



# AC21 Newsletter

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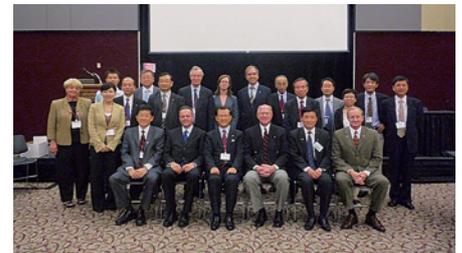
## Fourth AC21 International Forum 2008 at North Carolina State University

The Fourth AC21 International Forum was held at North Carolina State University, on July 28-30, 2008. The Forum ended with fruitful discussions and firm prospects for the future success of AC21.

The Academic Consortium for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (AC21) was established officially on June 24, 2002 at the International Forum 2002 hosted by Nagoya University, Japan. Since its foundation AC21 has spread and grown popular both at home and abroad, through its vigorous activities such as biennial International Forums and Student World Forums, international joint research projects, cooperative educational programs, student exchanges, and international industry-academia-government collaboration projects etc. International Forums have been held at Nagoya University (2002), the University of Sydney (2004) and at the University of Warwick (2006), all with a great and successful progress. The most recent 4<sup>th</sup> Forum at North Carolina State University (NCSU) brought together the presidents and delegations from member universities, students, government, companies and local bodies, a total of about 120 people, from across the globe.

At the opening session Chancellor James L. Oblinger (NCSU), President Shin-ichi Hirano (Nagoya University) and Deputy Minister Hideo Tamai (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan) gave their opening remarks.

Lectures, panel discussions and poster ses-



sions followed the opening session with the main theme "University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". Participants joined in three streamed sessions with different sub-themes: "International Student and Academic Exchange", "Challenges for Global Higher Education" and "Innovation and technology Transfer", each giving rise to a lively exchange of views.

At the first keynote presentation, Mr. Thomas A. Farrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Academic Programs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State emphasized the historical significance of academic and student exchange, with the title "Developing Talent for the Innovation Society: University Student Exchanges".

After a general session on the second of the event, participants had an opportunity to mix with student researchers at a poster session, presenting a wide variety of collaborative projects ranging from hard science and engineering, including work on important exchange, development and assistance work integrated into university curricula.

The Forum was preceded by the 6<sup>th</sup> AC21 Steering Committee (STC) Meeting on July



27, and the Forum ended with the 3<sup>rd</sup> AC21 General Assembly Meeting on July 30. The representatives of seven STC member institutions, Chemnitz University of Technology (Germany), Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), Nagoya University (Japan), North Carolina State University (USA), Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China), The University of Sydney (Australia) and The University of Warwick (UK), participated in the meeting. Main points of the decisions that STC suggested to GA were as follows: (1) New membership fee regulation, (2) Future budget planning, (3) Industrial Working Groups Plan, (4) The new membership, (5) Next site for AC21 International Forum and Student World Forum. These topics were vigorously discussed and approved by the General Assembly with attendance of representatives of member universities. As for new membership, the University of Adelaide (Australia) was accepted as a new AC21 member. Following the reports of the preparation for the AC21 Student World Forum 2009 (by Chemnitz University of Technology) and the 5<sup>th</sup> AC21

International Forum 2010 (by Shanghai Jiao Tong University), it was announced that the 4<sup>th</sup> AC21 Student World Forum 2011 would be held at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Chemnitz University, the host of the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> AC21 Student World Forum 2009, introduced a plan to provide seminars and opportunities to visit companies on the theme of “Production – Meeting the Global Challenges”. Students from around the world are expected to participate in the Forum, and there are great hopes that the international exchange of students will expand widely.

During the STC and General Assembly each member university was actively involved in the activities of AC21 and also proposed various specific future plans. In addition, a number of universities wishing to join in AC21 participated in this Forum, which offers brighter prospects for AC21. The AC21 International Forum 2008 caught the enthusiasm of member universities for making it more expansive and productive consortium.

## Greeting from North Carolina State University

**James L. Oblinger**  
Chancellor, North Carolina State University  
President, AC21

On behalf of North Carolina State University, I want to welcome you to the 2008 AC21 International Forum. We are delighted to have this opportunity to host our colleagues from AC21 member institutions as well as representatives from other universities and organizations from around the world. At this Forum, nine countries are represented, in addition to the United States, promising a truly global conversation about higher education that is unprecedented at North Carolina State University and for North Carolina.

The theme we have selected for the Forum,

“University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” reflects North Carolina State University’s recognition that global problems and challenges require collaborative solutions and that we must reach across boundaries, both within and outside our universities, to find multidisciplinary and multifaceted solutions. At North Carolina State, we are particularly



focused on partnerships: partnerships between faculty and students across our academic colleges, partnerships between our institution and the communities, businesses, and industries that rely on our research, as well as on the students we prepare, and partnerships between our campus and the campuses of our international partners. Through AC21 and gatherings such as this one, we are able to expand our global educational partnerships well beyond what would be possible through bilateral partnerships alone.

This year's Forum will provide an opportunity to explore the power of partnerships in three areas: International Student and Academic Exchange, Global Higher Education and Innovation and Technology Transfer. These are timely topics to which we are dedicated at NC State. At the Forum, we will share what we are doing in these areas and learn new approaches from you. I look forward to meeting all of you and introducing you to the innovative people and programs that characterize North Carolina State University.

Along with the opportunity to host this Forum comes the responsibility for me to chair the AC21 General Assembly, which will meet on Wednesday afternoon after the conclusion of the Forum. I want my AC21 colleagues to know how much I look forward to working with you as the consortium considers expanded membership and continues toward its goal of encouraging global cooperation to benefit higher education and contribute to regional and world society.

For North Carolina State University, the benefits of membership in AC21 extend beyond opportunities such as the Forum to learn from our peers about common concerns for our universities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In 2007, two of our students attended the AC21 Student Forum in Paris, hosted by our colleagues at École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées. Our students were attracted to the Student Forum's theme, Sustainable Cities, and its workshops

on energy, transportation, building and housing because of their interests in sustainable energy and urban design. These students, and other outstanding students, represent the dedication of the next generation of leaders to issues our world faces in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. AC21's programs help ensure that students and their institutions have the opportunity to shared experiences and perspectives with their counterparts from around the world.

At this time, I would like to recognize the leaders representing AC21 member institutions that contribute to the reach and impact of AC21. Please stand as I announce your name and institution:

- Dr. Shinichi Hirano, President of Nagoya University
- Mr. Eberhard Alles, Chancellor of Chemnitz University of Technology
- Prof. Kua Wongboonsin, Vice President of Chulalongkorn University
- Prof. Yulin Li, Vice President of Jilin University
- Prof. Zhang Jie, Vice President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Prof. Dr. Gerhard Schneider, Chief Information Officer at the University of Freiburg
- Prof. John Hearn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Sydney
- Prof. Michael Whitby, Pro Vice-Chancellor at the University of Warwick

We also are delighted to welcome Mr. Hideo Tamai, Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, who will bring a welcome to the Forum from the government of Japan in a few moments.

Before introducing our next presenter, I want to speak just a bit more about North Carolina State University's participation in AC21. North Carolina State University is currently the only US member institution. We joined AC21 as a result of our longstanding partner-



ship with Nagoya University, where AC21 was envisioned and is housed. North Carolina State University and Nagoya University have exchanged students for over 20 years. Since the establishment of the Nagoya University Program for Academic Exchange in 1996, we have been Nagoya's most active United States exchange partner, with nearly 60 students having studied at Nagoya. For example, this summer, four North Carolina State students have joined students from Nagoya and other partner institutions at the Nagoya University Summer Intensive Program to study new technologies in automotive engineering. And, earlier this year, several graduate students representing Nagoya's Center of Excellence in systems biology visited North Carolina State to meet with our faculty and share their research in this area.

In 2007, the partnership between North Carolina State and Nagoya University was expanded through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement to cooperate in promoting industry-university collaboration and joint research, particularly in the area of Technology Transfer. Nagoya University has established "NU Tech," the Technology Partnership of Nagoya University in the Research Triangle

area, to promote international technology transfer. Our partnership will allow both of our institutions to gain a greater understanding of each institution's research strengths. This partnership also will encourage exchange of valuable knowledge about both Asian and United States technology markets and best practices in business. Our relationship with Nagoya continues to expand, both through bilateral activities and through our membership in AC21.

Nagoya's leadership in global education is a reflection of the vision and energy of its president, Dr. Shinichi Hirano. Serving as president since 2004, President Hirano has strengthened Nagoya University's national and international profile in areas such as research development, technology transfer, economic development and, of course, international education.

Let me offer a special welcome to President Hirano and his colleagues from Nagoya University and AC21. I am delighted to welcome him to North Carolina State again and to thank him for his vision, his energy and his leadership in collegial relationships with universities that share a common purpose around the globe.

## Greeting from Nagoya University

### Shin-ichi Hirano President, Nagoya University

Good morning, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the occasion of this Fourth AC21 International Forum I would like to begin by extending my special thanks to Chancellor Oblinger, to the staff of North Carolina State University, to everyone who has worked to bring us together for this event. I would also like to express my gratitude to the presidents and vice-presidents of the member universities who have supported our joint projects by

taking time out from their busy schedules to travel to the forum. It is a distinct honor for me to be able to address you all here today.



The Academic Consortium for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century was founded at the International Forum held in Nagoya in 2002. AC21, now six years old, stands for the vision that universities will

play a leading role as architect of the future in society, culture, and values. “The Global University” is truly the “Architect of the New Century”. Since its foundation, prominent figures of world-leading universities have gathered periodically to share expertise and experience at these International Forums, which are now a central part of AC21. These meetings provide an opportunity for vigorous discussion of the missions and the roles of universities in the future. Through forums held at Nagoya, at the University of Sydney, at the University of Warwick and now at North Carolina State University, we have also deepened the mutual friendship among members.

Activities of AC21 extend from the Student World Forums, through the ongoing discussion of benchmarking methods, the pursuit of funds and industry partnerships to support collaborative research and other projects. More will be said about activities and accomplishments this afternoon, but I would like to express my appreciation here for your active engagement with AC21 and your generous cooperation in the organization of these events. Thanks to your encouraging assistance and the energetic input of the Steering Committee, AC21 has steadily developed and come to be recognized internationally.

Our own academic charter at Nagoya University states that the mission of Nagoya University is to contribute to society by cultivating “courageous intellectuals” who have the courage to stand at the forefront of knowledge creation, and to shoulder the burden of the future through research and educational creative activity. AC21 has been our first experience at the center of network of universities. We have had much to learn while serving in our coordinating role in the past six years. Our staffs have also gained greatly through joint research and student interchange, and through the multi-cultural experience of participating in the AC21 secretariat itself.

Nagoya University has also sought to sup-

port AC21 in many ways, offering funds for collaborative research and other joint AC21 projects. Nagoya also helped initiate a new summer school in automotive engineering aimed at students of AC21 member universities, in cooperation with industry partner Toyota Motor Corporation. The details of this program will be discussed separately in this forum. We hope that these activities will help to foster discussion of future directions from various backgrounds and viewpoints, and to enhance our close cooperative relationship.

We look forward to further work with AC21, in continuing efforts under our charter to be a university which makes a contribution to society through the training of outstanding graduates, the development of the 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, and the inspiration of innovation in science and technology necessary for building a sustainable society. It is our hope that the continued good health of the AC21 relationship will contribute to the development of universities as a core engine of international exchange.

I would be very happy if your universities take full advantage of the network afforded by AC21, to extend your own global progression, making your own universities more attractive than ever to researchers and students from abroad. Also, I appreciate your continuous support and cooperation for the future development of AC21.

Well, now I would like to introduce a special guest from Japan, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan. His scheduled flight did unbelievably delay for 9 hours yesterday and arrived at around one am today from New York. By the way, I really appreciate he is here. Please welcome Mr. Hideo Tamai.

Thank you very much for your attention.



## Greeting from the Japan Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

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Hideo Tamai  
Deputy Minister

Dear Chancellor Oblinger,  
Dear Mr. Farrell,  
Dear participants,

I would like to congratulate you all on the opening of the 4<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum today. In the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, we welcome international initiatives by Japanese universities. The development of AC21 began with an international forum held in Nagoya in June 2002, and in the past six years similar AC21 International Forums have been held at the University of Sydney and the University of Warwick. Student World Forums have been held at Nagoya University and at the University of Ponts et Chaussées. Today, on this occasion, this leadership consortium is opening a fourth forum here at North Carolina State University, with the theme of “University Partnership: global collaboration and innovation for the 21<sup>st</sup> century”. This is an important event, presenting as it does an opportunity to share knowledge and experience among all of the participants gathered here.

We are now facing several serious difficulties in a broad range of fields around the world; environmental problems such as global warming and climate change, expansion of economic disparity, acute shortage of food and water, and repeated natural calamity. It is certain there is a growing need for global cooperation at present. At the same time, while mutual understanding and cooperation among universities is being strengthened by higher mobility of human resources, the intensity of competition among global universities has increased, particularly in the areas of scientific research and academic exchange programs for overseas students.

In Japan, national universities were converted into independent corporate entities in 2004. Since then, in order to promote proactive and strategic



progress in research and educational activities, our Ministry has selected prominent research and education bases in every research field, providing targeted support to the creation of world-class centers of excellence in research and education. In concert with this initiative, and in view of intensifying international competition in academic affairs, we adopted a policy of separately promoting academic development through the deepening of university research and development capabilities, the efficient promotion of research and development, the skillful utilization of young researchers' abilities, and the preferential treatment for outstanding researchers.

At the initiative of Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, our Ministry is now studying a plan to admit “300 thousand international students”, which forms part of a wider Global Strategy aimed at making Japan a more open country in the international community, through further increasing the mobility of people, materials, money and information between Asia and the global society. Beyond the strengthening of links with overseas institutions, each university under our supervision is striving to implement double-degree programs, to expand the mutual recognition of academic credits, to promote the exchange of academic staff, and to offer programs taught in English, all part of a strategic effort to create an attractive environment for overseas students, and to lay the foundation for further globalization.

In the midst of these efforts within our Ministry, the three themes of this International Forum, “International Student and Academic Exchange”, “Challenges for Global Higher Education”, and “Innovation and Technology Transfer”, are very timely. We look forward to the outcome of these discussions, which we consider to be of great significance.

A distinctive feature of AC21 is that its membership includes many universities with campuses in industrial areas, making initiatives that involve participation by the surrounding commercial community possible. The successful establishment of the Research Triangle Park by North Carolina State with other universities in this region is well known. Here, in a new type of campus environment, we find a novel example of collaboration between industry and academic researchers, with the added participation of students. At this International Forum, I look forward to discussion and the exchange of knowledge and experience concerning this broad-based model of partnership between industry, academia and government.

On a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chancellor Oblinger and the staff of North Carolina State University, the presidents and vice-presidents of AC21 member institutions, and all those gathered here today, for making this event possible. I am looking forward to the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum, and to its results. I would also like to express our gratitude to the AC21 membership collectively, as the collaborative institution that has given rise to today’s forum. I wish the Consortium the greatest success in further promotion and enhancement of education and research, through the sharing of ideas and experience, and the transmission of achievements to the world through AC21 activities. It is our most earnest desire that your contributions lead to further progress in international exchange and cooperation.

On behalf of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, I commend you and your universities.

Thank you for your attention.



## Comment from the Coordinator

**Betsy E. Brown**  
 Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs  
 AC21 International Forum Coordinator  
 North Carolina State University

In late July, we were delighted to welcome representatives of AC21 member institutions to North Carolina State University for the Fourth AC21 International Forum. With only 13 months for planning, we took on the challenge of holding the Forum on our campus. Thanks to the support of NC State university administrators, faculty, and staff, the AC21 Secretariat, and AC21 members, we put together a program that exemplified

the Forum theme, “University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21st Century.”

Over 125 people participated in the Forum, including representatives from AC21 and other international universities from nine countries, representatives from U.S. institutions, and a large number of NC State faculty members and administrators who helped welcome our



guests and many of whom participated in the program.

On the first day of the Forum, we were pleased to have Chancellor James Oblinger from NC State and President Shinichi Hirano from Nagoya University welcome the participants. (Chancellor Oblinger's welcome address is included elsewhere in this newsletter.) In addition, we were honored to have Mr. Hideo Tamai, Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan, welcome those attending the Forum and Mr. Thomas A. Farrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cultural and Educational Exchange from the U.S. Department of State, provide a keynote address, "Developing Talent for the Innovation Society: University Student Exchanges," emphasizing the importance of international exchange in preparing leaders for the "innovation" society in every country.

The three concurrent groups of panel discussions, held on the second day of the Forum at different locations on NC State's Centennial Campus, provided participants a variety of topics and speakers than emphasized the importance of partnerships and collaborations at home and abroad to universities' effectiveness. Participants selected the topic of greatest interest to them among the three themes:

- International Student and Academic Exchange
- Challenges for Global Higher Education
- Innovation and Technology Transfer

After the sessions, participants at each location will have the opportunity to tour NC State facilities dedicated to the themes of innovation and collaboration: the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation and the Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center.

A highlight of the third day of the Forum was

a presentation by Mr. Norris Tolson, President of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, on the Center's innovative partnerships among universities, industry, and state government. Mrs. Mary P. Easley, First Lady of North Carolina and a Senior Lecturer at NC State, welcomed the participants and visited with students and faculty members from AC21 and other institutions presenting posters as part of the "Festival of International Collaborative Research, Student Research and Engagement." She was impressed by the presenters and the posters, which demonstrated how individuals and institutions have brought the Forum's theme of global collaboration and innovation to life through their programs and activities.

Besides the speeches, panel discussions, and posters, participants had less formal opportunities for fellowship and conversation with colleagues from around the world at receptions at the E. Carroll Joyner Visitor Center, NC State's "front door" for prospective students and other visitors to campus, and at the internationally recognized North Carolina Museum of Art. At the Museum reception, participants had the opportunity to view the Museum's exhibits, enjoy a special buffet, and talk with colleagues they had gotten to know at the Forum.

Although planning such a complex event as the Forum was a challenging task for NC State, we were pleased with the positive reactions of participants to their experience and the opportunity to introduce them to NC State and share experiences with our colleagues from around the world. We hope that Forum participants and other representatives from AC21 will visit NC State, Raleigh, and North Carolina often.

We could not have sponsored the Forum without the support of our sponsors, which included the NC Department of Commerce and a number of NC State offices. Most significantly, we received sponsorship from our

colleagues at Nagoya University and planning assistance from the AC21 Secretariat.

We are working on the Forum report, which we plan to distribute to participants and AC21

representatives in CD Rom format. And we look forward to joining our colleagues at the Fifth AC21 International Forum to be held at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2010.

## Comment from the University of Sydney

Academic Consortium 21 aims to contribute to world development, understanding and peace through leadership and teamwork beyond the capacity of individual universities. The University of Sydney, a foundation partner in this consortium initiated by Nagoya University, sees specific advantages in international benchmarking of research and teaching, a global set of partners from different cultures, and the focus on innovation and technology transfer with industry. The 2008 forum, held at North Carolina State University in the heart of Research Triangle, was able to review progress and further potential in an environment provided by one of the world's most successful technology transfer enterprises.

The program provided a rich menu of topics that were highly relevant to big issues in technology transfer including energy, personalised medicine, the development of knowledge parks and the role of the university in regional economic development. The days of universities

as leaders and catalysts in social, economic and environmental development through well educated people and new knowledge are advancing rapidly. The days of the ivory tower are gone. But the need remains for a deep understanding of fundamental principles, appreciation of the frontiers of knowledge and applications to improve life.

A major force in these developments is the commitment of leading research universities to the formation of international citizens, enabling students and staff to participate in global developments, while appreciating the rich diversity of thought, methods and culture around the world. All of these issues received an airing in the discussions with focus and follow up for the next phase in the development of AC21. The collaborative work plans will continue over the next two years, with the exciting prospect of the next forum to be held alongside the Shanghai Expo in 2010.

**John Hearn**  
 Vice-President, International and Professor of Physiology  
 The University of Sydney



With Associate Prof. Simon Wallis  
 (Nagoya University)

## Comment from the General Secretariat

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**Frank Bennett**  
Academic Staff, AC21 General Secretariat  
Nagoya University

It was a great pleasure to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum, and meet with counterparts at North Carolina State University and other institutions worldwide. As the presentations underscored, the theme of the gathering, “University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, is of keen interest to all members of the consortium, both at the level of science and engineering research, and in the strategic planning of university administrations. Because sessions in the second day were streamed, it was not possible to catch all of the presentations, but I found those that I was able to attend to be most stimulating. From

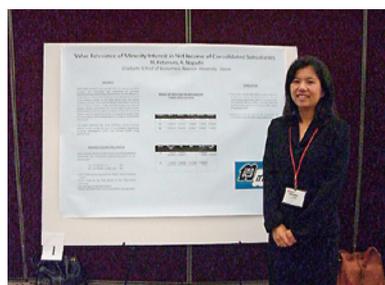
scholarship and exchange programs, through research initiatives, to (in my own case) the nuts and bolts of information technology management, we were treated to a rich menu of comparative experiences to fuel mealtime discussions with counterparts from over a dozen countries. I am sure that I speak for all of the participants in extending my thanks to the staff of NCSU for their hospitality, and for the effort that went into this successful Forum.



## Comment from a student participant

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**Masako Futamura**  
Graduate School of Economics  
Nagoya University



Having been given a great chance to make a research presentation, I visited North Carolina State University for three days, from July 28 to 30. The campus was spacious with a clean and green environment. There I found a lot of portraits and other items associated with researchers, and the exhibition of students' awards also caught my attention.

My research presentation was about “Value Relevance of Minority Interest in Net Income of Consolidated Subsidiaries.” Since no other participants were presenting on accounting or economics, I was worried that my research wouldn't appeal to participants. There were, however, some people including graduate students who were interested in my research and study method. Though it was sometimes

tough for me to explain details of my research to people whose areas of study were totally different, I was glad to present my study at North Carolina State University.

The experience at the AC21 Forum made me feel anew the importance of English as a means of communication. I tried to explain my research in English, which is an unfamiliar language to me, in my ardent desire to make my study understood. Also, at the reception many people including Chancellor of NCSU talked to me in a very familiar way, and they all listened to my English sincerely. As I learned firsthand the importance of English as a tool of communication, I will continue to work hard not only on research but also for improving my English skill.

## AC21 International Forum 2008 AGENDA

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July 27 : Hyatt Hotel, Raleigh

AC21 Steering Committee Meeting

July 28 : NC State McKimmon Center

Forum Opening Session

Keynote Presentation

Presidents' Panel Discussion

Panel Discussion

- University-Industry Partnerships: Automotive Technology
- Institutional Opportunities through International Academic Consortia

July 29 : Panel Discussions

<Theme 1> : International Student and Academic Exchange

- New Models for International Study and Exchange
- Measuring Students Global and Intercultural Competence
- Easing the Transition to Campus for International Students
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities at NC State
- International Service Learning

<Theme 2> : Challenges for Global Higher Education

- Higher Education Leadership Challenges
- Support for Faculty International Activity
- Educating Teachers: National Challenges
- Strategies for Internationalizing the University
- Innovation in Teaching and Learning

<Theme 3> : Innovation and Technology Transfer

- Personalized Medicine
- Technology and Innovation Management
- Universities' Contributions to Economic Development

<CIOs Meeting>

July 30 : NC State McKimmon Center

Plenary Session

Panel Discussion: University Strategies for Globalization

Poster Presentations

- Festival of International Collaborative Research
- Festival of Student Research and Engagement

Closing Session

AC21 General Assembly Meeting



# Toward the 3<sup>rd</sup> AC21 Student World Forum 2009

June 22 – June 27, 2009 in Chemnitz

Katrin Schulz  
Chemnitz University of Technology

**3rd Student World Forum Summer 2009**

**THIRD STUDENT WORLD FORUM**  
Topic: **PRODUCTION - Meeting the Global Challenges**

Chemnitz University of Technology  
Chemnitz, Germany

**June 22 to 27, 2009**

- Seminars
- Excursions
- Sightseeing
- Social Program

**Academic Consortium 21**

CHEMNITZ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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The environment we are living in is in a changing progress. The decrease of natural resources require new methods to save energy and materials. Therefore the main question is: “How can we organize our economy more efficiently to handle the problem of fading resources?” Because of this current trend in the economy, the third Student World Forum cares about the topic “Production in the 21<sup>st</sup> century”.

Our city of Chemnitz is a convenient place to discuss questions about new production principles and methods. In addition, “Energy Efficient

Production” is the bearing research complex at Chemnitz University of Technology.

Chemnitz is the third-largest city in Saxony. This dynamic technology centre is one of the leading industrial locations in Eastern Germany with the main focus on the high-tech sector, mechanical engineering and the motor industry. Important industrial companies such as Siemens, IBM and Volkswagen are located here.

As a participant of the Student World Forum you will get the opportunity to take place in interesting seminars with professors of the

Chemnitz University of Technology and guest professors of remarkable industrial companies to the topic. Furthermore a lot of excursions are planned to companies such as Volkswagen or Porsche. There you will get an impression of modern and innovative production lines. As a special event, you will visit the virtual reality laboratory, one of the world’s leading virtual research centers. You will also go to the driver assistant laboratory, projects with AUDI, and the sports laboratory, where the shoes of the world famous Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher were developed.

Apart from these exciting excursions there is also planned a sightseeing program. You will get to know our city of Chemnitz not only as an important industrial city, but also as a centre of culture. The Chemnitz Art Collections, the Opera House, the Industrial Museum and the Cultural Centre “DASTietz” are famous examples for the cultural variety of the city.

Furthermore, excursions in the surrounding area of Chemnitz are included. You will have the opportunity to experience the beauty of Saxony, by visiting castles, the “Ore Mountains” and of course the capital of Saxony – Dresden.

The highlight of your stay in Chemnitz will be our University Ball. At this big event, professors, students and representatives of industry all come together and having a great party.

As you can see the Chemnitz University of Technology is excited about your stay and is looking forward for your participation at the third Students World Forum in Chemnitz.

## Toward the 5<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum 2010

Liu Shaoxue  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University

At the 4<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum which was held in North Carolina State University, on the 28-30<sup>th</sup> July 2008, the Deputy President Ye Qu Yuan of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) gave a short presentation introducing to all the participants SJTU's preparation for the 5<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum.

According to Deputy President Ye, the 5<sup>th</sup> AC21 International Forum will be held in SJTU on the 26-29<sup>th</sup> October, 2010. The Theme of the forum is "*Competition and cooperation among universities in the age of internationalization*". Since the establishment of the Academic Consortium for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (AC21) in 2002, cooperation among universities has been its vision and purpose. However, in the age of internationalization, universities should be encouraged not only to cooperate but also to compete with each other because without competition, there is no progress. How to balance the competition and cooperation among universities is therefore the main theme for the 2010 Forum.

Three sub-themes are proposed, which include: a) university ranking and the evaluations of higher education; b) graduate education in the age of internationalization and c) building world-class universities in the age of internationalization. The first sub-theme will address the question of how to make

the international university ranking more applicable to different countries and regions. The second sub-theme is to understand more clearly about the graduate education in the 21 century, especially about how to improve the quality of graduate education during its rapid expansion. The third sub-theme is to discuss what contributions should world-class universities make in the age of internationalization, and also how to build world-class universities in developing countries.

The panel discussions would be centered on models of student exchange (including undergraduates and graduate student exchange, international curriculum development, etc.), industrial practice and internships in undergraduate education, relationship and interaction between science parks and universities.

Shanghai is the largest economic, financial, trade and shipping center in China and one of the largest cosmopolitan cities in the world. It is striving to be one of the economic, financial, trade and international shipping centers in the world. The next World Expo will be hosted by Shanghai from May 1 to Oct 31, 2010. Located in Shanghai, SJTU is one of the oldest and leading universities in China. It was founded in 1896 and is now striving to build itself into a world-class university by 2020.



## AC21 Projects

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In September 2007, Nagoya University established a research fund to support collaboration and research which can develop as collaborative research project between AC21 members. The 10 adopted projects showed results with

promotion of international academic exchange between Nagoya University and AC21 members, and some of them were presented at the AC21 International Forum 2008.

## AC21 Thai-Japanese Cross-Cultural Interaction via TV Conference

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<http://www.lang.nagoya-u.ac.jp/AC21/>

**Shigeo Suzuki, School of Languages and Cultures**  
**Naoko Yamada, Education Center for International Students**  
**Joseph Stavoy, School of Languages and Cultures**  
**Nagoya University**



The general purpose of our project is to encourage students to learn and to appreciate how other cultures have impacted their own. They should also come to understand that the historical benefits derived from other cultures can have positive as well as negative consequences. They should learn about these influences through fieldwork at places in their respective countries that still harbor a deep influence from other cultures. Moreover, they are expected to exchange their views on these matters with foreign students through television conferences. The presentation of their views and discussions obviously will not take place in completely flawless, standardized English but in variants of English flavored with the indigenous cultural influences of the students' respective countries.

In the joint project between Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and Nagoya University, groups of three and four students selected topics on Thai-Japanese cultural influences and made a twenty-minute summary of their discoveries. The topic of the Thai students, all of whom study history at graduate school, was the image of Japanese soldiers during World War II among Thai civilians. They argued that through their interactions with Japanese sol-

diers in daily life, rural Thais held the Japanese soldiers in higher esteem than did urban Thais who could read between the lines of Japanese military policies. This impression of Japanese is reflected in the receptive history of Thai reactions to a popular story about a Japanese military officer marrying a Thai girl.

The Japanese group, which consisted of three undergraduates from different departments and one Thai undergraduate who is fluent in English but has a little knowledge of Japanese, discussed the unusual Buddhist temple Nittai, which literally means "Japanese-Thai." This non-sect compound started with the donation of some of Buddha's ashes from the Thai royal family. Through fieldwork and interviews with the abbot and nearby residents, the students found that the holy site has become a market on festival days with no special references to relations between Thailand and Japanese despite promotional efforts of the Thai family through several visits as well as from cultural incentives from the Japanese government.

The teachers from both sides supervised and helped improve the quality of the students' English summary. The students presented their findings via PowerPoint and a TV con-

ference, followed by a thirty-minute discussion between the Thai and Japanese students. It was an amazing experience to see and to

talk with their counterparts even though TV conferences are becoming less fashionable than newer means such as Skype.

## Research on IFRS and Management for Production in Asia

Akihiro Noguchi  
Graduate School of Economics  
Nagoya University

International convergence of accounting standards seems to have major impact on business activities in Asia. This research project was intended to reveal the impact not only on financial reporting practice but also on management accounting practice within the firm.

As for financial reporting, empirical research was conducted with graduate student testing the value relevance of the minority interest in net income (loss) of consolidated subsidiaries following Wakabayashi (2002) and Obinata (2006) using updated data. The result indicates that there is value relevance of minority interest in net income (loss) of consolidated subsidiaries which is consistent with the result of Obinata (2006) and consistent with the requirement of the International Financial Reporting Standard. The paper was submitted for the presentation at the poster session of the AC21 International Forum in July.

Another paper explaining the history and current accounting standard for minority interest in Japan was presented at the Hanoi 2008 International Conference on Business, Economics, and Information Technology on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

As for the research of management accounting in Asia, five accounting faculty members of Nagoya University visited Chulalongkorn University on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was quite productive. There was a discussion about new joint research project about the management accounting in Asia. And also, we really appreciate the hospitality of the faculty members of Chulalongkorn University.

(Acknowledgements)

Financial support from the Nagoya University for the AC21 Related Research Project is gratefully acknowledged.



## University of Sydney: Building a High Profile in China

Nicholas Haskins  
The University of Sydney



In 2008, the eyes of the world will turn to China and the marvellous spectacle of the Beijing Olympic Games. The University of Sydney's focus on China has been fixed for some time now and engagement with our Chinese AC21 partners continues to prosper.

### **Peking University hosts *University of Sydney Day***

On 8 November, 2008, a large delegation of 50 University of Sydney academics and senior executives travelled to China for the inaugural *University of Sydney Day* hosted by Peking University.

The event was enthusiastically supported by both universities as it encouraged the building of stronger relationships in research collaboration, staff and student interaction and mobility and institutional co-operation. The day included research workshops, symposia, campus tours and senior-level meetings with the presidents of both universities. Former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Professor Gavin Brown, presented a public lecture on the future of research universities and of the relationship between Australia and China to a packed audience of staff and students at Peking University's Sunny Hall.

The day proved to be a great success in building the University of Sydney's profile at Peking University and in developing key relationships between the two universities.

### ***Peking University Day* at the University of Sydney**

The success of the *University of Sydney Day* at Peking University has resulted in the University of Sydney offering to return the hospitality of our friends at Peking U.

*The Peking University Day* at the University

of Sydney will take place on 8 October, 2008 and will follow a similar format to the Sydney day at Peking. The day will include workshops on science, economics, business, engineering, arts and health science and will conclude with a public lecture by the President of Peking University, Professor Xu Zhihong, on the topic of "China's Current Development in Higher Education and the Progress and Challenges of Peking University".

### **More *University of Sydney Days* planned with AC21 partners in China**

The *University of Sydney Day* concept has proved so successful that similar events are being planned at other Chinese AC21 partners: Fudan University, on October 16 2008, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, on 17 October 2008.

These days will include research workshops, senior-level meetings and symposiums on cancer research, stem cell science, nursing, paediatric health, and tobacco control.

### **Fudan University partners with University of Sydney to open Confucius Institute**

On 17 June 2008, the Confucius Institute at the University of Sydney was launched with much fanfare.

In front of over 100 guests representing government, academia and business from both China and Australia, the Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, and the Dean of International Culture and Exchange at Fudan University, Professor Zhu Yongsheng, formally opened the first Confucius Institute in the Australian state of New South Wales.

The launch included performances by traditional Chinese artists and the unveiling of an 8-foot tall stone statue of Confucius.

The Confucius Institute at the University of Sydney promotes links between Australia and China and creates a bridge of understanding and friendship between the two countries. The Institute, which takes its name from Confucius, the famous Chinese teacher and thinker, provides a unique insider's view of Chinese culture and traditions and enhances the ability of Australians to better understand their Chinese counterparts, both linguistically and culturally.

Working together with our partners at Fudan, it is anticipated that the institute will become a leading Chinese cultural and language centre in Australia, catering to lifelong learning in Chinese culture and language and influencing the way these subjects are taught in Australian

schools, colleges and universities.

Professor John Hearn, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), said "I am delighted that we are working with our friends at Fudan University in developing a Confucius Institute that will play a significant role as a language and cultural bridge between our countries, as well as facilitating broader research and education links in health, science, business and the humanities".

Working together with our AC21 partners in China, the University of Sydney is firmly committed to the continuous development of our relationship with China. "We are delighted with the results being achieved with our colleagues in China, which bring new knowledge in research and new approaches in teaching", said Professor Hearn. "They also strengthen the friendship and understanding between China and Australia".

## Upcoming AC21 Events

2009	June [TBA]	Third Student World Forum, Chemnitz University of Technology Seventh Steering Committee, Nagoya University
2010	October	Fifth AC21 International Forum, Shanghai Jiao Tong University Eighth Steering Committee, Shanghai Jiao Tong University Fourth General Assembly, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
2011	[TBA]	Fourth Student World Forum, Chulalongkorn University

## AC21 General Secretariat Activities (2008.4 - 2008.9)

2008	April 24	64 <sup>th</sup> AC21 Office Conference
	May 15	Visit to Chulalongkorn University
	May 19	65 <sup>th</sup> AC21 Office Conference
	May 22–23	Presentation in JSPS and National Science Foundation
	May 25–30	Attend NAFSA
	June 20	66 <sup>th</sup> AC21 Office Conference
	June 22–26	IFPU Summer School
	July 11	67 <sup>th</sup> AC21 Office Conference
	August 4	Visit from Chemnitz University of Technology
	September 19	68 <sup>th</sup> AC21 Office Conference



Academic Consortium 21

## AC21 Membership

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### AC21 Members

Chemnitz University of Technology (Germany)  
Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)  
Fudan University (China)  
Gadjah Mada University (Indonesia)  
Huazhong University of Science and Technology (China)  
Jilin University (China)  
Kasetsart University (Thailand)  
Nagoya University (Japan)  
Nanjing University (China)  
National University of Laos (Laos)  
North Carolina State University (U.S.A.)  
Northeastern University (China)  
Peking University (China)  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China)  
The University of Adelaide (Australia)  
The University of Freiburg (Germany)  
The University of Sydney (Australia)  
The University of Warwick (U.K.)  
Tongji University (China)

## AC21 Partners

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Advantage West Midlands  
Asia House  
CHUBU Electric Power Co., Inc.  
ITOCHU Corporation  
NGK Insulators, LTD.  
Toyota Motor Corporation

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