

6th TMDU International Summer Program (ISP2014) Report and Announcement of ISP2015

The International Summer Program (ISP) has proven to be an increasingly important way for TMDU to reach out to the international community and connect with promising students and young researchers in Asia. Through this annual program, TMDU brings approximately 25 students and young researchers to the Yushima campus for four days of lectures, lab visits, cultural and social events, and other activities.

Yoshihiro Ogawa

Professor,
Molecular Endocrinology and
Metabolism, TMDU

David Cannell

Associate Professor,
International Exchange Center,
TMDU

AS OF APRIL 1, 2014, there were 204 international students studying at TMDU, and 28 of them are ISP alumni. With the increasing influence of the ISP Special Selection program, which was introduced as part of ISP2012, we look forward to even deeper integration of the ISP and alumni of the program with our graduate schools and the TMDU community as a whole.

ISP2014 was convened under the leadership of Prof. Kikuo Ohno, the Trustee of Planning/International Exchange. Prof. Yoshihiro Ogawa, Department of Molecular Endocrinology and Metabolism, was chosen to chair the ISP2014 Working Group. The ISP2014 WG included representatives from several departments, especially those involved with ageing and metabolism, in either basic science or clinical applications. The faculty and staff of the International Exchange Center also participated actively in the planning of ISP2014. As one of its first orders of business, the WG finalized the theme, "Ageing and Metabolism", and invited leading researchers such as Professor Domenico Accili of Columbia University (USA), Professor Peter Tontonoz of University of California, Los Angeles (USA), Professor Naoko Ohtani of Tokyo University of

Science (Japan), and Associate Professor Junichi Furuya of Iwate Medical University (Japan), to speak at ISP2014.

As with previous ISPs, ISP2014 featured a two-day Lecture Course, a Poster Session and an International Symposium. ISP2014 also marked the third year for the "ISP Special Selection", which allowed participants to take an entrance examination to enter a Ph.D. program at TMDU, and be considered for a full scholarship upon admission. ISP2014 attracted 61 applications from 17 countries in all. Of these, 25 applicants were selected, representing 17 countries, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore (Iranian nationality), Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

ISP2014 was held 25 to 28 August 2014, along with Professors Accili, Tontonoz, Ohtani, and Associate Professor Furuya, the featured speakers at ISP2014 and several TMDU-based researchers who are conducting leading-edge research in the field. The participants of ISP2014 enjoyed meeting researchers at TMDU, attending the various social functions, visiting labs on campus, and getting to know other invitees and presenters, as well as



attending the presentations that are the core of ISP. In addition, many invitees and TMDU graduate students made poster presentations. Winners of the Best Poster awards were ISP2014 invitees Tselmuun Chinzorig (Mongolia) and Arun Kumar Rajendran (India), and 3rd-year Ph.D. student Maria Jacinta Rosario Hernandez Romero, of the Cariology and Operative Dentistry Department at TMDU, who hails from the Philippines.

At the Social Hour, which was held on the third evening of ISP2014, the participants, speakers, and TMDU faculty and students gathered together at the Faculty Lounge on the top floor of M&D Tower. After President Yoshizawa officially welcomed the participants to the reception, the window shades were raised, revealing the beautiful night view from the 26th floor. Later in the evening the audience was treated to performances by Ochanomizu University students, with comedic skits by the Kyogen Club, and a dance performance by the Japanese Traditional Dance Circle. Everyone enjoyed a night of talking, eating and snapping pictures. The next day was reserved for the ISP Symposium, when the lecturers shared their current research and answered many questions from the invitees, graduate students, and professors in the audience.

The day after ISP2014, the Special Selection participants took an entrance exam for the TMDU

Graduate School. Three successful candidates plan to enter TMDU from 2015, and they are eligible to receive a full scholarship to support their Ph.D. studies. We are glad to report that the feedback from the participants was very positive; for example, 96% of participants marked "Yes" when asked "Would you recommend this program to others?" on the questionnaire that was distributed on the last day of ISP2014.

The seventh annual International Summer Program, ISP2015, will be held 28 August to 3 September 2015, with the re-constructed program. The planning for ISP2015 will be led by Prof. Junji Tagami, the Executive Director/Executive Vice President of Education and International Student Exchange. One innovative change in ISP2015 is a greater focus on laboratory visits, which will provide more chances for the invitees to interact with researchers at TMDU and to learn more about TMDU. As the detailed plans for ISP2015 are made, the information on the International Exchange Center's website will be updated. The website also has links to full information about the first six ISPs, which helps students and young researchers across Asia learn more about this increasingly popular international outreach program and TMDU in general.

<<http://www.tmd.ac.jp/english/international/isp/index.html>>

- ① A participant from Singapore giving his presentation at the ISP2014 Poster Session
② A participant from China asking a question at ISP Symposium 2014
③ Participants at the Social Hour Party

ISP2014 Working Group

Prof. Yoshihiro Ogawa (Chair), Prof. Tetsushi Furukawa, Prof. Yuichi Izumi, Prof. Hajime Karasuyama, Prof. Akinori Kimura, Prof. Kohji Mitsubayashi, Prof. Shunsuke Minakuchi, Prof. Ikuo Morio, Prof. Hiroshi Nishina, Prof. Takashi Ono, Prof. Shoji Yamaoka, Prof. Masayuki Yoshida

ISP2014 speakers and participants at the Social Hour Party in the evening

Tokyo Medical and Dental University

7th International Summer Program (ISP2015)

August 28th-September 3rd at the TMDU campus, Tokyo, Japan

We will provide support to selected students and young scientists from Asia to attend ISP2015 (including airfare and onsite accommodation). Please visit the website for more information.

Organized by: Tokyo Medical and Dental University
To register: Please apply via the International Exchange Center (IEC) website

<http://www.tmd.ac.jp/english/international/isp/isp2015/index.html>

Aug. 28 - Sep.3
ISP2015
(Lab Visit, Mini-lectures, etc.)

Aug. 29 - Aug. 30
Student Symposium



Prof. Yoshihiro Ogawa
(Chair) at the Social Hour party



Project for Promoting Medical and Dental Education and Research in Southeast Asia

The main purposes of the Project for Promoting Medical and Dental Education and Research in Southeast Asia are as follows: (1) Compiling guidelines for harmonizing dental education in Southeast Asia, (2) Providing continuing education opportunities in dentistry, (3) Supplying information on research and education at TMDU, and studying in Japan in general, (4) Providing health education and medical information to Japanese nationals living in Southeast Asia.

Ikuko Morio

DDS, PhD
Director, International
Exchange Center, TMDU

CONCERNING PURPOSE (1) above, a special event, “Development of Dental Education in Asia 2014” was held at TMDU on October 28 to 31, 2014, the third of its kind since 2012, when the project started. The reason for organizing such events was that sharing information and holding discussions among the affiliated universities and related organizations in Southeast Asia

was understood to be highly important to dental schools in this region and to TMDU as well.

The third meeting was rather different from the previous two meetings in terms of participants. This time, TMDU invited participants who were closely related to the ASEAN mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) for dental practitioners in each member nation, rather than from our affiliated universities.

Ten ASEAN-member countries agreed to mutually approve professional licenses, including dental practitioners, by 2015 via the mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) concluded in 2009. The mutual recognition of professional licenses, which has been achieved in the European Union (EU), is also going to become a reality in Asia.

In Japan, new accreditation systems for dental and medical education have recently begun to be introduced. In 2014, a new dental accreditation system, consisting of a self-evaluation and a site visit by external evaluators, started on a trial basis in Japan. As is clear from the fact that the curriculum at TMDU has been constantly reinvented with a sense of responsibility to provide the best undergraduate education at all times, it goes without saying that TMDU has also paid close attention to global trends regarding systems for quality assurance in dental education.

Against this background, TMDU has invited 12 representatives from the ASEAN community to share information and opinions on MRA and also to evaluate TMDU’s dental education from a global perspective.

After the sessions at TMDU, the participants moved to Kanuma City to visit NSK-Nakanishi Japan to discover more about the recent development of dental technology and products in Japan.

Development of Dental Education in Asia 2014

MC: Dr. David Richard Cannell
(International Exchange Center, TMDU)

Opening Address

Professor Junji Tagami
(Executive Director / Executive Vice President of Education and
International Student Exchange)

Introduction of TMDU

“Introduction of Tokyo Medical and Dental University”

Dr. Naoko Seki
(Assistant Professor, Dental Education Development, TMDU)
Dr. Ailreza Sadr
(Junior Associate Professor, International Exchange Center, TMDU)

Keynote Presentation 1

“Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Dental Practitioners: An Update”

Dr. Patrick S K Tseng
(Former Chair, ASEAN Joint Coordinating Committee on Dental Practitioners
(AJCCD) , Chief Dental Officer, Ministry of Health, Singapore)

Keynote Presentation 2

“Free Flow of Dental Services and Professionals: European Union Experiences”

Dr. Suchit Poolthong
(Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)

External Evaluation of TMDU’s Dental Curriculum

Presided by Prof. Junji Tagami, Prof. Keiji Moriyama
(Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences)
and Prof. Sachiko Iseki (Deputy Director, Accreditation and Evaluation)



① Development of Dental Education in Asia 2014 participants at the venue ② Prof. Tagami’s opening address ③ Q&A session ④ Discussion on dental education ⑤ Prof. Moriyama’s opening address at the external evaluation session ⑥ Tour to NSK-Nakanishi Japan

Participating in a Golden Jubilee Celebration at the University of Dental Medicine, Yangon (Myanmar)

ON DECEMBER 27, 2014, the University of Dental Medicine, Yangon, with which our dental school concluded an academic collaboration agreement in 1995, celebrated its 50th anniversary. Prof. Junji Tagami, Executive Director, and other dental professors, current and retired alike, participated in the ceremony and related events held in the university and its vicinity to express our congratulations on their historic event. The immediate past rector of the university is Prof. Thein Kyu, who received TMDU’s first honorary doctoral degree in October, 2014.



Prof. Thein Kyu received a TMDU commemorative plaque from Prof. Junji Tagami