

ASIAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE STAFF EXCHANGE PROGRAM REPORT

2018-2020



Foreword

As Secretary of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA), I have the honor to present to you the first AUA Staff Exchange Program Report 2018-2020.

The AUA is a university alliance established in 2017 by fifteen founding members from across Asia. The mission of AUA is to *“jointly address regional and global challenges, specifically related to higher education and economic, scientific and technological development, by strengthening collaboration among member institutions.”* AUA acknowledges and promotes shared identity and values in working towards this mission.

The AUA Staff Exchange Program (AUASEP) was established in April 2018, under the category of Staff Mobility in the first AUA Framework 2017-2020. Each year, the program provides financial support for up to fifteen staff of AUA member universities or the AUA Secretariat to carry out a one-week visit to another overseas AUA university or the Secretariat.

This report provides an insight into the development of the program since its launch in 2018. In the first two years of operation, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020, twenty-six staff from thirteen AUA member universities have undertaken their exchange visits. While this report aims to publicize the program and its outcomes so far, the AUA Secretariat also intends to utilize the gathered information to shape and reshape the future progress and growth of the program.

AUA strives to set a regional and global example by highlighting the value of this kind of exchange between our member universities. AUA understands that administration personnel provide the backbone and foundation of any institution and we recognize this by investing in their professional development. Immersing staff in the working culture of another institution allows them to gain first-hand knowledge and experience of different working procedures and methods in partner universities. These visits provide ample opportunity for exchanging best practices of university administration and increasing collaboration between AUA members. The AUASEP has directly encouraged the signing of several bilateral agreements between members, and inspired proposals for AUA student mobility programs and research collaboration.

I invite you now to witness the outcomes of the AUASEP from 2018-2020 in the report ahead.

Thank you.

Dr. ZHANG Chuanjie
AUA Secretary

Introduction

Since the onset of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) in April 2017, increasing mobility and enhancing exchanges between member universities has been at the forefront of the AUA mission. AUA strongly advocates for meaningful and frequent exchanges between staff members to boost prospects of cooperation and deepen understanding of existing programs as well as operational and managerial procedures between member institutions. In order to propel the mission forward, the AUA Staff Exchange Program (AUASEP) was developed as a mobility program specifically for the staff of AUA member universities. Mobility of students, scholars and staff is one of the four foundational pillars of the AUA Framework 2017-2020.

Investing in staff plays a pivotal role in the success of educational institutions' adaptation to new global trends. The AUASEP was launched in 2018 to enhance communication between staff of AUA member universities through a week-long immersive visit at another AUA member institution or the AUA Secretariat. These visits help provide a platform for exchanging best practices, enriching knowledge, and improving coordination and mutual understanding between and among AUA members. The AUASEP has a knock-on effect to other areas of mobility with a number of visits resulting in the establishment of new student and scholar initiatives such as sports and cultural activities and collaboration among AUA libraries.

The AUASEP also serves to strengthen the bond between the AUA Secretariat and staff of the member universities, facilitating the proposal of new ideas while nurturing lasting friendships in the process. With the success of this initiative, AUA aims to set an example for the importance of staff exchanges in the success of higher education. As AUA moves forward, the AUASEP serves as a noteworthy platform to expedite increased mobility and greater cooperation among member universities.

List of Abbreviations

University	Abbrev.	Location
Chulalongkorn University	CU	Bangkok, Thailand
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	HKUST	Hong Kong, China
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay	IITB	Mumbai, India
King Saud University	KSU	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
National University of Singapore	NUS	Singapore
Nazarbayev University	NU	Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
Peking University	PKU	Beijing, China
Seoul National University	SNU	Seoul, South Korea
Tsinghua University	THU	Beijing, China
United Arab Emirates University	UAEU	Al Ain, United Arab Emirates
Universitas Indonesia	UI	Jakarta, Indonesia
Universiti Malaya	UM	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
University of Colombo	UoC	Colombo, Sri Lanka
The University of Tokyo	UTokyo	Tokyo, Japan
University of Yangon	UY	Yangon, Myanmar
AUA Secretariat	AUA Sec.	Beijing, China

List of Figures and Tables

No.	Title	Page
Figure 1.	Overview of AUASEP 2018-2020	05
Figure 2.	AUA Exchange Staff by Home University 2019-2020	05
Figure 3.	AUA Exchange Staff by Home University 2018-2019	05
Figure 4.	Categories of AUA Exchange Staff Home Offices/Departments 2019-2020	06
Figure 5.	Categories of AUA Exchange Staff Home Offices/Departments 2018-2019	06
Figure 6.	AUA Exchange Staff by Host Institution 2019-2020	07
Figure 7.	AUA Exchange Staff by Host Institution 2018-2019	07
Figure 8.	Categories of Host Offices/Departments 2019-2020	08
Figure 9.	Categories of Host Offices/Departments 2018-2019	08
Figure 10.	Gender Diversity of AUA Exchange Staff 2018-2020	09
Table 1.	Exchange of AUA Staff among Members 2019-2020	10
Table 2.	Exchange of AUA Staff among Members 2018-2019	10

About the Report

The AUASEP is operated and managed by the AUA Secretariat. All the data presented in this report has been gathered from the application and summary materials submitted to the AUA Secretariat by awardees of the first two years of the program: 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. All the data contained herein is true and correct to the best of the provided information.

The time frame for visits in the first year of the program was between 1 June 2018 and 31 March 2019. It will be referred to throughout the report as Year 1.

The time frame for visits in the second year of the program was between 1 June 2019 and 31 March 2020. It will be referred to throughout the report as Year 2.

In certain cases, in order to incorporate all corresponding offices in home and host universities into related groups, specific labels have been given.

For example, the *International Office* label represents various AUA members' offices that are responsible for international matters of the university, such as Office of International Affairs, International Relations Office, Global Relations Office, etc.

The *Office of Senior University Leadership* label represents various AUA members' offices of senior university leadership, such as Office of the President, Vice Chancellor's Office, Office of the Provost, etc.

The *Student Affairs* label represents various AUA members' offices/departments that are responsible for student matters such as Student Housing and Residential Life Office, Student Activity Centre, etc.

The information of AUA Exchange Staff, including their home and host universities and summaries of visits, can be found in the second half of the report.

Notes

- Home University refers to the university at which the candidate is a full-time staff member.
- Home Office/Department refers to the university office or department at which the AUA Exchange Staff is ordinarily based.
- Host Institution refers to the university (or AUA Secretariat) which the AUA Exchange Staff shall visit.
- Host Office/Department refers to the university office or department at which the AUA Exchange Staff will carry out their visit.
- As the AUA Secretariat is an entity separate from the 15 AUA members, it is considered in the data as both a host institution and a host office.
- Participants in the program will be titled throughout the report as AUA Exchange Staff or Staff.
- As per the application guidelines (see Appendix 1), part 3c states:

'Applications for the year of 2019-2020 are for applicants who wish to visit the host office/department between 1 June 2019 and 31 March 2020, i.e., the starting date of the visit shall be no earlier than 1 June 2019 and the completing date of visit shall be no later than 31 Mar 2020.'

All visits had been originally scheduled to take place within the time frame stated in the guidelines. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the validity of one Exchange Staff's visit which was due to take place in early 2020, has been extended until 30 September 2020, after the publication of this report in May 2020. Her application data has been included for the year 2019-2020; however, the summary of her visit will feature in next year's report.

Overview of AUASEP 2018-2020

	Exchange Staff	Home Universities	Home Offices/ Departments	Host Institutions	Host Offices/ Departments
2019-2020	15	10	14	12	14
2018-2019	12	10	11	7	8

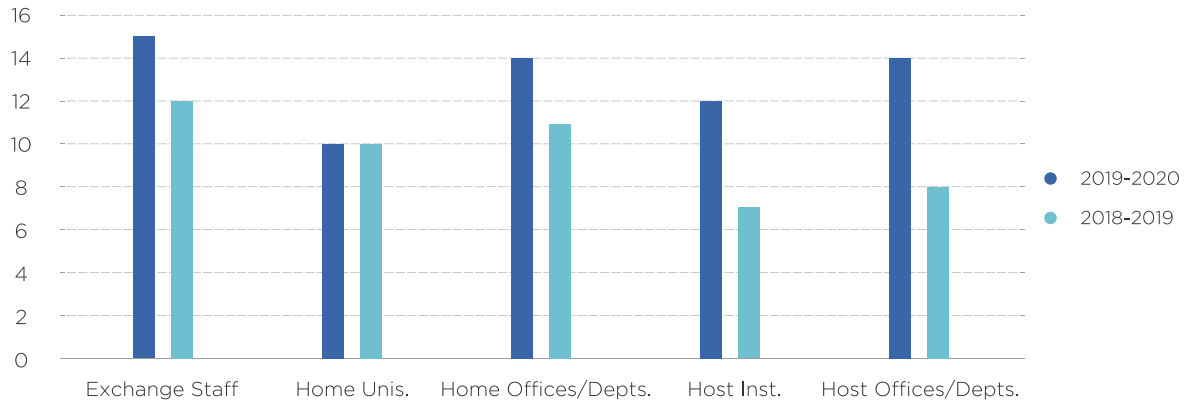


Fig. 1: Overview of AUASEP 2018-2020

AUA Exchange Staff by Home University

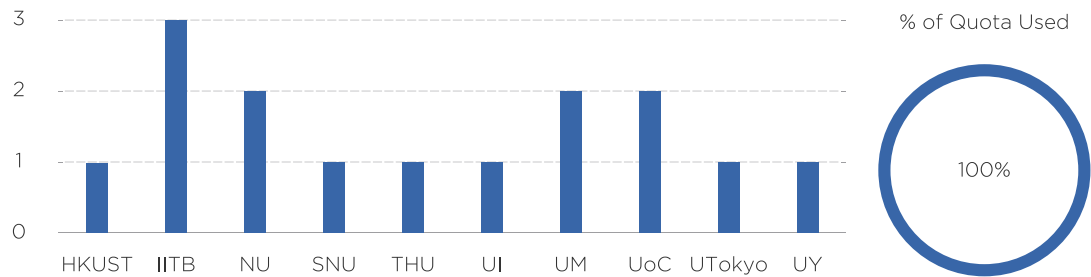


Fig. 2: AUA Exchange Staff by Home University 2019-2020

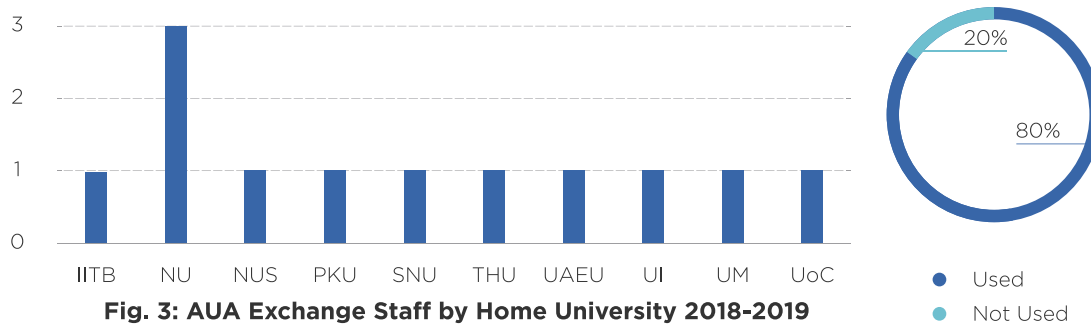


Fig. 3: AUA Exchange Staff by Home University 2018-2019

Categories of AUA Exchange Staff Home Offices/Departments

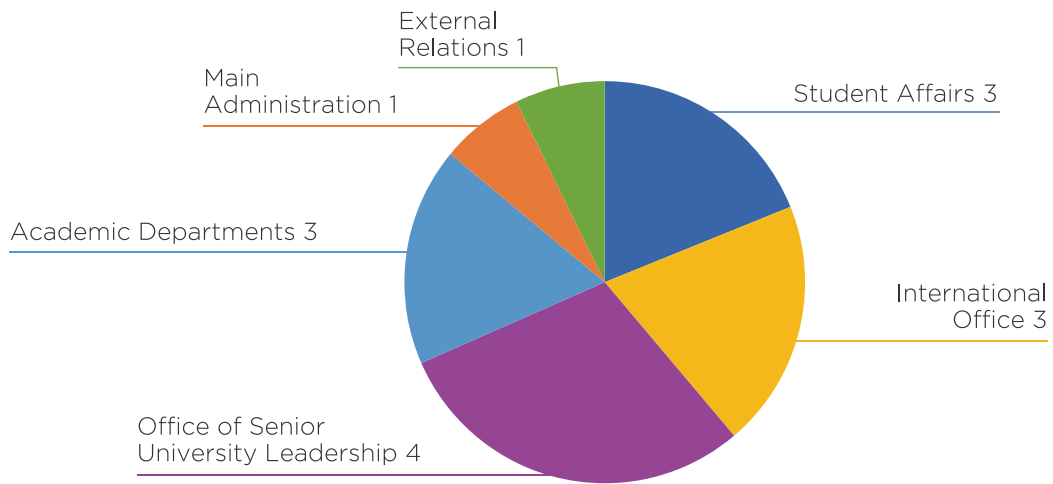


Fig. 4: Categories of AUA Exchange Staff Home Offices/Departments 2019-2020

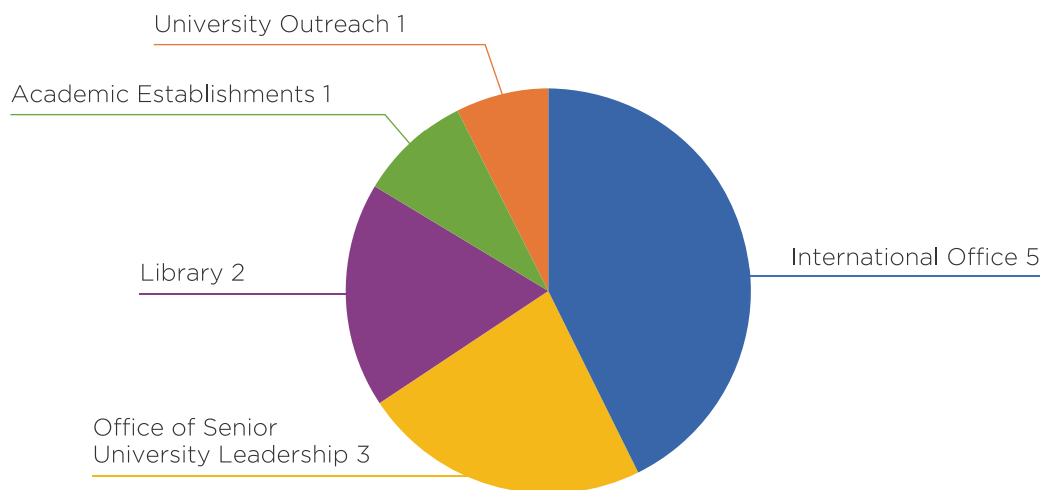


Fig. 5: Categories of AUA Exchange Staff Home Offices/Departments 2018-2019

AUA Exchange Staff by Host Institution

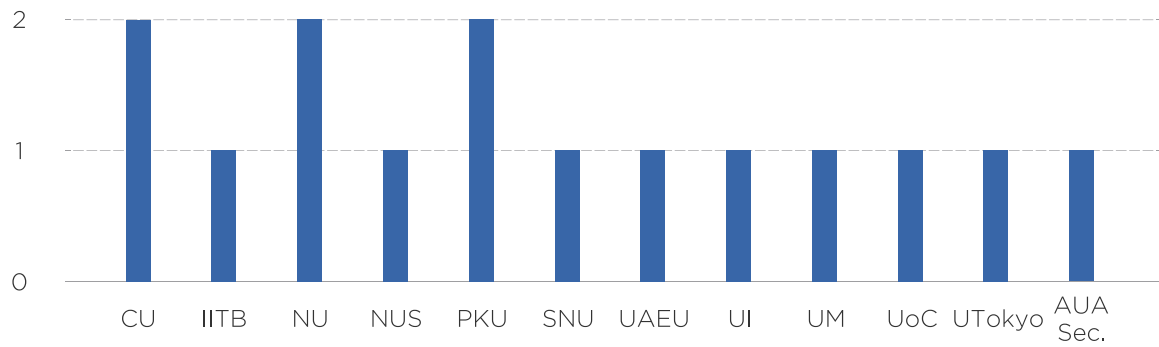


Fig. 6: AUA Exchange Staff by Host Institution 2019-2020

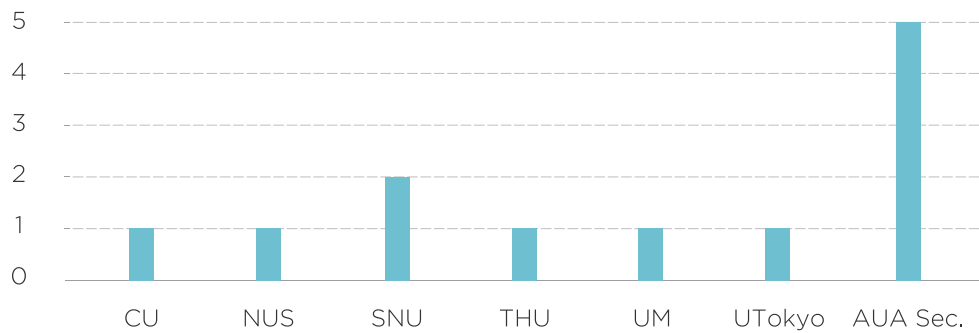


Fig. 7: AUA Exchange Staff by Host Institution 2018-2019

Categories of Host Offices/Departments

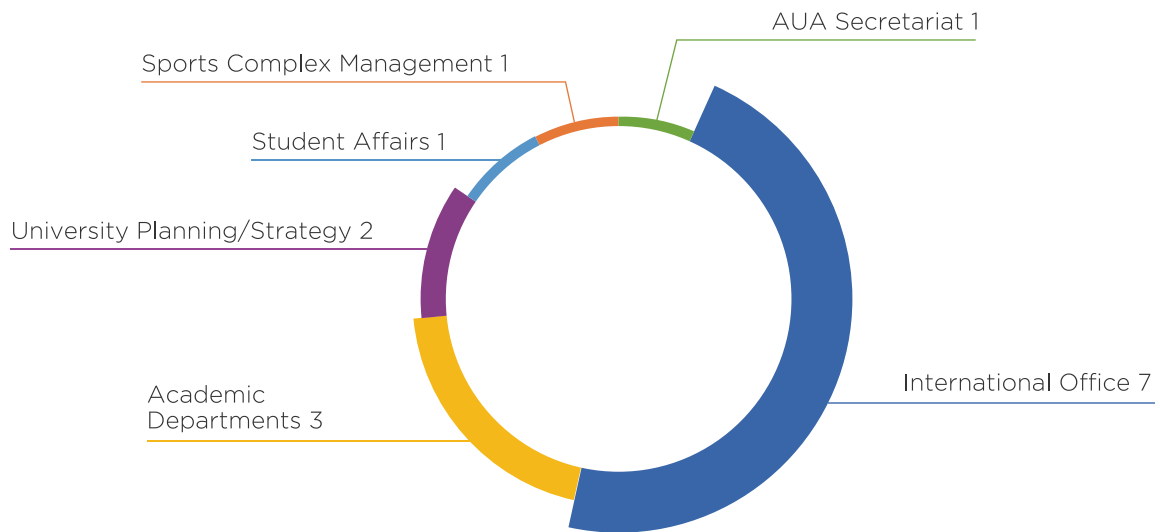


Fig. 8: Categories of Host Offices/Departments 2019-2020

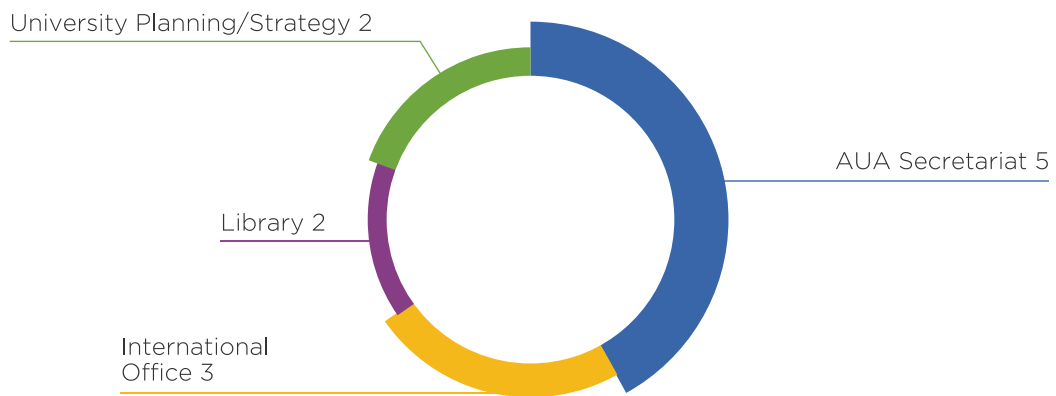


Fig. 9: Categories of Host Offices/Departments 2018-2019

Gender Diversity of AUA Exchange Staff

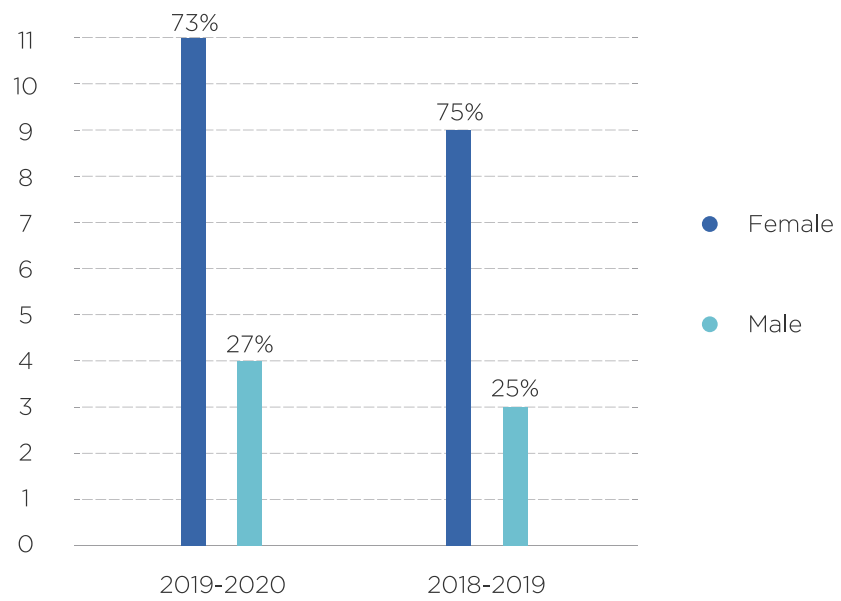


Fig. 10: Gender Diversity of AUA Exchange Staff 2018-2020

Who went where?

Host Home	AUA Sec.	CU	IITB	NU	NUS	PKU	SNU	UAEU	UI	UM	UoC	UTokyo	Total (Home)
HKUST							1						1
IITB				1		1				1			3
NU								1				1	2
SNU		1											1
THU				1									1
UI					1								1
UM									1		1		2
UoC	1					1							2
UTokyo			1										1
UY		1											1
Total (Host)	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	15

Table 1. Exchange of AUA Staff among Members 2019-2020

Host Home	AUA Sec.	CU	NUS	SNU	THU	UM	UTokyo	Total (Home)
IITB						1		1
NU	1		1	1				3
NUS	1							1
PKU							1	1
SNU					1			1
THU				1				1
UAEU	1							1
UI	1							1
UM	1							1
UoC		1						1
Total (Host)	5	1	1	2	1	1	1	12

Table 2. Exchange of AUA Staff among Members 2018-2019

AUA Exchange Staff 2019-2020

AUA Exchange Staff	Home University	Host Institution
Assylbek, Yerbolat	NU	UAEU
Khin Mar Cho	UY	CU
Fadzli, Siti Salwati	UM	UI
Haththotuwa, Gamage Nishadhi Dimalka	UoC	PKU
Kim, Yoori	SNU	CU
King, Vigneshree	UM	UoC
Ma, Tin Yan (Michelle)	HKUST	SNU
Mukaimachi, Saori	UTokyo	IITB
Nagwekar, Hrushikesh Mahindranath	IITB	UM
Ni'mah, Fitriyatun	UI	NUS
Nurtazina, Dana	NU	UTokyo
Perera, Kalhari	UoC	AUA Sec.
Ramasamy, Prabhakaran	IITB	NU
Shah, Sanjay	IITB	PKU
*Song, Mengting	THU	NU

*Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, this candidate has extended the validity of her visit until 30 September 2020.



Dana Nurtazina

Home: Nazarbayev University (Office of the Provost)

Host: The University of Tokyo (International Strategy Group)

Date of Visit: 1-5 Jul 2019

“I felt that my visit to The University of Tokyo (UTokyo) was well worth it. I gained valuable experience that can be implemented at Nazarbayev University (NU). In addition, I learned new methods that may help to improve our future services. The networking experience was very beneficial. I was able to speak with UTokyo administrative personnel and a student who provided tips and useful information for my work projects.

IT management was a topic of special interest and necessity for me, as NU is enhancing Information Services (IS) through IS transformation. In addition to themes related to IS, it was insightful to learn about UTokyo’s current internationalization project, unique undergraduate system, active learning approaches, scholarships for international students and the university’s entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem.

During a fruitful meeting with Prof. Ohara, I was introduced to the most advanced campus – Komaba – which is home to several schools with advanced research facilities and campus services. Several years ago, the 21 Komaba Center for Educational Excellence was established, which houses studio-type classrooms and laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment designed to facilitate active learning. NU and UTokyo are on the same page in regards to Active Learning (AL) development. Both universities pay solid attention to the ergonomic design of classrooms, furnishing them with all necessary IT equipment and distributing newsletters/booklets about AL. We also face the same issues, e.g. how to attract faculty members to use AL classrooms more frequently.

During the visit, NU students were cordially invited to the Asian Entrepreneurship Award 2019. In turn, our NU team would like to invite Prof. Kagami to NU to deliver a lecture/speech or conduct a formal meeting with related administrative divisions. I have a strong hope for further active communication between UTokyo and NU.

My overall impression is that UTokyo’s important mission is to go far beyond only delivering the best education and preparing future-ready professionals. Other universities can learn a lot from UTokyo’s valuable experience. The visit program was well organized and the speakers provided valuable information. In addition to professional development, I had a chance learn more about Japanese culture.”

-Dana Nurtazina

“Ms. Dana Nurtazina, who was accompanied by several colleagues, visited UTokyo from 1-5 July. Meetings with various groups within UTokyo, including staff and faculty members, were arranged for them based on the visit request provided by NU prior to the visit. We were pleased to hear that she learned a lot while visiting our university.”

-Hiroko Nakano (Host)

Schedule of visit

- Jul 1st**
Orientation, welcome lunch and campus tour.
Presentation: “Introducing UTokyo”, delivered by Dr. Fegan of the International Strategy Group, Management Planning Department.
- Jul 2nd**
Presentation about Kazakhstan, education in Kazakhstan and introducing Nazarbayev University to some of the staff and faculty of UTokyo.
Meetings with Deputy Manager Igarashi and Senior Staff Kubota from the Education and Student Support Department.
- Jul 3rd**
Meeting with General Manager Mizukami and Prof. Tamazukuri from the Information Systems Division.
Visit to the Information Systems Department, including a tour to students’ learning spaces.
- Jul 4th**
Visit to Komaba Campus and meeting with Prof. Ohara from the Komaba Organization for Education Excellence.
- Jul 5th**
Meeting with General Manager Kagami – Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Division of University Corporate Relations.
Tour of innovative buildings for start-up companies.
Final wrap up meeting and presentation on the visit’s learning outcomes.



Meeting with the Information Systems Division



Group photo of NU and UTokyo staff



Dana Nurtazina delivering a presentation on what she learned during the visit



A scene from the wrap up meeting



Vigneshree King

Home: Universiti Malaya
(International Student Center)

Host: University of Colombo
(International Office)

Date of Visit: 20-24 Jan 2020

"I had the privilege to be the first AUA Exchange Staff to be hosted by the International Office at University of Colombo (UoC). Dr. Sashika Manoratne, the Director of the International Office, and Ms. Kalhari Perera were very hospitable and briefed me about academic and internationalization strategies at UoC. We discussed developing academic cooperation between our universities and agreed to sign bilateral agreements on academic and student exchanges. I visited the Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Management and Finance and the Post Graduate Institute of Medicine and had discussions with the respective Deans/Directors of the faculty/institute. We had a detailed discussion and both sides agreed to deepen the cooperation between UoC and Universiti Malaya (UM) through student and faculty mobility.

I had an interesting visit to Sri Palee Campus which is about 2 hours' drive from UoC. This campus offers programs similar to UM, such as Bachelors in Drama, Music, Dance, Arts and Design. It would be one of the best options for student mobility programs. Meeting with the Registrar Mr. K.A.S Edward was extremely informative as he shared information on the governance and administration of UoC. I also had the chance to visit the main library and was given a tour of all the facilities.

The visit ended with me sharing some of UM's best practices with UoC's Vice Chancellor Prof. Chandrika Wijeyaratne and the top management of the university. It was a very interesting session as we managed to share ideas and exchange experiences on how student mobility is managed at our universities.

My visit was very fruitful in terms of learning, practical experience and networking. UM hopes to sign an MOU with UoC and will offer two scholarships to UoC students to participate in the summer program at UM. We hope with this initiative we will have active student mobility in the future."

-Vigneshree King

"Vigneshree King's visit was a success. Her experience and exposure on internationalization and student/staff mobility enriched not only us at the International Office, but all the administrative and non-academic staff members of the whole university. The informative presentation she gave to the Vice Chancellor and the administrative personnel about the internationalization process of the UM was very inspiring."

-Sashika Manoratne (Host)

Schedule of visit



Jan 20th

Welcome and introduction to University of Colombo & the International Office.
Visit to Faculty of Arts (Dean's Office & SPARC).
Visit to Faculty of Management and Finance.



Jan 21st

Visit to Postgraduate Institute of Medicine.
Visit to Examination Branch, College House.
Meeting with Network Operation Center, College House.



Jan 22nd

Visit to Sri Palee Campus.



Jan 23rd

Meeting with the Bursar and Registrar.
Visit to University of Colombo School of Computing.
Visit to Main Library.
Meeting with the Vice Chancellor.
Visit to Academic and Publication Branch.



Jan 24th

Talk on sharing experiences: Best Practices of UM.
Wrap-up and farewell.



Vigneshree King (right) with Vice Chancellor of UoC Prof. Chandrika Wijeyaratne (left)



Photo with staff at Sri Palee Campus



Presentation on 'Best Practices of UM' to management of UoC



Yerbolat Assylbek

Home: Nazarbayev University (Office of the Provost)

Host: United Arab Emirates University (Office of Institutional Effectiveness)

Date of Visit: 1-12 Sep 2019



“

The trip to UAEU was valuable in terms of new perspectives, ideas and valuable experience gained. My main focus was to learn how the Institutional Research Unit functions and operates and I had a chance to see an overall picture of UAEU and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

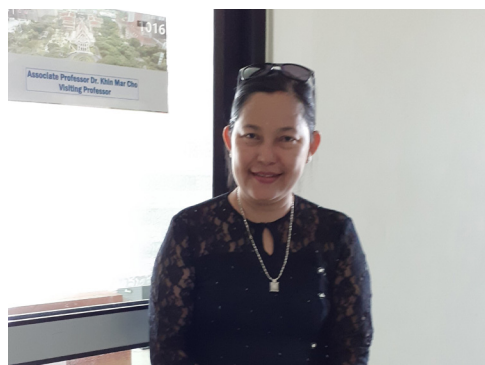
”

Khin Mar Cho

Home: University of Yangon (Dept. of Chemistry)

Host: Chulalongkorn University (Dept. of Chemistry)

Date of Visit: 21-27 Aug 2019



“

Not only was I able to get some experience about modern instrumental techniques, but also about the characterization of nanoparticles. This exchange provided knowledge, skills and career opportunities, while building links between different research institutes.

”



Siti Salwati Fadzli

Home: Universiti Malaya (Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor)

Host: Universitas Indonesia (International Office)

Date of Visit: 19-23 Aug 2019



“

I learned from the team how to manage the internationalization activities more effectively. We shared some of the best practices that we can adopt to improve our internal processes such as managing the mobility programs for both staff and students and data management.

”



Gamage Nishadhi Dimalka Haththotuwa

Home: University of Colombo (Vice Chancellor's Office)

Host: Peking University (International Relations Office)

Date of Visit: 17-23 Sep 2019

“

During the visit, I observed that the student identity card is one of the best practices used at Peking University. I wrote a memo about this for UoC's Vice Chancellor and submitted it to the university's management committee. I also had the chance to assess future cooperation between PKU and UoC.

”





Yoori Kim

Home: Seoul National University (Office of International Affairs)

Host: Chulalongkorn University (Dept. of Korean Studies)

Date of Visit: 24-28 Jun 2019



“

This program allowed me to concentrate on the international affairs job, attract the best faculty and students to SNU, support and understand administrative procedures and build great places to learn and grow.

”

Tin Yan Ma (Michelle)

Home: The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Student Housing and Residential Life Office)

Host: Seoul National University (Gwanak Residence Halls' Office)

Date of Visit: 25-29 Nov 2019



“

Even though there are cultural differences between our universities which lead to different management styles, the missions and values of our offices are almost the same. I gained a better understanding of various aspects of student halls management including planning, cooperation between student leaders and staff, cultural exchange and environmental policies.

”



Saori Mukaimachi

Home: The University of Tokyo (External Relations Department)

Host: Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Office of International Relations)

Date of Visit: 16-20 Sep 2019



“

I discussed with the Continuing Education and Quality Improvement Program members regarding the prospects of recurrent education in Japan. I interviewed two lecturers and seven participants and could understand the current activities, strategies and participants needs.

”



Hrushikesh Mahindranath Nagwekar

Home: Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Dept. of Biosciences and Bioengineering)

Host: Universiti Malaya (International Relations Office)

Date of Visit: 24-28 Jun 2019



“

The main objectives of the visit were to become familiar with the teaching and research laboratories, to explore high end instrumentation and to learn and share experience on the administration of laboratories. The visits to various centers and facilities broadened my knowledge and provided me with necessary administration experience and a possible bridge for collaborative research work.

”



Fitriyatun Ni'mah

Home: Universitas Indonesia (International Office)

Host: National University of Singapore (Global Relations Office)

Date of Visit: 29 Jul-2 Aug 2019



“

The whole visit was valuable for me, professionally and personally. One of the top outcomes was getting to know the Global Relations Office. Learning about their involvement in international associations and how to run short courses were key take-aways.

”

Kalhari Perera

Home: University of Colombo (International Office)

Host: AUA Secretariat

Date of Visit: 23-27 Sep 2019



“

The AUA Staff Exchange Program gave me a wonderful opportunity for my career development and capacity building. It's very important to encourage the mobility of administrative staff to enhance their innovative thinking and capabilities in order to elevate the status of higher education institutes.

”



Prabhakaran Ramasamy

Home: Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Student Activity Center)

Host: Nazarbayev University (Sports Complex Management)

Date of Visit: 14-18 Oct 2019



“

I was impressed by NU's intent to go beyond their national borders in terms of sports research and training within their campus. The inclusive approach towards utilizing NU's sports facilities and setting up of a sports research center are definitely take away points to help my own professional activities at IITB.

”



Sanjay Shah

Home: Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Main Administration Office)

Host: Peking University (International Relations Office)

Date of Visit: 17-23 Sep 2019



“

The contributions for knowledge sharing made by each and every pillar of PKU was outstanding. It gives me a new angle to understand the overall system in a different dimension of university administration.

”

AUA Exchange Staff 2018-2019

Name	Home University	Host Institution
An, DongHyeon	SNU	THU
Cheng, Lui Ling (Linda)	NUS	AUA Sec.
Choong, Chai Kun (Judy)	UM	AUA Sec.
Dannangoda, Gamage Manuja Yasangika	UoC	CU
Das, Arnab	IITB	UM
Hutapea, Alfrida Esther Madame	UI	AUA Sec.
Myrzatay, Banu	NU	NUS
Saniyazova, Aray	NU	SNU
Seifelnasr, Nada	UAEU	AUA Sec.
Sharipov, Miras	NU	AUA Sec.
Song, Xin	PKU	UTokyo
Zhang, Kunzhu	THU	SNU



Gamage Manuja Yasangika Dannangoda

Home: University of Colombo (Academic Establishments)

Host: Chulalongkorn University (Office of International Affairs and Global Network)

Date of Visit: 4-11 Nov 2018

"I visited Chulalongkorn University's (CU) Office of International Affairs and Global Network, Faculty of Economics and Office of the President during my stay. I received in-depth knowledge on activities handled by the Office of International Affairs on MOUs, student exchange programs, faculty and staff exchange programs, overseas visits or visits by foreign guests and global network activities. I witnessed the signing of an MOU between CU and Victoria University in Canada. I took part in discussions with the Head of International Relations, MOU coordinators, 'One Stop Center' coordinators and the staff exchange coordinator.

The staff exchange coordinator of CU's Global Network Center deals with the coordination of disbursement of the budget for international conferences among the faculties. The faculty determines a theme of the conference from a list of topics decided by the university. Visiting scholars and visiting professors' placements requests are also coordinated in this office. These visits involve joint teaching or research activities at the respective faculties. The requests for staff exchanges are referred to line officers at the respective faculties.

At the Office of International Affairs and Global Network, I learned about CU's HR procedures in detail. The job description and qualifications are first submitted to the university's HR office by the Director of the Office of International Affairs and Global Network. CU's HR office short lists and calls applicants for the interview. The Director of the Office of International Affairs and Global Network and Assistant to the President for International Affairs are part of the selection committee.

At the Faculty of Economics, I was given an overview of the faculty by their International Office staff. I visited the Faculty of Economics' Dept. of Human Resources and the library. I had a discussion with the Dean and the Head of the International Office.

Based on the knowledge gained from my visit to CU, I hope UoC can strengthen the International Office and achieve a similar status in the future. This visit has given me a vision to develop our university to similar standards. I wish to thank CU's Office of International Affairs and Global Network for hosting me during the stay."
-Gamage Manuja Yasangika Dannangoda

"Ms. Dannangoda is very friendly and adjusted herself very well. She is active and enthusiastic to learn about different work which will possibly enrich her job responsibilities at UoC. I am confident that spending a week at CU will be one of her best working experiences and contribute to the fruitful relationship between UoC and CU."
-Pensri Sangwongwanich (Host)



Photo at the Office of the President with staff of the Office of International Affairs and Global Network

Photo with the Dean and other officials during a visit to the Faculty of Economics



Ms. Dannangoda with CU's President Prof. Bundhit Eua-arporn



Nada Seifelnasr

Home: United Arab Emirates
University (University Outreach Department)
Host: AUA Secretariat
Date of Visit: 3-7 Sep 2018

“I was given an introduction to the AUA Secretariat’s operations and the duties of the staff. The member universities are split between the full time staff and each acts as liaison officer. In turn, they each manage individual programs along with finance, policy and media. I gained a better understanding of what each operation entails and the workload of each member. We discussed UAEU programs, what has been done so far and clarified all pending queries.

We also discussed AUA program management and shared productive ideas, including creating a checklist for each program and for the host university, creating action plans and evaluation forms for various student programs (the latter which I created and sent to AUA), and how to further improve the website.

I also had the chance to meet with Tsinghua University's Global Communications Office to see how they work and bounce ideas and best practices off each other. I also visited the Tsinghua University Science Park and x-lab to see how they operate and to discuss potential future collaborations.

The Staff Exchange Program was very helpful as it gave me more insight about how the AUA Secretariat works and we were able to exchange practices to be implemented in both of our work. It also strengthened our relationship and by the end of the period I felt that I was one of the team.”

-Nada Seifelnasr

“Nada offered many valuable suggestions for the better development of AUA. Nada and the Secretariat staff introduced the university financial regulations to each other, which helped to establish a good understanding of how to best handle AUA-related financial issues. Nada also gave an informative talk on UAE culture and higher education to staff at the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange.”

-FANG Yanhua (Host)



Nada Seifelnasr (right) with AUA Secretary Dr. ZHANG Chuanjie (center) and AUA Secretariat Chief Administrator FANG Yanhua (left)

Giving a talk on UAE culture and higher education to staff at THU's Office of International Cooperation and Exchange



Visiting Tsinghua University Science Park



DongHyeon An

Home: Seoul National University (Library)

Host: Tsinghua University (Library)

Date of Visit: 28 Oct-3 Nov 2018



“

I participated in the AUA Library Directors Dialogue and talked with other AUA library directors about further cooperation. Through the document delivery service agreement with THU Library, we have enhanced cooperation between our universities.

”

Lui Ling (Linda) Cheng

Home: National University Singapore (Global Relations Office)

Host: AUA Secretariat

Date of Visit: 17-21 Dec 2018



“

The program was immensely beneficial in deepening my understanding of alliance management. I also visited THU's offices of Global Partnerships, Study Abroad and General Administration. I also had the opportunity to deliver a presentation about NUS. These meetings were a great way to enhance mutual understanding of our institutions.

”





Chai Kun (Judy) Choong

Home: Universiti Malaya (International Office)

Host: AUA Secretariat

Date of Visit: 15-19 Oct 2018



“

As the person-in-charge of managing UM's participation in AUA, the exchange presented an opportunity for me to get a better picture of how other member universities have been participating in the alliance, and to evaluate how UM can enhance its participation in this network.

”

Arnab Das

Home: Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Office of Dean International Relations)

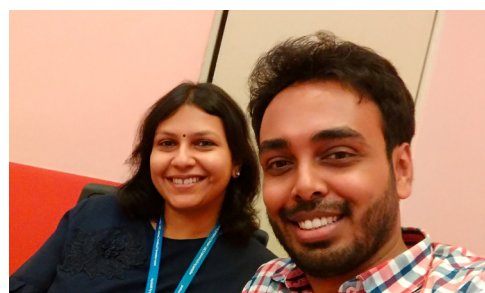
Host: Universiti Malaya (International Relations Office)

Date of Visit: 10-14 Dec 2018

“

My visit was very fruitful in terms of learning, practical experience and networking. We discussed academic cooperation between our universities and agreed to sign bilateral agreements on academic and student exchanges.

”



Alfrida Esther Madame Hutapea

Home: Universitas Indonesia (International Office)

Host: AUA Secretariat

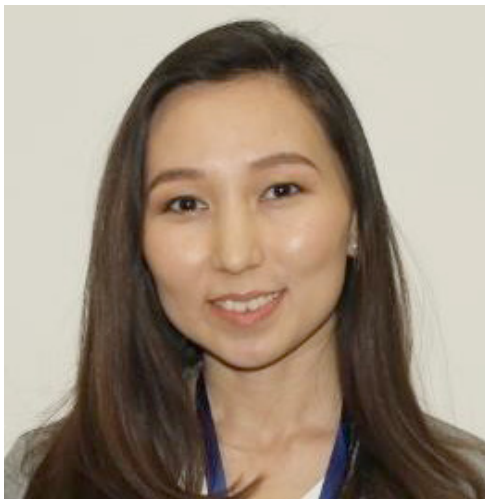
Date of Visit: 24-28 Sep 2018



“

Formal and informal information sessions were arranged so I could have a better understanding of AUA programs and operations. Observing how the staff complete their tasks and interact with AUA members gave me a deeper understanding of the values and goals of AUA.

”



Banu Myrzatay

Home: Nazarbayev University (Office of the President)

Host: National University of Singapore (Global Relations Office; Office of the President)

Date of Visit: 1-5 Oct 2018

“

It was interesting to learn how several functions currently carried out by the Office of the President at NU are executed by different units at NUS. It was helpful to learn how NUS uses data for strategic planning, promotion of faculty and reporting to stakeholders.

”





Aray Saniyazova

Home: Nazarbayev University (Office of the President)

Host: Seoul National University (Office of Planning and Coordination)

Date of Visit: 19-23 Nov 2018



The objective of the visit to SNU was to gain exposure and better understanding of the programs, operation and management of different departments of the university. I am excited about sharing what I have learned with my colleagues at NU.



Miras Sharipov

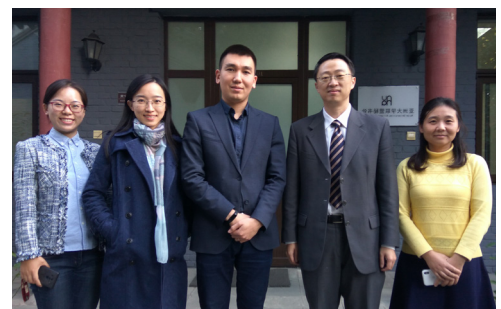
Home: Nazarbayev University (Dept. of International Cooperation)

Host: AUA Secretariat

Date of Visit: 15-19 Oct 2018



It was valuable to understand that at the stage of formation of AUA, there were many questions that could only be resolved collectively. Yet, different understanding of the norms means that there are a variety of views and opinions. There can be no single correct answer to any of the issues and challenges.



Xin Song

Home: Peking University (Office of Provost)
Host: The University of Tokyo (Management Planning Department)
Date of Visit: 28 Oct-4 Nov 2018



“

I learned about some educational characteristics of UTokyo, especially liberal arts education. I visited various offices and gained knowledge on professional teaching, international cooperation and faculty development which is of great significance to Peking University.

”



Kunzhu Zhang

Home: Tsinghua University (Library)
Host: Seoul National University (Library)
Date of Visit: 12-21 Aug 2018

“

Every experience of this visit was helpful and valuable to me. The exchange and communication with SNU Library colleagues will definitely promote the later AUA document delivery program and other cooperation.

”



AUA Staff Exchange Program Application Guidelines (Excerpts)

1. General Information

- a) All AUA members and the AUA Secretariat are encouraged to invite and send out Exchange Staff.
- b) The host shall be an AUA member university or the AUA Secretariat.
- c) This program provides financial support to a maximum of 15 Exchange Staff. The quota will be shared by all members and the Secretariat.
- d) Each Exchange Staff shall visit the host office/department for a minimum of 5 working days.
- e) Each Exchange Staff will be awarded a total of 1,000 USD grant in the form of stipend or reimbursement of visit expenses.
- f) Each Exchange Staff will receive a certificate after the visit.

2. Benefits to Member Universities

This program aims to enhance communications between staff of the AUA members. Through this program, AUA members could:

- a) have a better understanding of the programs, operations and management of other member universities;
- b) have a better understanding of the AUA Programs and the operation of the AUA Secretariat;
- c) better implement joint programs or projects with other member universities;
- d) develop more opportunities of cooperation within AUA.

3. Eligibility of Applicants

This program is open to applicants who meet the following requirements.

- a) Applicants must be employed as full-time administrative staff of an AUA member or the Secretariat.
- b) Applicants shall visit the host office/department for a minimum of 5 working days (excluding arrival and departure days).
- c) Applicants for the year 2020-2021 should complete their visit to the host office/department between 1 May 2020 and 31 Mar 2021, i.e., the starting date of the visit shall be no earlier than 1 May 2020 and the completing date of visit shall be no later than 31 Mar 2021.
- d) Applicants shall have a detailed visit plan which is approved by their employer and the host.



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Asian Universities Alliance



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