

Top Global University Project (Type B) NAIST

1. Outline

【Name of project】

NAIST Global³ : cultivating Global leaders through Global standard graduate education on a Global campus

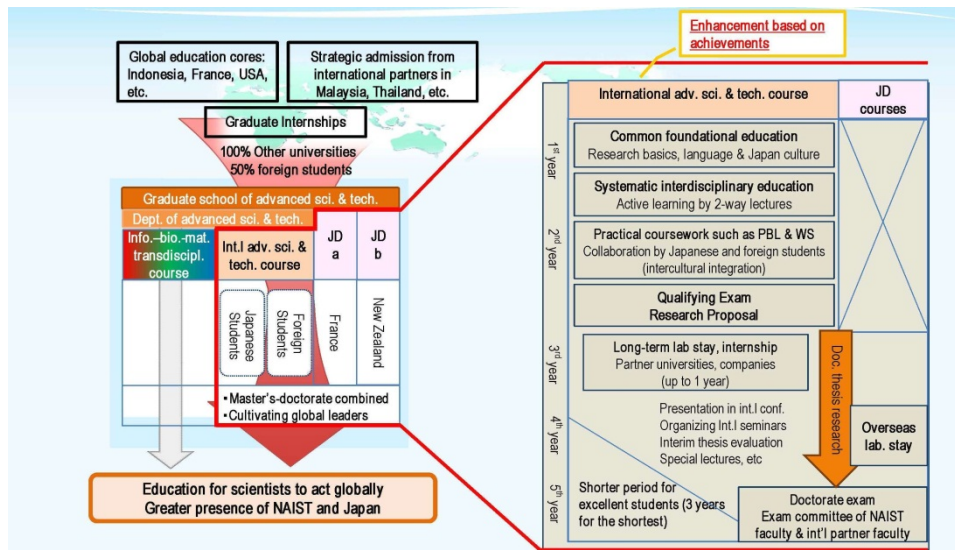
【Future vision of the university planned in Top Global University project】

NAIST Global³ is a motto to (1) establish an international degree program for Global leaders, (2) develop a graduate educational model for high Global standard research, and (3) promote interdisciplinary education at Global campus with culturally diverse faculty, staff, and students.



【Summary of project】

NAIST will strive for global excellence in graduate education for advanced science and technology, specifically in three fields: Information Science, Biological Sciences, and Materials Science. Our current structure of three graduate schools will be merged into one integrated framework for advanced interdisciplinary education and research. Also, an international graduate program for advanced science and technology (5-year degree program) will be established. The program will offer a joint degree program with universities abroad. NAIST faculty and staff will benefit from faculty and staff development programs overseas. A support center for international students and researchers will become an integral part of the global campus for diverse faculty, staff, and students.



【Summary of the 10-year plan】

● Satellite Offices and Research Centers Overseas

Global education and research centers will be situated in East Asia (Indonesia), North America (California), and Europe (France). Fulltime staff will support career development for international students as well as research and educational activities, in the surrounding areas and neighboring countries.

● Japanese Language and Cultural Immersion at NAIST

All international students at NAIST will be required to take Japanese language classes and an introductory Japanese culture class. Campus activities (e.g., Japanese language partners, tutoring, host families, cultural activities) will encourage international students to become more familiar with Japanese language and culture.

● Unifying the three existing graduate schools into one integrated framework

Our present structure of three graduate schools will be merged into one integrated framework. This transition will allow advanced interdisciplinary education and research to respond to the current needs of the times. Also, an international program for advanced science and technology (5-year degree program) will be established.

● Joint Degree Programs with International Partners

In addition to continuing and enforcing our double degree programs, our international programs for advanced science and technology (5-year degree program) will offer joint degree programs with universities abroad. Also, studying abroad for one-year and overseas internships will be required.

● English Use on Campus

Students can fulfill all degree requirements either in Japanese or in English under this new integrated framework at NAIST. Also, all documents, from university standards and regulations to cafeteria menus, will be translated in English.

● University Education Administrators (UEA)

UEA of the Institute for Education Initiatives will support systematic curriculum development, coordination with national and international educational / research institutions, and career development.

● Support Center for International Students and Scholars at NAIST

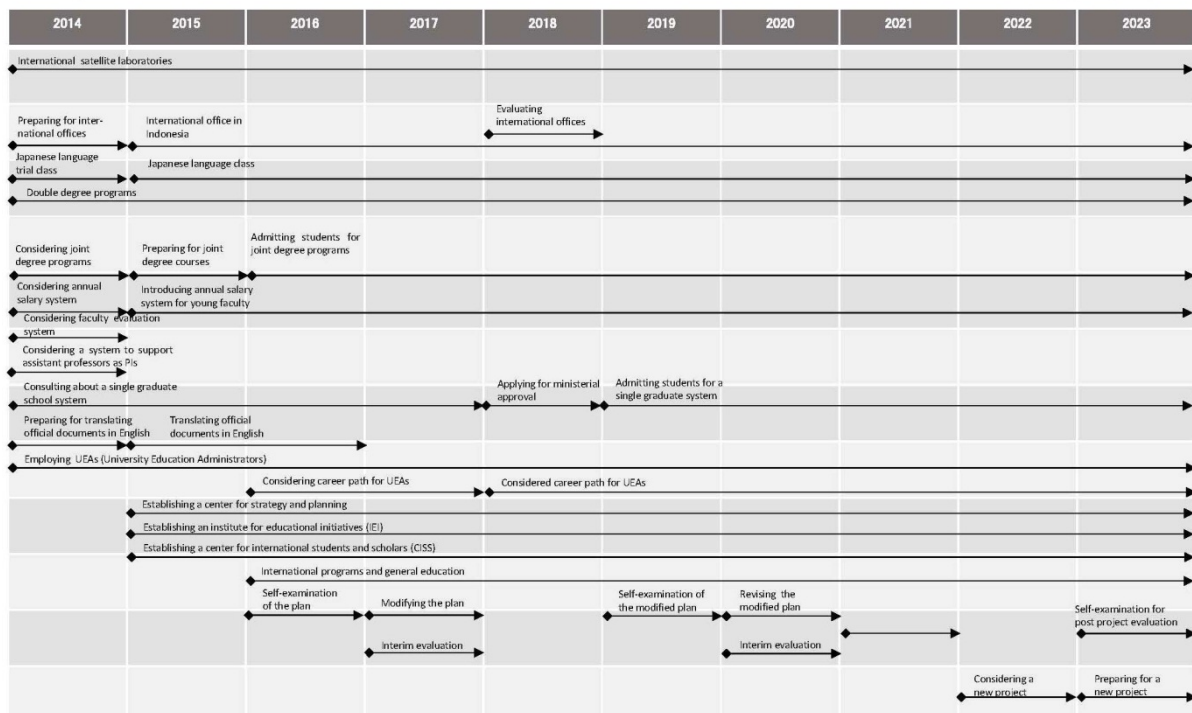
For a global campus, the Center will be established to assist international students and researchers with their private and academic lives.

【Featured initiatives (Internationalization, University reform, Education reform)】

With graduate programs only, NAIST can develop interdisciplinary educational programs in advanced science and technology with a vision to contribute our education and research to the world. Institutional assessment for education and research practices and accomplishments, based on the PDCA guidelines, is used to ensure the quality of NAIST education and research. A strategic committee led by the president envisions NAIST education and research in the next few decades.

10-year* schedule

* Japanese fiscal year



2. FY2014 Progress

■ Common indicators and targets

Internationalization

● NAIST Top Global University Project Kick-off Symposium

In March 2014, NAIST hosted a symposium to discuss global trends in graduate education in the areas of advanced science and technology. Diverse speakers from affiliated universities gave lectures on global issues surrounding internationalization in higher education.

● English Version of the University Guidebook

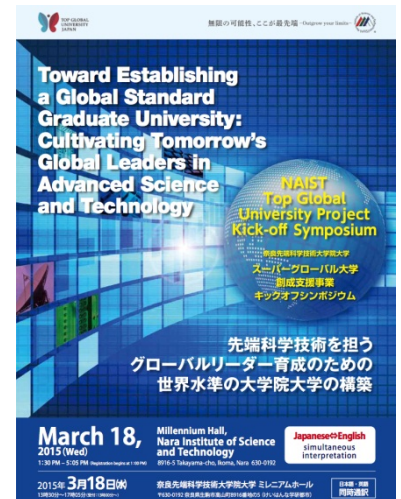
An English version of the University Guidebook is key in recruiting international students. The English guidebook was sent to NAIST's partner and related institutions, and widely distributed at various Study-in-Japan and Study-at-NAIST fairs.

● International collaborative education programs

Joint degree program feasibility was examined in accordance with the related ministerial act. The final consultation was made in January 2015 to seal a double-degree program agreement with Unitec in New Zealand in May 2015.

● Overseas Staff Development Seminar

An overseas staff development seminar and English conversation classes were held to strengthen organizational capacity to support the globalizing of education and research.



University reform

● Establishment of the Center for Strategy and Planning

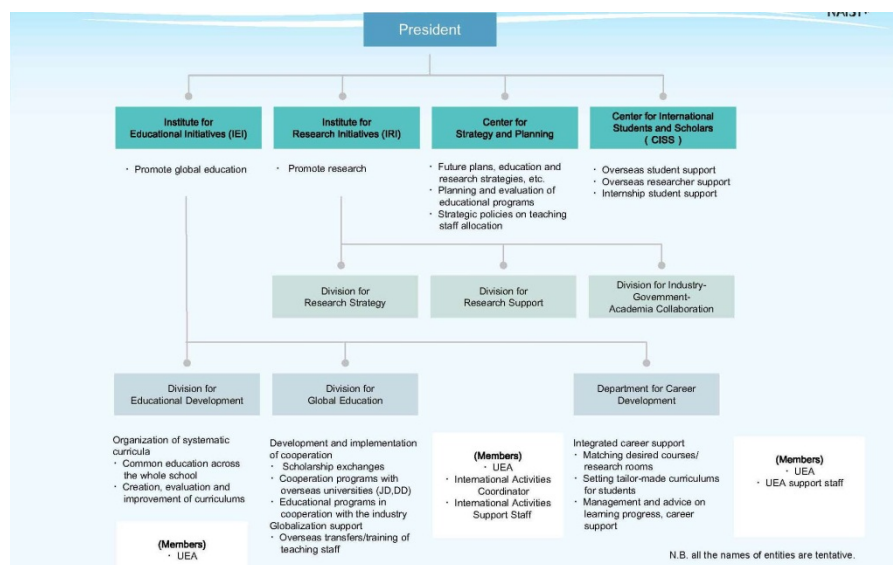
The Center for Strategy and Planning is placed immediately under the leadership of the President to unify planning of the future framework of university establishment systems and education and research strategies. The Center for Strategy and Planning operates as the headquarters for university management and institutional governance reformation through planning and evaluation of educational programs, and strategic policies on teaching staff allocation.

● Organizing the Institute for Educational Initiatives (IEI) and Institute for Research Initiatives (IRI)

IEI has been set up to promote program planning and evaluation, and support education in order to cultivate global graduate education. IRI has been set up to support institutional research put forth in *The Program for Promoting the Enhancement of Research Universities*. Both are placed under the leadership of the President, closely connected with each other.

● URAs & UEAs

University Research Administrators (URAs) analyze national and international trends of interdisciplinary research in the fields of science and technology. URAs also take part in expanding international networks for joint research. University Education Administrators (UEAs) engage in assessment of students' aptitude, curriculum development and teaching evaluation, academic and career support for students, and exploration of potential partnerships with academic institutions abroad.



Education reform

● Overseas Faculty Development Seminar

Newly appointed faculty at NAIST participated in the Overseas Faculty Development Seminar at the University of California, Davis, in October. The participants experienced how to incorporate active learning into their curriculum to meet students' diverse needs. Such pedagogical support is the groundwork for preparing a quality learning environment as the top-level graduate institution.

● Improved Japanese Language Proficiency of International Students

Japanese classes for 2015 at elementary and intermediate levels are under preparation. Language lessons are an integral part of successful student life for international students. Japanese language acquisition and communication skills are necessary for finding employment at Japanese companies in Japan or overseas.

● Improved English Language Proficiency of Japanese Students

The core competence expected of Japanese master's students includes acquiring skills to comprehend research articles published in English, as well as lectures and seminars delivered in English. Doctoral students are expected to present their research in English, and to acquire negotiation and trouble-shooting skills. TOEIC is used as a measure to evaluate and monitor students' English proficiency.

■ University's own indicators and targets

● Globalization concerning campus regulations

NAIST initiated use of English in internal conference reports (conference titles only) and notification letters at all three graduate schools in 2014. This change encourages attendance of international faculty members at meetings. English versions of campus standards and regulations are under preparation.

● International environment promotion

NAIST further facilitated globalization in the cafeteria area, having English menus and installing a HALAL food section in the union store for our international students and researchers from diverse backgrounds.



■ Featured initiatives based on the characteristics of the university

● Career support for international students in Japanese firms

The number of NAIST's international students (doctoral course) hired by Japanese enterprises exceeded 30%.

● Career support for international students returning home

The number of NAIST's international graduates (doctoral course) hired as faculty in their home countries exceeded 20%.



■ Free description

● NAIST was featured in Science magazine

NAIST was featured in the prestigious Science magazine showcasing the "Top Global University Project" to enhance globalization and international recognition. (magazine: March 27/ad banner: March1-31)



3. FY2015 Progress

■ Common indicators and targets

Internationalization

○ Overseas Education Collaborative Office in Indonesia

NAIST opened its first Overseas Education Collaborative Office in Bogor, Indonesia. As an Asian hub, the office will strengthen NAIST's international presence with objectives of improving recruitment and selection of international students, furthering relations with partner institutions and corporations, and promoting collaborative education and research with NAIST alumni in Indonesia and surrounding areas.



〈Opening of Indonesia Office〉

○ The 2nd Top Global University Project Symposium

NAIST hosted the “Challenges and Opportunities: Graduate Education in Science and Technology towards Global Engagement” symposium with keynote speakers from the National Science Foundation (USA), European Commission, and A*STAR Graduate Academy (Singapore). The symposium explored issues facing graduate education today in cultivating students' qualities for tomorrow's science and technology.



〈Symposium Program〉

○ Educational Collaboration with Domestic Partner

NAIST signed a memorandum of understanding with International Christian University (ICU in Japan) to strengthen collaborations in global education for science and technology.

○ Staff Development

The Overseas Staff Development Program (Hawaii Tokai University) and a series of English conversation classes were held as part of the staff's professional development. Improved English proficiency and administrative skills will support campus globalization.

University reform

○ Structural Reform

The Center for Strategy and Planning led by the President initiated reform movements concerning institutional management and governance. The Institute for Educational Initiatives promoted efforts towards program planning, evaluation, and support of global graduate education.

○ UEAs

International development University Education Administrators (UEAs) furthered global education support planning and the implementation of international partnerships, and faculty/staff development programs, etc. The appointment of UEAs for career/curriculum development to engage in career support, students' professional aptitude assessment, curriculum development, and evaluation and improvement of teaching effectiveness

○ Support for International Students, Faculty, and Scholars

Fulltime staff members were employed to provide a wide range of services for international students, faculty/staff, and scholars. University materials such as policies and regulations became available in English to promote information accessibility.



〈Symposium Organizing Committee with Keynote Speakers〉

Education reform

○ Japanese Proficiency of International Students

Japanese lessons were held to improve students' language proficiency to facilitate communication in their academic and future career.

○ International Collaborative Curricula

In addition to existing double-degree programs with Oulu University (Finland) and Paul Sabatier University (France), NAIST added programs with National Chiao Tung University (Taiwan), Unitec (New Zealand), and University of Malaya (Malaysia). The programs will further educational opportunities for both inbound and outbound students.



〈Faculty Development Program〉

Education reform (continued)

○ Faculty Development

The Overseas Faculty Development Program was held at the University of California, Davis. Seminars in university teaching and learning, followed by laboratory visits, are learning opportunities for NAIST faculty members to prepare for top-level graduate education in science and technology.



〈NAIST Introduction at Partner Universities〉

■ University's own indicators and targets

○ English Proficiency of Students and Staff Members

As English communication skills are essential for realizing a global campus, TOEIC scores are used to assess and monitor the learning progress of students and staff member. In addition, emphasis was put on practical skills for academic studies and future research and employment. Master's students are expected to develop abilities necessary for comprehension of research articles, lectures, and seminars delivered in English. Doctoral students must be capable to disseminate their research findings globally using English, including debate and deliberation skills. Staff who support international activities, including academic and research programs, are required to pursue English proficiency to improve their overall performance.



〈Guidebooks in English〉

○ English Use in Educational Programs

As part of globalizing efforts in graduate education, syllabi for courses offered in all three graduate programs became available in English. To prepare for a transition to a unified graduate program in the next few years, as well as an addition of international program for advanced science and technology (5-year doctoral program) to the curricula, English will become a primary medium of communication and instruction.



〈Flyer of Division for Global Education〉

■ Featured initiatives based on university characteristics

○ Public Relations Efforts

Each year, NAIST delegations actively visit international partner education and research institutions, governmental offices, "Study in Japan" fairs, and others. English materials including guidebooks are critical in introducing our educational and international activities. Division for Global Education is now furnished with a flyer to explain NAIST's approach to the Top Global University Project. NAIST widely distributes these materials to improve its presence in the international educational and research community.

○ Comprehensive Life and Academic Support

With growing numbers of international students, faculty/staff, and scholars on campus, NAIST is focusing on being able to provide comprehensive support, ranging from pre-departure preparation to academic and personal life assistance. Services will extend to accompanying spouses and families.

○ Career Support

UEAs in charge of career development were appointed to support international students seeking career in Japan and/or Japanese companies abroad through career guidance, information meetings, and fairs on campus. Also, a newly launched Indonesia Office will become a hub for students and alumni in Indonesia and surrounding areas to broaden the support network.

○ Social Integration

Social integration is key for successful learning and living. Japanese language and culture courses are required for all international students to support their integration in Japan. NAIST organizes numerous cultural events to familiarize international students with various Japanese traditions, including day trips to historic Nara, sutra copying and lectures at Buddhist temples, flower arrangement (Kadō), Japanese confectionery (Wagashi) making, Ninja experience, and more.



〈NAIST Tea Time〉

■ Efforts to Realize Global Campus

NAIST believes in the importance of a truly multicultural community. Our signature global campus event, "NAIST Tea Time", aims at strengthening our on-campus community and fostering mutual understanding and cultural familiarity among NAIST's diverse population. Also, NAIST offers a bilingual menu at the cafeteria and Halal options in the convenience store to accommodate diverse needs of the international population.