

Minutes of 2016 Steering Committee Meeting

Annual steering committee meeting 2016

Time: November 12th, 2016, 12:10 pm ~ 14:10 pm

Venue: Conference Room B2, Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Hotel, Tainan, Taiwan

Chairperson: Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su

President, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Secretary General: Prof. Cheng-Hung Huang

Executive Vice President, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Executive Secretary: Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang

Vice President for International Affairs, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Steering Committee Member Representatives:

INDIA

1. Dr. Subhasis Chauduri

Deputy Director, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

INDONESIA

2. Dr. Ir. Edwan Kardena

Director of Partnership and International Relations, Institut Teknologi Bandung

3. Dr. Dian Ekowati

Head of International Office and Partnership, Universitas Airlangga

MALAYSIA

4. Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah

Vice Chancellor, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

5. Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman

Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Malaya

PHILIPPINES

6. Dr. Myrna Quinto

Vice President for Academic Development, Far Eastern University

7. Dr. Grace C. Ramos

Director, Office of International Linkages, University of the Philippines

SINGAPORE

8. Prof. Er Meng Hwa

Vice President (International Affairs), Nanyang Technological University

TAIWAN

9. Prof. Jiun-Huei Protty Wu

Deputy Vice President for International Affairs, National Taiwan University

THAILAND

10. Dr. Pattara Aiyarak

Vice President for Global Relations, Prince of Songkla University

VIETNAM

11. Dr. Nguyen Duc Nghia

Vice President, Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City

12. Dr. NGUYEN KIM SON

President, Vietnam National University, Hanoi

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm accompanied by lunch banquet.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su extended a warm welcome to all the members and started by introducing special representative from Mayor Lai of Tainan city who liked to explore potential options for further educational collaboration with respective universities and countries in the near future.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su highlighted the niche of educational system in Taiwan by emphasizing that Tainan has a few dozen universities and largest percentage of educational fields from science and technology compared to the rest of country. The city strength also comes from having science and technology parks supported by the ministry of science and technology and ministry of economic affairs. Quite a few institutions including NCKU had incubation centers and academia industrial platforms to facilitate research initiatives and training programs which provided direct link between industrial and academic sectors. She quoted an example from visiting ambassador who curated strategic platform to mobilize and increase collaboration between universities in terms of industry partnerships so that students had the opportunity to go abroad, experienced and participated in industry sector through internships or arrangements.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su apologized for being unable to attend some of SATU activities due to NCKU 85th birthday. She mentioned that events were deliberately held at the same time to increase the level of engagement in which she was continuously updated of recent developments. She also thanked the committee members for their friendships and participation in SATU as well as further elaborated the willingness to further discuss with partner universities on potential module regarding first batch of program which she already informed the ministry about budget feasibility and local support. Consequently, she fully encouraged the idea of bringing together youth generations across South East Asia higher institutions into single virtual space platform or module where they could have meaningful exercises

and regional competitions every year. She cited examples of SATU platform business competition in Mahidol university and workshop program in NCKU for senior students who came up with their research proposal afterwards. The point was to create affordable new modules and different possibilities for students. She welcomed any suggestions from partner universities regarding new modules to be proposed in SATU platform.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang mentioned the lack of interest from member universities in video meeting and briefly went through the 2016 steering committee representatives as per Annex 1.

Each institution representative gave a brief self-introduction and what to accomplish from the event.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri stated that there are regular student competitions in India but lack of collaboration between student activities in India and in global context, therefore he expressed full cooperation with SATU platform.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su appreciated his opinion and added that there were still efforts to be made and things to be improved. She then invited Dr. Subhasis Chauduri to provide more wisdoms from India's perspective in executing processes which could better serve young students.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri added that students from India were career oriented and it was necessary to provide some sort of motivation or reward for their experiences.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su further mentioned that students were able to gain solid confidence from their engagements and highly sought after through their research efforts which linked to learning, education and team spirit for potential entrepreneurship opportunity.

Dr. Ir. Edwan Kardena stated the importance of student mobility and cooperation within SMART program especially in biotechnology field.

Dr. Dian Ekowati stressed the necessity to fulfil students need by having appropriate place to learn and develop outside universities.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah supported the idea of student mobility and also had plans to engage in more cooperation with Taiwan universities. He emphasized the importance of follow up.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su shared her ideas concerning logistic matters involved and level of financial situation expected from respective institutions as she wanted the location areas be made available for hands on activities to happen together. It was also the core value of SATU platform.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman expressed wonderful experiences from attending SATU events and showed her support for SATU vision and programs.

Dr. Nguyen Thi Anh Thu appreciated good efforts and initiatives from NCKU as a platform for student activities. Her university encouraged international mobility of students but the result was not as good as expected due to lack of courses taught in English.

Dr. Myrna Quinto acknowledged the importance international student mobility and suggested that members would share the different activities with one another, for example conferences, visiting scholars, etc.

Dr. Grace C. Ramos emphasized the need for internationalization and also proposed for collaboration within SATU to be more strategic, pertinent to strength of each member universities so as better complement one another through aligning and identifying key programs and research agendas.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su added that gathering all the comments would be necessary to experiment with them in producing desired results.

Prof. Er Meng Hwa said that SATU had become a more structured network along the years which linked Taiwan and South East Asia universities together. Aside from NCKU and NTU, SATU could serve as platform to reach out to the rest of universities in Taiwan. He affirmed the idea of mobility as a way for students to interact in cultural learning challenges but commented that it should be available to multilateral institutions. Beyond mobility, SATU could also promote other type of activities to attract younger generation of researchers, such as the use of certain research themes, organized research academy for undergraduate students to share their project proposals and competitions as well as promoted interaction between students through different host countries.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su echoed her support to the approach taken by Prof. Er Meng Hwa. She mentioned that it had always been SATU's goal to increase scale of membership through participation from countries such as Myanmar, Brunei, Laos and Cambodia in the near future. These institutions which were interested in becoming a member would be reviewed by steering committees through taking appropriate measures and later to be formally adapted to organization. She extended her plead for members to continue identifying potential universities for inclusion into SATU. Then, she specified that the focus on building momentum for young generation should be maximized through joint research networks and programs, particularly resource supports from member universities in terms of sponsorship for student groups to move around. Some of the suggested themes to be focused on included biotechnology, technology, policy, social aspects and energy related programs.

Prof. Jiun-Huei Protty Wu on behalf of NTU recognized and understood the importance of SATU platform, however he lamented the lack of active participation from other Taiwan universities. His suggestion was to conduct survey for choosing topic of common interests which would also be a challenge for organizing committees to provide incentives. He added that size limitation of SATU could provide some sort of networking benefit in the way members got to know each other well.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su said that during the past few months, Taiwan government had been strongly engaging ministries and local universities in the New Southbound Policy to push interaction and cooperation between Taiwan and South East Asia nations. She reiterated that SATU had always been a sharing platform to design new modules with partner institutions regardless of their presences.

Dr. Pattara Aiyarak mentioned that Taiwan had given him different perspectives in terms of education, environment, food, etc. which in overall was positive. He indicated that problems would arise when there are too many members and the need to set up certain criteria or specific requirements for new member. He also suggested to promote more research schemes at SATU networks in the future.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su vowed to keep the diversity and strengthen the interaction among SATU members.

Dr. Nguyen Duc Nghia expressed his approval towards accepting members from Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos while increasing the outbound and inbound exchange students from other countries as well.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang briefly presented the approval of steering committee meeting minutes last year in ITB, followed by implementation of membership fee.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su added that secretariat expenditures would normally have to borne by universities to cover minimum expenses during steering committee assemblies.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang briefly presented the SATU joint research scheme and highlighted that as many as 24 projects were hosted during 2016. He hoped the number would grow even more in the future.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su approved general consensus that young scholars need to be supported further by affirming that NCKU would offer extra research network schemes for junior faculty members.

Prof. Cheng-Hung Huang commented that survey regarding common research interest among member institutions was already incorporated in SATU joint research scheme and suggested to host one or more research topics by forming groups for research schemes as well as recorded the research output performances and cited SATU in the acknowledgements.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su expressed her excitement towards joint research projects and further added that general survey could offer information to increase the diversity concerning the type of potential university.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang proposed to enhance the quality of joint research schemes by using awards and recognition.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su totally agreed with the idea.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman stated that there could be difficulty in dissemination of SATU information outcomes and suggested to gather them in single platform such as website.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su recognized the difficulty and pointed that turnover of managing staffs was the ultimate challenge as there were too many mails and information to be taken care of. However, she was proud of quick outcome from joint research schemes as a result of asking every steering committees in specific institution to identify coordination office or name of the person in charge.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah asked about the feasibility of conducting tourism and security researches which might be useful for community in joint research scheme.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su urged member institutions to put out the information on different subjects.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah mentioned that according to his student, topic on tourism was not available on SATU.

Prof. Cheng-Hung Huang clarified that although there was interest in the research topic but no other universities would want to become a host, therefore it was unlikely to happen.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su implied that members could help to bring forward the topic so as to improve communication and coordination within SATU joint research scheme.

Dr. Dian Ekowati asked whether each university could host and submitted different kind of research proposals.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su replied that member institutions were free to sponsor and facilitate research projects as long as they covered the cost whilst setting up priority on how many proposals every year. Then, she emphasized the involvement from at least 3 institutions or above.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman asserted that at the moment most of projects were engineering related and hoped to take advantage of SATU platform in conducting more researches on cross cultural or regional projects.

Dr. Pattara Aiyarak added the necessity to set up a specific brand theme for SATU related activities, for example SATU Energy so that it could be easily recognized on top of fostering stronger collaboration with industrial partners. He supported the idea of sharing resources to cover related expenses associated with research schemes.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su quoted logistics challenges for upcoming SMART program, especially the difficulty in allocation of resource funding between member countries.

She expressed her concern regarding financial matters for the first batch of SMART talent program and stated that it would be better if collaborative institutions played a role in sharing the commitment. She continued by revealing that this year NCKU would offer themes on social and economic in South East Asia mobility and interaction which focused on social aspect and offered fully in English.

Prof. Er Meng Hwa proposed that SATU areas of research should not be too diverse and needed to focus on interdisciplinary projects in addressing the shortfall of resources.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman agreed with the idea.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su also agreed with the general consensus to prioritize solid interdisciplinary education.

Prof. Jiun-Huei Protty Wu called for the decision on theme and topic ideas prior to the next conference by steering committee, along with research proposals and survey results to be presented in the next steering committee meeting.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri highlighted the necessity to display information about SATU activities for performance assessment.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su acknowledged the idea and conveyed her intention in generating summary or fact sheet to let new and existing members aware of current situations.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang presented the next motion: an initiative about student learning mobility and regional collaboration through SATU platform, which focused on implementation through 4 proposed actions.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su intended to kick off the coordination and logistics issues by making the modules available to other member universities in which SATU secretariat office would circulate the proposals.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri inquired whether students had to be originated from SATU member universities.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su replied that for the time being, they had to be from SATU member universities.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri asked if there were any other programs like ERASMUS in Taiwan or other countries.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman mentioned that her university had similar program.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su stated that NCKU would prioritize ERASMUS-like program on South East Asia countries and India.

Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman added that SATU should create its own framework

module and subsequent programs must rely on the same framework so that they would be coherent.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su replied that she had already identified experienced faculty network as contact point to run extensive discussion on ERASMUS program, which was the main reason behind the proposal. Once settled in SATU platform, other institutions were able to revise the experiences.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang gave a brief overview of themes and date for 2017 steering committee meeting.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su reminded Prof. Jiun-Huei Protu Wu that steering committee would be held every year and SATU forum once every 2 years. Steering committee in 2017 would discuss the theme for 2018 forum.

Dr. Pattara Aiyarak proposed his university to be the host for next steering committee meeting and wanted to know if only committee members were allowed to become a host.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah also proposed to be the host for next steering committee meeting.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su thanked the generosity and kindness from different institutions, explaining that steering committee members would discuss the proposals, analyzed the situation and considered background plausibility for final decision.

Dr. Pattara Aiyarak mentioned that next year it would coincide with the 50th anniversary of his university.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su thanked the generosity of partner institutions to be the host.

Dr. Ir. Edwan Kardena and Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah proposed the date of 2017 steering committee meeting to be either October 27 – 28 or October 29 - 30.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang presented a brief overview of provisional themes for 2017 annual steering committee meeting.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su reminded that before the meeting, member universities could come up with some information or accomplishments to be combined together.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang also reminded member universities to submit their own themes through SATU secretariat.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su elaborated that the design and awareness of educating students were quite different from university to university in the region and it could serve as platform to collect experiences which relied on member institutions to come up with relevant information.

Dr. Myrna Quinto stated the possibility for research topics to be merged together.

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su added that there were many complicated issues for students especially in industrial sites and it should be realistically dealt with, for example visa, payment, insurance, etc. These predicaments characterized and illustrated global qualitative and quantitative composition effects.

Dr. Subhasis Chauduri proposed the theme of global competence through international internship.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang expressed his appreciation to a professor from University of Malaya with regards to joint presentation by SATU in EAIE Liverpool 2016.

Prof. Yueh-Min Ray Huang mentioned about special platform for medical device researches and 2 sub-committees to clarify the question from representative of the Philippines.

Adjournment

Prof. Huey-Jen Jenny Su adjourned the meeting at 14:10 pm.