

10. FY 2022 Progress

【Nara Institute of Science and Technology】

■ Common Indicators and Targets

Internationalization

Symposium at NAIST Overseas Office

NAIST is actively recruiting students through its overseas offices in Indonesia and Thailand, which were established as hubs for education/research collaboration in Asia. After travel restrictions due to Covid-19 were relaxed, NAIST held the “NAIST and Thai Universities for Research and Education Collaboration Symposium 2022” on September 6, 2022 to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the NAIST Thailand Office at the Faculty of Engineering, Kasetsart University, where the office is located.



〈Symposium at NAIST Thailand Office〉

The symposium was held in a hybrid format, onsite and online, and attracted about 100 participants. From NAIST 6 members, including the Vice President for International Affairs and the Director of NAIST Thailand Office, visited Bangkok to meet faculty members from partner universities (Kasetsart University, Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Chiang Mai University) and Thai alumni who are actively working worldwide including Japan and Thailand. At the symposium, representatives from both NAIST and Thai universities gave presentations on their history of mutual exchange and actively exchanged opinions on further development of academic exchanges.

University reform

Placement of a new UEA

As of April 1, 2022, a new UEA was employed as the Director of the Division for Educational Development to manage NAIST's curriculum and further strengthen the planning and support of the coordinated curriculum and improve the institutional guidance for course registration.

Development of highly skilled staff

With the aim of developing highly skilled staff who can respond to the needs of global campus, NAIST sent one administration staff member to Hawaii Tokai International College for two weeks for an overseas staff development (SD) program. Through the program, the participant conducted research related to student support through lecture-based training and interviews with local staff. The training results were shared with other staff at a debriefing session held on February 17, 2023. In addition to this, nine staff members participated in the on-campus English training program where they focused on occupational written and spoken English. As a result of these ongoing efforts, the percentage of administrative staff with a TOEIC score of 750 or higher reached 31% (53 in total).

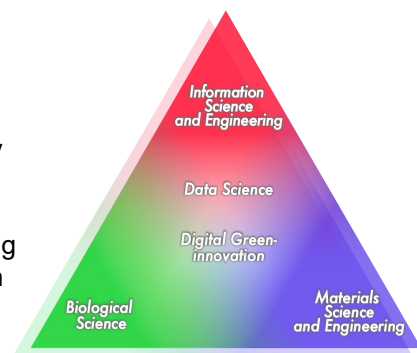


〈SD training program debriefing session〉

Education reform

Reorganization of education programs

Following the establishment of the Digital Green Innovation Center in January 2021, the three interdisciplinary programs “Computational Biology,” “Bionanotechnology” and “Intelligent Cyber-Physical Systems” were reorganized into the “Digital Green Innovation Program” in April 2022, resulting in five education programs together with the existing programs of “Information Science and Engineering,” “Biological Science,” “Materials Science and Engineering” and “Data Science.”



〈Transformation into 5 programs〉

Overseas faculty development (FD) program

NAIST conducts the overseas faculty development (FD) program in order to improve education quality by enhance our faculty's education, research and laboratory management skills using English. Three faculty members were sent abroad to the US, Germany and Italy, where they learned about overseas universities' laboratory management methods by participating in lab meetings and interviewing faculty/students. The training results were fed back to the faculty members through a debriefing session held on March 8, 2023.

University's own indicators and targets

Promotion of exchanges between international students and local community

As a part of collaboration with Ikoma City, with which NAIST concluded a comprehensive collaboration agreement in 2021, a rice planting and matcha tea event was held on June 4, 2022 in Takayama area where NAIST is located. International students and local citizens joined the event and interacted with each other. In addition, NAIST and Ikoma City co-hosted the "Ikoma International Friendship Festa" near Ikoma Station on October 30, 2022, where Tanzanian students exhibited a booth to introduce their country and Indonesian students performed traditional musical instruments. NAIST also held events with Ikoma City Library twice (2022.11.12 and 2023.2.12) where Malaysian students and a Jamaican student interacted with citizens by reading picture books to children, introducing their cultures and playing games. Through these activities, NAIST was able to not only increase its presence in the local community, but also to help our international students understand Japanese culture and promote multicultural understanding among local residents.



〈Students and citizens planting rice〉



〈Booth presentation at the Friendship Festa〉



〈Picture book reading at the library〉

Featured initiatives based on university characteristics

Promotion of studying abroad for Japanese students

Upon resuming international mobility in the post-pandemic era, the "Study Abroad & Global Career Seminar" was held online on April 23, 2022 with 34 students participating. At the seminar, students studying abroad in the double degree program, the Tobitate program, Erasmus+ ICM program and NAIST overseas internship program spoke online sharing their experiences and encouraging students to challenge themselves abroad. As a result of these efforts, 57 students studied abroad in FY 2022 under the support of NAIST Long-term Study Abroad Support Program, JASSO scholarship, Erasmus+ ICM program, etc.

ドイツ留学
2021/10 ~ 2022/10

留学先

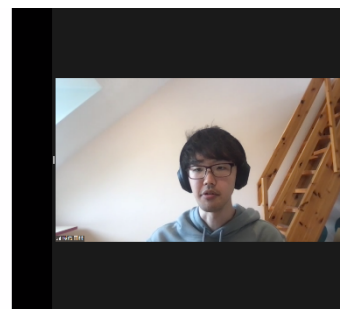
- University of Bonn
- Life Science Informatics lab.

指導教員

- Prof. Jürgen Bajorath
- 論文数700本以上
- 化学情報学の第一人者

留学中の扱い

- Visiting Ph.D. studentとして研究室に在籍
- トビタテ・学費・NAIST長期留学支援事業により生活



〈Study abroad experience presentation〉

Career support for international students

At the Division for Career Development (DCD), two counselors with overseas experience support international students in seeking employment. They provided one-on-one consultation in English for 366 international students. In addition, DCD also held seminars inviting NAIST graduates who work at Japanese companies and companies looking for international students as well as one-day company visits. As a result, a high percentage of international students (98.8% for the master's course and 95.7% for the doctoral course) found employment. After completing the doctoral course, 45.1% of the graduates were employed in Japan, either by companies or academic institutions while 76.4% of the master's course graduates pursued their career in Japan (23.5% to company and 52.9% to doctoral course).

Promotion of double degree programs

The first double degree master's student enrolled in October 2022 from Kasetsart University, with which NAIST signed a master's course double degree agreement in July 2021. As for the existing doctoral double degree programs, 2 students enrolled in the programs with Paul Sabatier and Paris-Saclay and 2 students completed programs with Paris-Saclay and Paul Sabatier.

Family support and on-campus exchange activities by CISS

The Center for International Students and Scholars (CISS) provides daily life support (city hall procedures, medical arrangements, childcare procedures, etc.) for students, researchers and their family members. In addition, CISS held gatherings at the on-campus nursery room three times (2022.10.27, 2022.12.22 and 2023.3.24) to promote interaction among family members of international students/researchers. CISS also promote cross-cultural exchange between international students and Japanese students through on-campus events such as a calligraphy event (2023.1.6) and the International Performance Stage (2023.2.28)



〈Gathering at on-campus nursery room〉