and compared their CFD application methodologies for the same problem and had intensive and insightful discussions on the progress on CFD application in nuclear engineering. The two best oral presenters and three poster presenters in the benchmark sessions were awarded for their excellent performances.

At the end of the workshop a technical tour of the workshop of the Shanghai Nuclear Power Equipment Company was organized. The participants were impressed by the huge components of the nuclear reactor system and increased their knowledge of the issues that they are working on. The workshop helped the professors from four universities establish initial connections, and will be very helpful for them to start new collaborations in their research or student exchange programs.



AC21 Special Project Fund 2014 Report ②

Freiburg – Adelaide – Nagoya (FAN) cooperation 2014 Research students visit the University of Adelaide

Christiane Niess
Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Adelaide

From 21 September to 4 October 2014, ten PhD and Master's students from the University of Freiburg and Nagoya University visited the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide. They took part in a two week program of research-related activities, networking opportunities, presentations, our annual conference, and short term placements at South Australian research organisations.

During the Research Presentation Day, the students presented their research projects to fellow Adelaide PhD students and senior academics. The research topics were in the area of cancer and neurosciences or related fields.

The highlight of the program was the Florey International Research Conference. About 115 PhD and Research Master's students, including the visiting students, presented their research posters. A jury of senior academics reviewed the posters and students had the opportunity to win prizes.

Natalie Stickel from the University of Freiburg and Nozomu Kawashima from Nagoya University were awarded \$500 each for the best international visitor poster presentations.

The Conference was completed by a panel discussion including Professor Fiona Wood about burns treatment, burns victims and the psychological impact of burn injuries as well as fire protection and disaster management, which showed the whole range of research, from the laboratory bench to translating that research into tangible outcomes.

During their stay in Adelaide, the students visited research groups at the recently opened South Australian Health and

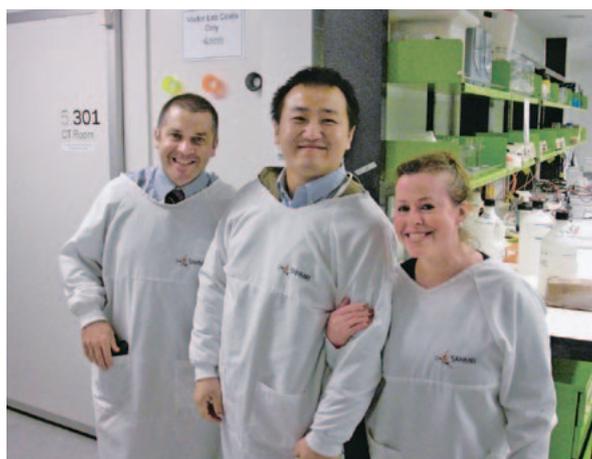
Medical Research Institute, The Hanson Institute, Adelaide's Women's & Children's Hospital and Adelaide University's Medical School. Being placed at research centres undertaking research in a similar field to their own, the students had the opportunity to become immersed in these institutes' research activities, as well as the opportunity to

learn new techniques and build networks with colleagues.

In addition to these research- and networking-rich activities, the students benefitted from welcome and farewell receptions, social events, and sightseeing tours enabling them to meet with the culturally diverse Australian population and to see and experience South Australia's famous wine regions, national parks and wildlife.

During our welcome reception the visitors got the opportunity to meet and mingle with researchers and student from Adelaide and to establish first contacts; at the end they received their 'Certificates of Attendance of the Two Weeks visit in Adelaide' as well as a 'Certificate of Attendance for the Florey International Postgraduate Research Conference'.

The AC21 Special Project Fund has assisted in developing research links between the three AC21 partners Freiburg – Adelaide – Nagoya (FAN). We are grateful for this opportunity and we would like to thank the AC21 General Secretariat and



the AC21 Special Project Fund for their generous financial support, which made this international exchange and collaboration possible.

We are pleased that the students enjoyed their stay in Adelaide; we received the following positive feedback from the visiting students:

'It was a good opportunity to meet international students, PIs and potential collaborators. I had the chance to present my research in an international environment and to learn about research at Adelaide and Nagoya University.'

'I did establish a lot of contacts, which will hopefully help me in my future career.'

'A lot of interesting lab visits, talks, lectures & the conference. But also enough time to explore Adelaide and the region. The organized tours were amazing!!'

'It was a great experience. Personally I gave my first presentation with a microphone and also could deepen my experiences with presenting a poster.'

'I definitely recommend a future visit to my colleagues, because we could have a chance

to experience presenting our research subjects and discussing them with leading researchers, which could not be obtained unless we take part.'

'It was a great opportunity to get in contact

with many international researchers, present your research abroad and learn about ongoing research in your own field but also in fields that you normally don't get in touch with, which is very interesting.

'Having collaboration with the University of Adelaide makes our scientific background even stronger.'



Announcement of 8th AC21 International Forum 2016

AC21 International Forum in the Heart of Europe

Arnold van Zyl
Rector
Technische Universität Chemnitz



The Technische Universität Chemnitz is looking forward to welcoming AC21-members for the Eighth AC21 International

Forum from 4–6 May, 2016.

Founded in 1836, the Technische Universität Chemnitz looks back on a long tradition of innovation. From the thermos flask to ultra lightweight functional structures, the institution has been a constant incubator of novel ideas and technologies. Today, with eight faculties, more than 11,000 students, about 2,400 employees, and more than 180 spin-offs established since 1995, the Technische Universität Chemnitz is a key regional driver of higher education and research that is strongly integrated in the global scientific community and AC21 in particular.

We are honored to host the next AC21 International Forum in 2016, which will coincide with the 180th anniversary of the Technische Universität Chemnitz. In the

face of our mission to foster technological and social advancement, the AC21 International Forum 2016 will explore the overall theme of “Universities as Regional Innovation Hubs”. Within this topical focus, the contribution of the university in building networks for social, economic, and ecologic advancement will be investigated.

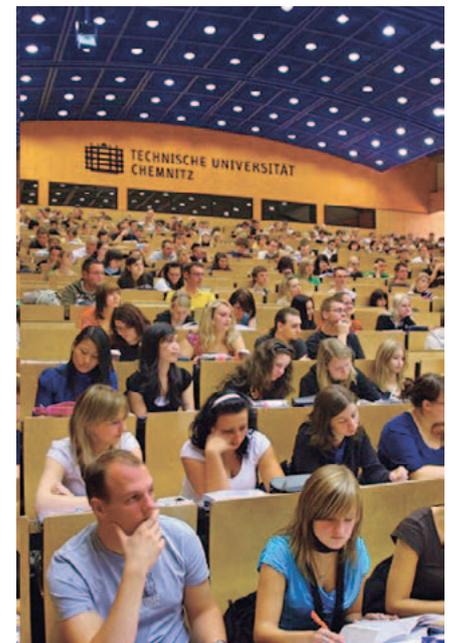
The Technische Universität Chemnitz has three main areas of research: smart materials, components, products, and systems; resource efficient production technologies; and the social, economic, and ecological aspects of technology. In these respective fields, the Technische Universität Chemnitz cooperates with, amongst others, two local Fraunhofer-Institutes as well as a branch of the Leibniz Institute. Close collaboration with a wide range of industrial partners as well as the local city authorities has encouraged entrepreneurship resulting in many successful start-ups in the high-tech sector. More than half the annual budget of about 170 million Euros comes from third-party-funding within joint research projects. Recently, the Technische Universität Chemnitz won a major grant in the highly competitive German University Excellence

Initiative and is now home of the Federal Research Cluster of Excellence on “Merge Technologies for Multifunctional Lightweight Structures”.

Moreover, the Technische Universität Chemnitz also maintains a mutual partnership with the City of Chemnitz, for example through the joint establishment of a “Smart Systems Campus” serving as an incubation center for start-up enterprises that benefit from the proximity to the university and the other scientific institutions.

Last but not least, the Technische Universität Chemnitz greatly benefits from cooperation with the international partner institutions of AC21. As a result, the number of international students has nearly tripled in the last few years and now accounts for almost 20 percent of the total student population.

The planned program for the upcoming International Forum includes plenary



sections and topical seminars as well as a variety of scheduled activities and events. Excursions will be arranged to a range of industrial partners, from large corporations spearheading their fields of automotive and mechanical engineering to a diversity of innovation leaders in small- and medium-sized companies. Moreover, with its unique setting in the heart of Europe, Chemnitz with its more than 240,000 citizens, the Saxon region and its neighboring countries Poland and the Czech Republic offer

plenty of opportunities to experience the cultural diversity of Europe.

The Technische Universität Chemnitz is very much looking forward to welcoming the delegates of all AC21-members coming from all over the world to Chemnitz for the Eighth AC21 International Forum from 4–6 May, 2016.



AC21 General Secretariat Visit ①

University of Freiburg and University of Strasbourg

International Planning Section
International Affairs Department
Nagoya University

On November 3 (Mon), President Hamaguchi, Trustee Kunieda, faculty members from various fields (Graduate School of Law, Graduate School of Economics, Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, Graduate School of Languages and Cultures, Institute of Transformative Bio-Molecules) and a group of administrative staff visited the University of Freiburg for an opinion exchange on the promotion of future exchange activities between Freiburg and Nagoya University. Attending from the University of Freiburg were Rector Schiewer, Vice Rector Neuhaus and other relevant faculty. Up to now, our two Universities have enjoyed a variety of multi-layered exchange activities, from individual research to a department- and even university-wide level, for example in joint activities through AC21. Now Nagoya University has been selected for Top Global University Project of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan, and we wish to stress how important

the University of Freiburg is as a partner university in this enterprise; and, with faculty members as well as both University leaders in attendance, we shared reports on the state of exchange development in each field, and actively discussed how to further promote exchange in future. The group under Trustee Kunieda remained at the University of Freiburg until November 4 (Tue), where a meeting was held on future research collaboration in each field.

The group under Trustee Kunieda, continuing on from their visit to the University of Freiburg, then visited University of Strasbourg (the Maison Universitaire France-Japon) on November 5 (Wed) and 6 (Thu) for a talk with President Beretz and Vice President in charge

of Research Florentz, where a lively discussion was had on future research exchange and other matters. As well as the main meeting, the faculty members in each field visited their Strasbourg counterparts and had the chance to talk with them. Like the University of Freiburg, University of Strasbourg is also a most important partner for Nagoya University in the Top Global University Project, and we look forward to strengthening our relationship even further in future.



AC21 General Secretariat Visit ②

AC21 General Secretariat visits Northeastern China

Jiro Takai

Associate Director of AC21 General Secretariat

Members of the AC21 General Secretariat had the pleasant opportunity to visit Northeastern China, paying visits to two of our AC21 member universities, Northeastern University, and Jilin University.

AC21 Director Yoshihito Watanabe, Associate Director Jiro Takai, and AC21 General Secretariat Advisor/Nagoya University China Center for International Exchange (NUCCIE) Director Shao-Liang Zhang, along with NUCCIE Associate Director Lei Liu visited Northeastern University in Shenyang, on November 13. The delegates met with President Ji Zhao, International Cooperation and Exchange Office Director Fuxiao Yu, Institute of Sino-Japan Comparative Culture Director Qiuju Wang, and of course, AC21 Communicator Xiaoming Ji. President Zhao happened to

be the President of Jilin University when it lobbied to host the 2018 AC21 International Forum, but now that he had moved to Northeastern University, he had expressed interest in holding an AC21 event there as well. Their super modern campus was surely enviable to the delegates from Nagoya, and attests to the emphasis that the Chinese government is putting on higher education. The delegates moved to Changchun the next day, to visit Jilin University, where they met with Vice President (International Affairs) Gang Chen, Deputy Director of International Relations Tiejun Bu, International Relations officers Yining Sui, Situo Wang and our AC21 Communicator Yin Bai. There, they discussed the upcoming 2018 International Forum, which was tentatively titled, “Beyond Culture.” While past

Forums tended to lean toward Science and Engineering themes, Jilin’s proposal promises active discussion on topics dealing with Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. AC21 representatives can look forward to a huge, modern, and very beautiful campus, within a historically rich city with incredible sightseeing opportunities. The delegates took in a preview of Jilin hospitality, and were quite impressed with what we can expect in a few more years.

While the November weather was indeed cold up north, both universities gave us a very warm welcome, and we sincerely felt their enthusiasm and commitment toward AC21. We all felt our stay was too short, and we look forward to our next visit. Thank you to our friends at Northeastern University, and Jilin University!



UN Day Report

Report on the “UN Day Event at Nagoya University: Achieving Well-being for All Beyond 2015”

Aya Okada

Professor, Graduate School of International Development
Nagoya University

On October 21, 2014, the Graduate School of International Development (GSID) and the Women Leaders Program to Promote Well-being, Nagoya University, organized an event titled “UN Day at Nagoya University: Achieving Well-Being for All beyond 2015,” with support from the Academic Consortium 21 (AC21). UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force on October 24, 1945 of the United Nations Charter. Every year, around this date, many events take place throughout the world to celebrate UN Day. This year, this event was held at Nagoya University to celebrate the UN’s 69th anniversary, partly because the General Secretariat of AC21, one of the partners of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), is based at the university. Many Nagoya University students, from diverse nationalities and in diverse fields of study, gathered together and played a major role in organizing this event. More than a dozen students from various graduate schools of the university formed an organizing committee for planning, preparing, and organizing this event. The committee worked very hard to make this event a forum to discuss ways to achieve

well-being for all in the world, with students from various disciplines and even from other universities and high schools, and the public. Thanks to their hard work and excellent teamwork, with more than 240 participants in total, the event was a great success!

To open the event, Dr. Michinari Hamaguchi, President of Nagoya University, gave a welcome address, followed by an opening address by Dr. Sanae Ito, Professor and Dean of the Graduate School of International Development. Mr. Junichi Hirata, Deputy Director of the International Affairs Division, Minister’s Secretariat, of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) made a guest speech. I introduced the Women Leaders Program to Promote Well-being in Asia, which Nagoya University officially launched in October 2014 with support from MEXT under its Leading Graduate School Program. This is a special graduate program to foster future women leaders who can actively contribute to the realization of the well-being of people both in Asia and globally. Dr. Ayako Ido, an Associate Professor of Nagoya University and the



AC21 Project Coordinator, moderated the entire event.

The first part of the event focused on the issue of gender equality. Ms. Kaoru Nemoto, Director of the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Tokyo, gave a keynote lecture titled “Gender equality is your issue too,” addressing the issue of gender inequality based on her own experience. She also introduced various UN initiatives to achieve gender equality to the audience, such as HeForShe promoted by the UN Women.

In the following “International Gender Opinion Poll” session, 18 Japanese and international students from 18 countries answered four questions concerning the state of gender gaps in their countries. While exhibiting the diversity of the student body



of Nagoya University, the session made us realize once more that gender disparity is still a common issue for many countries to overcome. This was followed by a “Students’ Debate Session” that posed a question: “Should we set quotas to achieve gender equality?” Male and female students from various cultural backgrounds were divided into two groups and debated the pros and cons of setting quotas. As they brought various dimensions of gender inequality into discussions from both Japanese and international perspectives, the session led to a heated debate, greatly engaging the audience, who often applauded in the midst of the debaters’ powerful statements. Students entirely ran these two sessions in terms of planning, preparing and managing their performance, demonstrating their high levels of planning, organizational, and presentation skills, as well as their ability to work in teams.

Another highlight of the event was a panel discussion on “Achieving Well-being for All beyond 2015,” with four distinguished panelists: Ms. Mehr Khan Williams, Former Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights at the United Nations, Ms. Junko Sasaki, Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Tokyo Office, Dr. Mbuli Charles Boliko, Director of the FAO Liaison Office in Japan, and Ms. Chikako Takase, Director of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD). Based on their many years of rich experiences with UN organizations, the panelists presented about and discussed the latest trends in the

situations concerning well-being across countries, and current challenges, covering diverse issues such as health and education of children and women, poverty, human rights, food security, disaster management, and employment. They also presented various measures implemented by UN agencies to tackle these issues and achieve the well-being of people in the world. This led to a lively Q&A and discussions with participants from the floor.

Dr. Yoshihito Watanabe, Trustee (International Affairs) and Vice President of Nagoya University and Director of the AC21 General Secretariat concluded the event, lauding the success of the event. Following his closing remarks, students organized a “Cross-Cultural Performance Show” on the stage. Students from Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, and Indonesia performed *a cappella*, as well as traditional dance and music in their folk costumes.

After the UN Day event, Joint Outreach Mission was organized by the UN Secretariat and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Addressing more than 200 participants, representatives from the UN

Secretariat, UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, and OECD made presentations on various activities carried out by their organizations and job opportunities, generating participants’ keen interest in working for international organizations in the future.

I wish to thank MEXT’s Program for Leading Graduate Schools, the AC21, UNIC-Tokyo, and Nagoya University’s Office of the Program for Leading Graduate Schools for supporting and extending cooperation for the UN Day event. I hope that this event will lead to expanding activities on a global scale, strengthening the networking with UN organizations, and joint actions for achieving the well-being for all in the world by AC21 through UNAI. I am very grateful to the keynote speaker and panelists, the members of the student organizing committee, participants, the AC21, and faculty members, staff and students of the Women Leaders Program to Promote Well-being in Asia for their active participation and wonderful support, as their great contribution clearly made this event a tremendous success.



UN Day Report from Participating Student ①

Derrace McCallum
Graduate School of International Development
Nagoya University

The International Opinion Poll session was held as a part of the activities to commemorate the declaration of the UN Day, which was held at Nagoya University this year. This session was one of the most excited and informative. Student representatives of 18 countries from across the world; spanning Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America and the Caribbean, participated in this session. The goal of the session was to get an idea of the current state of women’s empowerment and gender equality in different parts of the world. The session was led by a moderator who asked

various “Yes or No” questions relating to education, health and political participation of women. The country representatives were required to raise their country flags if the situation was true in their country. Following this, some country representatives were asked to elaborate on the situation in their country. This was a great opportunity to learn that, in general, all of the 18 countries need to work harder to achieve gender equality. Indeed, this was a great start to the day’s event, which really set the tone and

atmosphere for the sessions which followed. This session was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience and the participants alike.



UN Day Report from Participating Student ②

Nahoko Ieda
Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences
Nagoya University

The purpose of the Debate Session was to let the participating students and audience consider what we can do to achieve true gender equality. The question “Should we set quota for achieving gender equality?” was discussed by Japanese and international students who were allocated into a proposition team and an opposition team. The student-organizing committee

had several meetings to decide the debate topic in advance, so that the debate would attract interests of the general public. These preparatory meetings were already very fruitful for us, because we had great discussion on gender issues in the world among students with different nationalities and expertise. All the members were very active during the preparation and practice,

and importantly, we all enjoyed getting to know new friends through this event. I am very glad that the debate session was successful, followed by a lot of questions and comments from the floor, and I am grateful to UNIC Tokyo and Nagoya University for giving us a big opportunity to celebrate the UN day.



Upcoming AC21 Activities and Events

2015	April	Sixth AC21 Student World Forum, University of Strasbourg & University of Freiburg 13 th Steering Committee Meeting, University of Freiburg
2016	May	Eighth AC21 International Forum, Technische Universität Chemnitz 14 th Steering Committee Meeting, Technische Universität Chemnitz Eighth General Assembly, Technische Universität Chemnitz
2017	TBA	Second AC21 International Graduate Summer School, Gadjah Mada University
2018	TBA	Ninth AC21 International Forum, Jilin University

AC21 General Secretariat Activities (2014.10 – 2015.3)

2014	October 17	130 th AC21 Office Meeting
	October 21	UN Day Event
	November 25	131 st AC21 Office Meeting
	December 25	132 nd AC21 Office Meeting
2015	February 20	133 th AC21 Office Meeting
	March 18	134 th AC21 Office Meeting
	March 23 – 26	Attend APAIE

AC21 Members

Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)	Peking University (China)
Gadjah Mada University (Indonesia)	Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China)
Huazhong University of Science and Technology (China)	Stellenbosch University (Republic of South Africa)
Jilin University (China)	Technische Universität Chemnitz (Germany)
Kasetsart University (Thailand)	The University of Adelaide (Australia)
Nagoya University (Japan)	The University of Canterbury (New Zealand)
Nanjing University (China)	The University of Freiburg (Germany)
National University of Laos (Laos)	The University of Minnesota (U.S.A.)
North Carolina State University (U.S.A.)	The University of Strasbourg (France)
Northeastern University (China)	Tongji University (China)

What is AC21?

AC21 is an international academic consortium comprised of educational and research organizations from around the world. It was established at the Nagoya University International Forum, held on June 24, 2002, with the aim of creating an international academic network; the AC21 Secretariat is also located at Nagoya University.

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