

[Name of project] (Adopted year: FY2012, Category I)

Inter-university Exchange Program toward Medical and Dental Networking in Southeast Asia.

[Aim of project, Ideals of Global Human Resource on the project] To nurture young educators, researchers, and medical practitioners who can independently assume leadership roles in the medical and dental fields.

[Summary of project] With the aim of strengthening Japan's global presence in the fields of medicine and dentistry, Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU) will form a consortium with Chulalongkorn University (CU), Srinakharinwirot University (SWU), University of Indonesia (UI), the University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City (UMP), the University of Sydney (US), and the University of Melbourne (UM), establishing a network based on Japan's strengths in areas such as medical and dental technology, materials, and equipment.

■ Forming the University Network with Quality Assurance

○ Foundation for Inter-university exchange

CU, SU, UI, UMP, US and UM are major universities and leaders in research and education in the fields of medicine/dentistry in Southeast Asia and Oceania. TMDU has enjoyed academic ties with these universities for more than 10 years, and conducted this project to improve each institution.

Dental training program (Inbound)



○ Achievements of the international students

TMDU is the first institution nation-wide in the health care system (Medical and Dental fields), and has 277 international students (as of FY 2016). The environment and facilities to educate the foreign students are well equipped.

○ Guarantee of the quality of the exchange program

For the inbound program, the students with excellent grades are selected by dean's recommendation, in reference to their GPA. For the outbound program, document review, an English interview by the native teachers, and an interview by the Japanese teachers, along with a written examination, is performed for the selection. In addition, the students of the Medical, Dental, and Oral health departments that participate in the outbound program, receive credit recognition, as part of the system implemented in the program. For the inbound students, the two universities of Thailand give credit recognition at the end of the program.

■ Contents of the Programs, Preparation for the Start of the Programs

Global retreat held in Japan



○ Exchange programs for students

Both undergraduate and graduate students were target of the exchange program. The students under the guidance of Japanese or overseas teachers, have basic research training, hospital visits, research day participation, community health field training, e-learning training, tours to medical-related companies, and mutual exchange between students as part of the program. In addition, a global retreat for group work and cultural exchange, including bed and food, was held in Japan; students and teachers of five universities of the four countries participated for a better international understanding and academic exchange.

○ Seminar and Global retreat held in the international academic meetings

The international academic meetings, such as seminars and symposiums, were carried out in 2016 for four times in Japan and overseas, with the purpose of improving the knowledge and skills of undergraduate students, graduate students and young researchers.

■ Student-Mobility

○ Outbound

In the School of Medicine, 7 students went to Thailand; in the School of Dentistry, 14 students went to Thailand, 9 to Indonesia, 5 to Vietnam and 7 to Australia; in the graduate school, one student went to Thailand, 4 to Indonesia, 6 to Vietnam, and one to Australia, in order to receive the training program.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Outbound	19	58	50	43	54
Inbound	25	36	38	40	42

○ Inbound

2 undergraduate medical students, 2 health care students, and 6 graduate students from Thailand were invited by the Faculty of Medicine; during the same period, and a total of 30 undergraduate students from Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam were invited by the Faculty of Dentistry to participate in the TMDU Dental Program for two weeks..

■ Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

○ Incorporation of the international programs in the curriculum

During the acceptance period of overseas students, the international exchange program is incorporated in the curriculum; the 2nd, 3rd, 4th-year students of the Dental Department participate in the international symposium, also the 4th and 5th-year students of the Dental Department participate in the Research Day, for motivation of the international exchange of the entire School of Dentistry students.

○ Improvement of the scientific terminology training materials

The revised "Five languages Dental Glossary" and a basic conversation collection of Thai, Indonesian and Vietnamese phrases for use during the training were distributed to the inbound and outbound students, to encourage the common understanding of the scientific terminology and cross-cultural understanding between the students of each country.

■ Internationalization of the university Information disclosure and Publication of outcome

○ Improvement of the English language skills of faculty members

By conducting English pedagogy crash course held by an external lecturer, the implementation of mini-lectures in English, and the organization of seminars on foreign culture, the young teachers could strengthen and improve their English language skills.

○ Visualization of the content of education, dissemination of the outcomes

All information related to this program has been updated in the TMDU website in both Japanese and English to publicize the activities and program details of the FY2016. TMDU also produced and distributed leaflets on this project, submitted the scientific paper about the results of this project to the international journal.