Re-Inventing Japan Project

Tokyo Institute of Technology CAMPUS Asia Pilot Program

Project Name: TKT CAMPUS Asia Consortium

Year adopted: FY2011, Type A-1

Summary:

This project provides a research-oriented education program conducted in cooperation with Tsinghua University and the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST). The project provides a framework for the recognition and evaluation of the quality of both coursework and research through (1) programs for undergraduate and graduate students built around core curriculum courses and laboratory experiments; and (2) a research-focused education program aimed at graduate students.

■ Project Aim and Global Human Resource Ideals

O Development of global human resources with in-depth knowledge in the fields of science and technology

The project aims to develop human resources who will become global leaders. Such human resources will have in-depth knowledge in the fields of science and technology and will be active, international leaders in academia, industry, government and other organizations. To achieve this objective, the project offers start-to-finish career guidance that begins with motivating students.

■ Forming a University Network with Quality Assurance

O Approach to the assurance of quality

The project's basic approach is to construct a system that allows participating students to effectively learn through coursework, with partner universities verifying each other's quality assurance systems. Toward that end, the project has established a joint committee and is working toward the assurance of quality.

O Recognition of credits, management of grades, and student considerations

With regard to individual participants in the program, the project has constructed a system, in which (a) participating universities exchange Study and Research Plans/Records, and (b) students engage in coursework under the guidance of academic advisors before and during the exchange period as well as after returning to their home countries. Moreover, grade management takes place through the issuing of transcripts. For students from partner universities, Tokyo Institute of Technology provides English-language information, such as a coursework guide, before their arrival in Japan. Upon arrival, the Institute takes responsibility for their academics through steps such as the appointment of academic advisors and tutors.

O Development of a framework for higher-level exchange

While still in the development stages, in the near future the project is expected to include programs of a more advanced nature, such as dual degree programs. In addition, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tsinghua University, and KAIST have been working with the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Nanyang Technological University in a university consortium called the ASPIRE League. The project will go beyond its current exchanges and quality assurance and include exchanges between technical universities in Asia such as ASPIRE League member universities. At the same time, the project is also improving the quality of its exchanges with major US universities and with the universities in the IDEA League, a consortium of top European technical universities.

Summer Program students in group work

■ Making Educational Content Visible

O Web-based provision of information and development of outstanding human resources

In implementing the program, the Institute has established a unique website associated with the existing Tokyo Institute of Technology English website and partner universities' websites, providing information to a wide demographic community extending beyond participating students. Moreover, to assist partner universities with the possibility of credit transfers, the Institute uses Study and Research Plans/Records as well as a grade management system showing strong commonalities between partner universities.

Promotion of a Student-Friendly Environment for International Exchange

O Preparations to support outgoing Japanese students

The project has established an English intensive course to boost the language skills of students wishing to study abroad. It also academically advises students through the appointment of study abroad advisors at each partner university. While studying abroad, the project offers academic consultation and advice by email on everyday living, as well as advice by career advisors.

O Support structure for incoming international students

In addition to posting program content on its website, the project is working toward the smooth acceptance of international students through close communication with partner universities. While in Japan, international students are provided with Tokyo Institute of Technology tutors (students in related fields), advice from career advisors, and 24-hour counseling.

■ Student Mobility

O Outgoing Japanese students

In fiscal year 2013, the project sent 4 students to Tsinghua University and 5 students to KAIST (for a total of 9 students).

O Incoming international students

In fiscal year 2013, the project received 8 students from Tsinghua University and 8 students from KAIST (for a total of 16 students).

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Accepted number in Japan	0	C7, K8	C8, K8	C5, K5	C5, K5
Accepted number in China	0	J4, K5	J4, K6	J5, K5	J5, K5
Accepted number in Korea	0	C5, J7	C22, J6	C5, J5	C5, J5

Note: FY2011-2013 results; FY2014 -2015 forecast