

Asia Pacific Higher Education Research Partnership (APHERP) Annual Report

2014



Front Row: Yan Shi, Deane Neubauer, John Hawkins, Denise Cuthbert, Reiko Yamada
Second Row: Yung-feng Lin, Linh Ai Dinh, Christopher Collins, Bundit Thipakorn, Terance Bigakle, Ahmad Nurulazam Md. Zain, Shang-Shing Chou
Third Row: Bordin Rassameethes, A. Lee Fritschler, Xin Chen, Yoshiro Tanaka, William Plater, Muluang Wu, James Jacob
Missing: Reed Dasenbrock, Kamila Ghazali, Matthew Liao-Troth

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This was the first full year of APHERP operations, as fully one half of 2013 was spent in planning activities. The goal this year was to fulfill the developments presaged in our founding document, move to add new member institutions as available and desired, continue the build-out of our infrastructure and partnership's relation with the East-West Center, and add new events based on member interest and available resources.

Senior Seminars

The seminars remain the central feature of the Partnership activity, both in addressing new issues and following up the 2013 meetings with appropriate publications.

- 1) The first senior seminar was held at RMIT University, March 24-26 on the subject of the changing nature of graduate education. Twelve papers were presented, which were then developed into a proposal and submitted to Palgrave Macmillan Publishers. The book was accepted in later 2014 and will be edited by Deane Neubauer and Prompilai Buasuwan.
- 2) The second senior seminar was held at the Hong Kong Institute of Education on the subject "The Many Faces of Asia Pacific Higher Education in the Era of Massification. With cooperation from our HKIED member, this meeting was held sequentially with a meeting of the United Board & One Asia Foundation. In all nineteen papers were presented. This will be developed by two separate sources.
 - a. One set of chapters will be submitted to Springer Publishers under the title "Massification of Asian Higher Education" edited by Alfred Wu and John Hawkins.
 - b. A separate set of papers will be presented as a special journal issue on the Massification of Asian Higher Education, in Journal of Education and Work. The editors will be: Ka Ho Mok and Deane Neubauer
- 3) Work from senior seminars held in 2013 was both published and is within the publication process.
 - a. The work from the September 2013 senior seminar, also held at HKIED in Hong Kong, is due out in early 2015 by Palgrave Macmillan, entitled: *Research Development and Innovation in Asia Pacific Higher Education*, it is edited by John N. Hawkins, Ka Ho Mok.

- b. A second book from a 2013 senior seminar is currently being prepared for publication by Palgrave Macmillan, titled *Twenty-first Century Learning and Work Skills*. Editors: Deane Neubauer and Kamila Ghazi

Other Activities:

- 4) A major new publishing initiative was undertaken at the recommendation of Palgrave Macmillan Publishers who requested that we develop a *Handbook of Asia Higher Education*. The *Handbook* will be edited by Deane Neubauer, John Hawkins, Molly Lee, and Christopher Collins. Featuring some 43 chapters, contacts have been throughout the region to develop contributors. The volume is due to the publisher in December 2015.
- 5) For the second year the leadership institute was conducted at the National Chung Cheng University in Chia-yi, Taiwan from the period July 12-19, 2014. The institute was attended by 20 participants from member institutions. Instruction was provided by a faculty consisting of Molly Lee, Kazuo Kuroda, Yuchen Yang, John Hawkins and Deane Neubauer. For the near future it appears that Chung Cheng University will be the continued site of the institute.
- 6) The initial meeting of the Emergent Scholar Seminar was conducted at the National Higher Education Research Institute (IPPTN) at the Universiti Sains Malaysia during the period October 9-11. Attended by eleven participants, the seminar was facilitated by Christopher Collins and Deane Neubauer. Papers from the seminar are being prepared for submission for publication
- 7) *Research Clusters*. Research Clusters are designed to be follow-up activities arising out of senior seminars with the purpose of conducting more granular research on some aspect of the broader subject of the seminar. To date three such clusters have been formed.
 - a. In February (the 24th) the first of these developed at Doshisha University under the leadership of Professor Reiko Yamada met on the subject: Rethinking Globalization and Internationalization. APHERP leadership was provided by John Hawkins for the cluster meeting of some dozen scholars. Results from the meeting's papers have been published by Doshisha University.
 - b. The second research cluster met at the National Chung Cheng University under the leadership of Professor Sheng-ju Chen. This cluster had its origin in a senior seminar held at Seoul National University in May 2012, and works on the subject The Asian Hybrid University. Two meetings have been held subsequent and a funding proposal for continued work is in preparation to the Spencer Foundation.

- c. The third research cluster was formed after the March meeting at RMIT-U on the subject of graduate education. Researchers from Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan and Australia have been exploring external funding sources for further work.

8. Institutional Mobility

In a new institution with such a broad reach as APHERP it is to be expected that membership will change from year to year as some institutions experience personnel changes and/or shifts in their mission. On the other hand, other institutions in learning about APHERP, become prospects for joining as new members. The following changes took place.

Institutions leaving or shifting:

- (a) HKIED shifted from membership at the Core level to that at the Foundation level.
- (b) The National Center for University Entrance Examinations in Japan has indicated that it drop out at the expiration of its current membership in 2015, due largely to the retirement of its chief representative Katsuhiko Arai.
- (c) East China Normal University has indicated that given its current personnel situation and change in leadership in the School of Education it can no longer support membership.
- (d) The Universidad del Desarrollo Empresarial y Pedagógico (UNIVDEP) (Mexico) also has experienced personnel changes and will no longer be a member.

Institutions in discussion about joining:

During the year, the co-directors conducted various conversations with a range of institutions that have expressed interest in the partnership. These have included:

- (a) Naresuan University, Thailand (Joined Jan 1, 2015)
- (b) Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China (Joined Dec 20, 2014)
- (c) National Agricultural University of Peru (Lima)
- (d) De La Salle University, Manila
- (d) Royal University of Phnom Penh
- (f) Zhejiang University, Hangzhou
- (g) Azusa Pacific University, US
- (h) University of the South Pacific

Conversations are on-going with the University of Indiana (Indianapolis and Bloomington), Mexico, New Zealand, Mongolia and Japan as well as a renewed effort to cultivate a Korean member was launched as a result of the membership meeting.

A major purpose and function of the December membership meeting held at the East-West Center December 1-2, 2014 was to have all institutional representatives together so that they might assist us in strategizing

developments over the next two years. One aspect of these conversations was to identify possible new members. Since that meeting a number of conversations have been initiated by various members that are being followed up by the Co-directors. The goal for 2015 is to add 6 to 8 new members.

9. Steering Committee

Another purpose of this session was to have the final meeting of the current steering committee, and receive input from the committee for members for the coming biennial. The newly recommended members are: Northeast Normal University, Fu Jen Catholic University, Hawaii Pacific University, and Kasestart University. A digital meeting of the steering committee will be conducted at some point during February 2015 to brief the steering committee on current issues.

10. Personnel Issues:

When APHERP was initially formed, both John Hawkins and Deane Neubauer were appointed Co-directors of the research partnership by the initially formed steering committee. As had been the case with the predecessor organization at the East-West Center (EWC), the International Forum for Education 2020 (IFE 2020), both were associated with the EWC as consultants. In December 2014, the EWC demonstrating its continuing commitment to APHERP has moved both to an employee status (with partial appointments that equal those of their previous consulting status).

In March, we initiated a conversation with Christopher Collins to formalize his status with APHERP. He has participated in numerous leadership institutes, seminars, and was part of the EWC-University of Hawaii group that conducted the APEC quality meeting in August 2011. Subsequent to this meeting, Christopher relocated to Azusa Pacific University in Glendora, California, but has continued his interest and contributions with APHERP, including participating as a leader in the first emerging scholar meeting. At the recommendation of the steering committee, Christopher has been appointed as an Associate Director of the partnership. We expect Christopher to take major responsibility for the emerging scholar mission of APHERP.

11. Tentative Schedule 2015-16.

During the small group sessions, participants drafted a tentative schedule for 2015 and 2016. As you will see there are a few assignments of locale still to be decided. The steering committee will continue its discussions and render these final in a timely manner.

2015:

a. Late February or early March, Emergent Scholar Seminar, Kasestart University, Bangkok, Thailand

b. May 3rd week; Senior Seminar Subject: Quality Issues in Asia Pacific Higher Education

c. June 28-July 6: Leadership Institute, CCU, Chiayi, Taiwan

d. September, Second Senior Seminar, Hong Kong Institute of Education,
Subject: Sustainability issues of the Asian Higher Education Boom

2016:

a. March, Emergent Scholar Seminar, either Kasestart or J.F. Oberlin University

b. May, Senior Seminar Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China. Subject: The
Interplays between International, Global and Local Dimensions of Asia Pacific
Higher Education

c. Leadership Institute June 28-July 6, CCU, Chia-yi, Taiwan

d. Second Senior Seminar, September, Hong Kong Institute of Education,
Subject: Higher Education Finance.

e. All membership meeting, December, East West Center

12. Strategic Plan: James Jacob will use the input from the December meeting to
develop a strategic plan to circulate first to the Steering Committee and upon
approval to the membership for their input and eventual approval.