NEWS

SYMPOSIUM CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF JAPAN-BELGIUM FRIENDSHIP; ACADEMIC LUNCH WITH BELGIAN KING AND QUEEN

Their Majesties King Philippe and Queen Mathilde of Belgium visited Japan to commemorate 150 years of Japan-Belgium friendship. As part of the itinerary, on October 14 Kobe University invited a group of Belgian university rectors to a symposium at the Kobe University Integrated Research Center. The event focused on the results of international collaborative research projects with four of our partner institutions in Belgium. The Kobe University Brussels European Center (KUBEC) was established in September 2010, and since then we have continued to expand our academic exchange with Belgian universities. We have concluded academic exchange agreements with nine universities in Belgium, a fruitful result of the annual KUBEC symposia and the almost monthly KUBEC workshops. This event commemorating 150 years of Japan-Belgium friendship is also a testament to our University’s strong presence in Belgium.
We will continue to use the Brussels European Office to promote increased collaboration in the fields of education and research between Japan, Belgium and Europe.


Kobe University Overseas Advisory Board meeting held

On November 7, Kobe University held an Advisory Board meeting at our Brussels European Centre in Belgium. The meeting was attended by board members His Excellency Mr. Herman Van Rompuy (former President of the European Council), Dr. Michael Reiterer (Senior Advisor in the Asia and Pacific Department, European External Action Service), Professor Roger Goodman (Head of Social Sciences Division, University of Oxford), and Professor Jiří Drahoš (Chairman of the Czech Academy of Sciences).


The 7th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium was held

The 7th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium “Emerging Sciences and a Changing World: EU-Japan in Transition” was held in Brussels, Belgium on November 8, 2016. Over 80 people attended the symposium, including Japanese and European officials, researchers, students and business representatives.

The four breakout sessions were organized under the themes of data science, cultural diversity, migration and security, and particle physics. Japanese and European researchers presented the latest results of cutting-edge research and discussed future opportunities for collaboration.

This year marked the first time that the symposium was held in collaboration with Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), where the Brussels European Office is located. KUBEC relocated to the international office buildings in Vrije Universiteit Brussel in July 2015 in order to fulfil its role as a base for international collaboration in education and research between Japan and Belgium, and to form closer ties with Belgian universities. http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2016_11_16_01.html

Seminar held on the legal background of Olympic sports in Japan

On November 10, Kobe University held a seminar in Budapest titled “Road to the Olympics: sports and the legal system in Japan”. The event was co-organized with the Japan Foundation Budapest.

Professor INOUE Noriyuki (Executive Vice President in Charge of International Exchange) presented a report on the legal background and issues surrounding sports and the Olympics in Japan.

Hungary has placed a bid for the 2024 Olympics, and during the question and answer time following the report there were many questions about Japan's legal framework regarding sports and the Tokyo Olympics bid, as well as the Japanese experience of bidding for the Olympics. The event ended with a lively discussion on these issues.

◆ Research at Kobe University (2nd Half of 2016)

- Plant discovered that neither photosynthesizes nor blooms

  Biology

- How do your parenting methods affect your child's future?

  Education, Economics

- Researchers succeed in developing a genome editing technique that does not cleave DNA

  Technology, Biology, Life sciences

- Mystery solved behind birth of Saturn’s rings

  Space science

If you would like to know more about our research, please contact us at
intl-relations (a)office.kobe-u.ac.jp

◆ Past Events in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Mar.</td>
<td>Global launch of investigation research on folk arts of storytelling by using international network [<a href="http://www.speech-data.jp/kaken_omoshiro/bru_mtg/">http://www.speech-data.jp/kaken_omoshiro/bru_mtg/</a>]</td>
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<td>16 Mar.</td>
<td>International Workshop on Modern Family in Japan and Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Mar.</td>
<td>The 6th International Seminar on Integration of Spatial Computable General Equilibrium and Transport Modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Mar.</td>
<td>From Wasan to Sudoku - Learning from Traditional Japanese Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Nov.</td>
<td>Collaborative Workshop between Trier University and Kobe University &quot;Space and Time in Modern Civilization&quot; [<a href="http://www.office.kobe-u.ac.jp/ipiep/materials/programme20161105.pdf">http://www.office.kobe-u.ac.jp/ipiep/materials/programme20161105.pdf</a>]</td>
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◆ In-house seminars and workshop at KUBEC

Information on academic seminars and workshops at KUBEC can be found at: http://www.office.kobe-u.ac.jp/ipiep/kubec/index_en.html

If you are interested in participating in those events, please contact us at intl-kobe_u_bxl(a)office.kobe-u.ac.jp for further information.

◆ Social Media

Kobe University is now on Social Media!

KobeU_Global  KobeUniversity Global  Kobe University

◆ Let us know what you think about our English website

Feedback is always welcome. Please let us know your opinion by filling in a 3-minute questionnaire about the new website. Link to questionnaire

Thank you very much for reading this newsletter. We wish you all a joyful Christmas holiday!

Kobe University Brussels European Centre E-newsletter has been sent to you because you have shown an interest in our activities. If you prefer not to receive it, please send a message to us at intl-kobe_u_bxl(a)office.kobe-u.ac.jp. Thank you.