

Integration of topic 2 and closure: Shinobu Sato (University of Tsukuba)

1. Closing remarks for International Symposium on New Directions in Higher Education for the Development of Global Human Resources. Launching the AIMS programme in Japan.
2. First of all I would like to thank you very much all participants for your participation. I am Professor Sinobu Sato, Chair of the Educational Planning Office at the University of Tsukuba.
3. I was very interested in the topics of today as to incorporate your experiences in the internationalization of our educational system with your practical concerns and positive points.
4. While Tsukuba has fully English competitive undergraduate degree programs and over four hundred courses taught in English including the custom made classes for short term visiting students, we recognize the need to further elaborate the educational system by matching with the diverse requirements of the international students coming for various missions.
5. Especially, now we have rapid increase of the short term visiting students every year, and those students are likely stay for one academic semester for specific course credits or internships.
6. Particularly, yet there are key points we must arrange with the international partner universities such as the course content matching, academic year starting and course period, etc.
7. These are key issues to speed up and guarantee the quality of the international student mobility.
8. Today we shared the topics of the student mobility, especially undergraduate student mobility in Southeast Asia, which illustrate the implementation schemes of the short term student exchange.
9. Now, Japan is participating in AIMS in Southeast Asia, and seven programs with eleven Japanese universities are members of the AIMS.

10. AIMS has activities over seven educational fields: they are Food Science, Agriculture, International Business, Language & Culture, Tourism & Hospitality, Economics and Engineering.
11. Depending on each Japanese program, the participating subjects are different, but I recognize common issues to sort out with our Southeast Asia partner universities such topics as I mentioned on the course content, credit hour and timing of the student movement during one academic year and so on.
12. While Japanese universities provided the outlines of their planning today, we must learn from the AIMS initiative on how to integrate Japanese efforts into overall AIMS goals, at first by having more implementation discussion on the course issues by face to face.
13. Needless to say, the campus life is another cardinal issue for the students, and sharing the experiences on the student support is essential.
14. For tomorrow, I would like to invite all international partner universities with University of Tsukuba, for the discussion on the implementation as a group, and also upon specific needs of individual program to the counterpart program arrangements.
15. Also another group who may be interested in SEAMEO activities, there will be another separate session in the University and you are welcome to be in the discussion.
16. At last, on behalf of the University of Tsukuba I would like to thank you very much for your participation and future collaborations.
17. Thank you very much.