

## Yokohama National University wins the Japan Ryugaku Awards 2018 grand prize in two categories!



The Japan Ryugaku (a Japanese word meaning “study abroad”) Awards grand prizes have been conferred on nine Japanese universities and vocational schools in 10 different categories for the excellence of their academic programs for non-Japanese students, and their achievements in helping the students find jobs in Japan.

For the first time, YNU won the grand prize in the category of National and Public Universities of East Japan in 2017. In 2018, YNU received the grand prize in the category of National and Public Universities of East Japan for the second consecutive year and the grand prize in the category of Graduate schools of East Japan for the first time. Through these honorable awards, YNU aims to provide further support for international students in the future.

Japan Ryugaku Awards ceremony

\*These awards article were published in a newspaper “The Japan Times” dated October 15, 2018.

For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokukyo/20670/detail.html>

## The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) seminar and the UNDP special lecture held at YNU

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) seminar and the UNDP special lecture for the College of Urban Sciences were held at YNU in 2018. These lectures were carried out based on the agreement between UNDP and YNU. On June 27, the “African Development and Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)” seminar was conducted by TICAD Program Advisor Shigeki Komatsubara of the UNDP.

On November 6, a special lecture for the College of Urban Sciences titled “UNDP and SDGs – Actions toward a sustainable future –” was held by Director Tetsuo Kondo of the UNDP Representation Office in Tokyo.

Many YNU students and faculty members attended the lectures on both days. These were valuable opportunities for them to deepen their understanding and think about such problems.



Seminar by TICAD Program Advisor Komatsubara



Special lecture by Director Kondo, UNDP Representation Office in Tokyo

For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21637/detail.html>

For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/cus/21313/detail.html>

## PSU-YNU International Branch hosts the Students' Visit to Portland State University, USA



## UD-YNU International Branch hosts a special intensive lecture at the University of Da Nang, University of Science and Technology, Vietnam



The Students' Visit for YNU students to Portland State University (PSU) in USA was held hosted by PSU-YNU International Branch from March 5 to 9, 2018.

This program was planned by the Graduate School of Urban Innovation, YNU. Led by Executive Director and Vice President Fumihiko Nakamura, Dean Satoru Sadohara, and Prof. Minoru Takamizawa from the Faculty of Urban Innovation, 10 students in total from the Graduate School of Urban Innovation and the College of Engineering Science participated in this program.

This program was the first trial event that PSU-YNU International Branch hosted, and on the basis of favorable voices and wishes from students to continue the program in the next year, PSU-YNU International Branch plans to hold it again in March 2019.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21467/detail.html>

A special lecture for the University of Da Nang (UD) hosted by UD-YNU International Branch, Workshop – Computer Aided Engineering “Verification and Validation” – was conducted from September 24 to 28, 2018. From YNU, Prof. Shoichi Hirose and Assoc. Prof. Tomoyuki Shimono from the Faculty of Engineering, Assoc. Prof. Kazumi Matsui from the Faculty of Environment and Information Sciences visited and taught the lectures for 5 days for approximately 60 undergraduate students of the UD, University of Science and Technology. During the workshop, four graduate students from YNU supported the class as the lecturers. This was the second trial event that UD-YNU International Branch hosted, plans to expand the special intensive lecture held by YNU faculties.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21236/detail.html>

## The 12th international seminar of Port-city Universities League (PUL)



The 12th international seminar of Port-city Universities League (PUL) “Green Technology and Sustainable Development for Port Cities: Challenges and Solutions” was held by Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology, Vietnam (Organizer: Dr. Nguyen Danh Thao, Vice Rector) from October 16 to 17, 2018. From YNU, Executive Director of International Affairs and Vice President Fumihiko Nakamura, the Faculty of International Social Sciences Professor Ichiro Araki, the Faculty of Engineering Specially Appointed Assoc. Prof. Youhei Takagi and 2 Administrative Staff Mr. Shuhei Seidai and Ms. Ayaka Masuda attended.

For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21261/detail.html>

PUL Website: <http://www.pul.ynu.ac.jp/index.html>

## President Hasebe attends the 2018 Japan-Taiwan University Presidents' Forum



President Yuichi Hasebe

On June 7, 2018, Japan-Taiwan University Presidents' Forum was held at RIHGA Royal Hotel Hiroshima, organized by the Japan Committee of Universities for International Exchange (JACUIE) and co-organized by Foundation for International Cooperation in Higher Education of Taiwan (FICHET). From YNU, President Yuichi Hasebe and Prof. Haoyuan Xu of International Strategy Organization attended this forum.

The forum was organized with 5 sessions and President Hasebe presented as one of presenters of Session 1 and explained about double degree programs of YNU. President Hasebe and Prof. Xu exchanged opinions with many partner universities of Taiwan and agreed to strengthen their partnerships.

Through the participation of this forum, it is expected to activate the relationship between YNU and Taiwanese universities.

For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/20394/detail.html>

## YNU Faculties attend the T.I.M.E. Association General Assembly 2018

T.I.M.E., which stands for "Top Industrial Managers for Europe", is the world-wide consortium promoting double-degree international collaboration for graduate students in the engineering field. YNU became a member of T.I.M.E. in 2018. From October 3 to 5, 2018, the T.I.M.E. General Assembly (GA) was held at the University of São Paulo, Brazil.

From YNU, Advisor to the President Prof. Kazuyuki Hiratsuka from the Faculty of Environment and Information Sciences and Assoc. Prof. Tomoyuki Shimono from the Faculty of Engineering attended the event. At the T.I.M.E. GA, the YNU delegation could share ideas for further development of international collaboration in the aspects of education and research with the T.I.M.E. members.



For details see: <https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21429/detail.html>

## Vellore Institute of Technology, India and YNU co-host International Symposium



Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), India and YNU co-hosted the International Symposium "Technoscape 2018" with the theme of "Sustainable Water Resources: Innovations and Impacts" from September 6 to 8, 2018.

From YNU, Prof. Meguru Kaminoyama, Prof. Hideaki Yoshitake, and Assoc. Prof. Kazuho Nakamura from the Faculty of Engineering attended this symposium and gave a keynote talk.

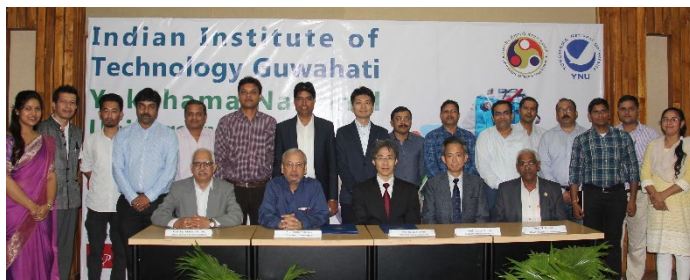
VIT and YNU signed MOU in 2017 and we have been developing exchange mainly in the field of water and chemical engineering.

Through this symposium, further exchanges between VIT and YNU are expected to develop.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21344/detail.html>

## Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India and YNU co-host Symposium



On October 30, 2018, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India (IITG) and YNU co-hosted a symposium.

This symposium was held to celebrate the conclusion of the academic exchange agreement between IITG and YNU in September 2018 and also to consider the possibilities of collaboration between both universities in the future. From YNU, Prof. Koichi Nishino and Assoc. Prof. Takuto Araki from the Faculty of Engineering and Prof. Atsushi Suzuki from the Faculty of Environment and Information Sciences attended. YNU delegation introduced the strong points of YNU, collaboration experiences with India and reported on the research fields. They shared information and exchanged opinions on the future direction for research collaboration.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/kokusais/21349/detail.html>

## YNU Malaysia Alumni Reunion held in KL



On September 14, 2018, the meeting was held at TORIDOKI—a Japanese restaurant run by a Japanese YNU alumnus with his partner in Kuala Lumpur; 13 Malaysian alumni and 3 Japanese alumni participated in this meeting. From Japan, Ms. Hisami Andrade, a former Assoc. Prof. of International Strategy Organization of YNU also attended this meeting and a total of 24 people gathered together.

It is expected to grow the alumni network in Malaysia further in the near future.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/alumni/20829/detail.html>

## YNU Vietnam Alumni Reunion held in Hanoi



On October 7, 2018, 21 Vietnamese alumni and 1 Japanese alumnus participated in this meeting. From YNU, Professor Yoshiaki Omori from the Faculty of International Social Sciences joined. This meeting was organized mainly by Hanoi Alumni Office Dr. Eng. Pham Hoang Kien, Director of the Vietnam-Japan Research and Development Center from the University of Transport and Communications.

The alumni network in Vietnam is expected to develop further in the near future.

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/alumni/21014/detail.html>

## Singapore , August 17



Singapore Alumni meeting group photo

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/alumni/20707/detail.html>

## Moscow (Russia), August 28



Moscow Alumni meeting group photo

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/alumni/20855/detail.html>

## Jakarta (Indonesia), October 3



Indonesia Alumni meeting group photo

For details see:

<https://www.ynu.ac.jp/hus/alumni/20939/detail.html>

### Invitation to Register for YNU Global Alumni Network

YNU Global Alumni Network will help strengthen the “Kizuna (bonds)” among YNU graduates and expand their network by sending information about YNU, supporting to hold alumni meetings and many other alumni activities. For registration, please visit the following website: <https://www.globalalumni.ynu.ac.jp/english/>

You can find a registration form under “Register for YNU Global Alumni Network” and please complete the registration form with as much detail as you can.



### Yokohama National University Fund



YNU established Yokohama National University Fund in 2016 and asks for support to enhance scholarships and develop education and research environment.

Please see the following website for more details: <http://kikin.ynu.jp/>

TEL : 045-339-4443

FAX : 045-339-3034

Email : [YNU.kikin@ynu.ac.jp](mailto:YNU.kikin@ynu.ac.jp)



# Special interview with President Yuichi Hasebe and Prof. Akira Fujishima

—Seizing opportunities through international exchanges in both directions—



Prof. Akira Fujishima, a world-class scientist known for his research on photocatalysis, has been inviting many exchange students to build up a global network of scientists.

In an interview with YNU President Yuichi Hasebe, Prof. Fujishima shared his view on human resource development in the era of globalization based on the years he spent studying at YNU.

**Hasebe:** Under the vision of ‘the university of global excellence,’ YNU strives to serve both local and global communities as an international hub of practical studies to usher in a sustainable society. Global talents cannot be nurtured by language programs alone. Students also need programs to acquire the ability to think and communicate globally, and to develop qualities like intercultural skills and independence. You began to promote international student exchange ahead of the times. How did it all begin?

**Fujishima:** Like other professors at the University of Tokyo, I could appoint associate professors and assistants myself. Because I appointed several Americans, the communication in our laboratory was primarily in English.

**Hasebe:** Probably not many professors appointed foreigners as associate professors or assistants. I see that you had already began to internationalize the faculty.

**Fujishima:** My laboratory invited students from many parts of the world, including India, China, South Korea, Romania, and other European countries. About 40 students came from China, among whom returnees with doctoral degrees are shining even today. One of my former students became a professor in his mid-thirties back at Peking University thanks to the timely system of appointing junior associate professors who returned from studies outside China as professors. Three other former students of mine were awarded the greatest scientific title in China to become academicians (i.e., members) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

**Hasebe:** You are also one of the few foreign academicians there, aren't you?

**Fujishima:** I believe I am the first Japanese to be recognized as an academician at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. During my time as the second director of the China Research and Communication Center of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), eight of my former students who are eminent in China kindly issued a booklet entitled "Fateful Encounter with a Teacher — Gifted Chinese Scientists from Fujishima Laboratory." In this academic year, 2018, I will have visited China about five times to deepen the exchange in science and technology between China and Japan.

**Hasebe:** I often meet you at New Year parties hosted by the Education Section at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Japan. I am always impressed by the genuine respect you receive from faculty members of Chinese universities.



President Yuichi Hasebe

**Hasebe:** Over the past 20 years of my teaching career in the College of Economics, I also noticed a visible increase in the number of exchange students from countries like Indonesia, Nepal and China. The increase seems to have had a positive influence on Japanese students as they had more occasion to read papers and make presentations in English. They also gained more understanding of the unique situations of the home countries of their fellow students after detailed studies and analysis of economies like Indonesia and Nepal. In this manner, students should be encouraged to gain more nuanced perspectives of the world through a wider and deeper exchange with international students.

In 2017, YNU accepted over a thousand international students, which accounts for more than 10 percent of the total of about 10,000 enrolled students. We intend to accept even more international students and encourage Japanese students to study abroad, whether short- or long-term.



**Prof. Akira Fujishima**

**Fujishima:** When Japanese students act as facilitators for international students, they spend a lot of time arranging meals together, escorting their foreign peers from and to hotels, and so on. During this time spent together, they become close friends. In international exchange, the key is exchange of students in both directions to build lasting relationships. The idea of sending facilitators to the countries of their fellow students should also be put into practice on a larger scale. Opportunities for international exchange broaden as students are given occasions to make friends from other countries, and thereby feel more at ease in pursuing studies abroad.

The Photocatalysis International Research Center at Tokyo University of Science, where I serve as the director, annually hosts a few dozen international students mainly from Asia. Students from different countries have deepened their exchange through joint research, dinner parties, and so on. Thanks to the positive influence from their foreign peers, Japanese students venture overseas more often. I am very glad to see the widening global network through the study of photocatalysis.

**Hasebe:** As one of the initiatives to promote international exchange, our College of Economics has been conducting a program called Euro-Japan Dialogue since 2006, and more recently Asia Dialogue with China. YNU sends students to our European partner institutions, but with Beijing Normal University, the exchange takes place in both directions. First, our students participate in discussions conducted in Beijing. Half a year later, we invite Chinese students to Yokohama to have them listen to our lectures and take company tours. On the last day, Chinese and Japanese students present their research findings in an English discussion session. The College of Business Administration runs a similar program.

Japanese students tend to have an aversion to communicating in English and they seem awkward at first. But that changes after preparing for and participating in theme-specific discussions on topics such as nuclear power plants, ageing society, welfare, and other issues. They gain confidence and begin to notice that the idea they want to convey is the most important element and that slight mistakes in English do not really matter. I believe the most effective ways to expand future opportunities for students are to help them overcome their hesitation to communicate in English, and, as Professor Fujishima says, to help them make friends from other countries.

I would like students to understand that they can seize opportunities by going on an international exchange, rather than waiting for the world to come to them.



**President  
Yuichi Hasebe**

Born in 1954 in Tokyo. In 1984, he was appointed associate professor at the College of Economics, YNU. He became a professor there in 1996. Later, he continued to serve YNU as the Dean of the Graduate School of International Social Sciences, the Director of the Information Technology Service Center, and various other roles before assuming his current position in 2015. He specializes in comparative economic systems and input-output analysis.

**Director of Tokyo University of Science  
Photocatalysis International Research Center  
Akira Fujishima**



Born in 1942 in Tokyo. In 1966, he graduated from the Department of Electrical Engineering at the College of Engineering, YNU. Subsequently, he served as a lecturer at Kanagawa University, a professor at the University of Tokyo, the ninth president of Tokyo University of Science, and various other roles before assuming his current positions as the director of the Photocatalysis Museum and the chairperson of Kawasaki Civic Academy, among others. He is a cultural contributor, a recipient of the Order of Culture, an honorary doctorate recipient and the Proud Alumni of YNU. He specializes in photoelectrochemistry and functional materials chemistry. He discovered the phenomenon of photocatalytic water decomposition.