

**The Arc 13:30 - 15:00**

## **"Japan-Europe University Networks"**

Chair: Dr Hideki Fukuda, President of Kobe University

Coordinator: Prof Chiharu Nakamura, Executive Vice President of Kobe University

### **PROGRAMME**

13:30	Introduction: Dr Hideki Fukuda, President of Kobe University
13:35	Presentation: Prof Hiroshi Takeda, Executive Vice President of Kobe University
13:50	Presentation: Prof Kiichiro Tsuji, Vice President of Osaka University
14:05	Presentation: Prof Jean-Didier Lecaillon, Vice Président de l'Université Panthéon-Assas
14:20	Presentation: Mr Michael Gaebel, Head of Higher Education Policy Unit, European University Association
14:35	Round-up: Prof Chiharu Nakamura, Executive Vice President of Kobe University
14:50	Closing remarks: Dr Hideki Fukuda, President of Kobe University



In response to the discourse in the morning session on the new way of mutual academic collaboration between Japan and Europe, this Japan-Europe University Networks discussed the approach or initiatives taken by individual institutions/organisation in the context of their country, society and culture. The initiatives of two Japanese national universities and an European institution were introduced by Vice Presidents of each institution and the European reform of higher education was reported by the representative of the European University Association.



Professor Hiroshi Takeda, Executive Vice President of Kobe University outlined organisation of international activities and research aspects. As a comprehensive university, Kobe University is establishing an integrated research base to promote multi-disciplinary advanced research to tackle with global issues, which will make a use of an advantage of international collaboration. The University has worldwide international research networks of which Professor Takeda introduced some examples including CERN in Geneva and Double Chooz experiment in France.



Professor Kiichiro Tsuji, Vice President of Osaka University introduced its strategies for internationalization. The University has 4 overseas centres in San Francisco, Groningen, Bangkok and Shanghai. Having a base in Groningen, the University is developing educational programmes including Erasmus Mundus and ICI-ECP in collaboration with their partners in Europe. They are also expanding their research networks with European institutions, in particular through their COE programmes.

Professor Jean-Didier Lecaillon, Vice President of Université Panthéon Assas mentioned that Kobe University is the first partner institution for Université Panthéon Assas and the University gradually has developed their partnerships with Japanese institutions. In order to enable foreign students in general, and Japanese students in particular, to come to Paris and



share pedagogical and reciprocal experiences by offering interesting prospects. One of the international programmes which is for the International Trade and Management Master course includes a foreign study trip and in the year 2009-2010, the University sent their students to Kobe University and companies in Kansai and Tokyo.



Mr Michael Gaebel, Head of Higher Education Policy Unit, European University Association, illustrated the developments in the reform of European higher education. EUA is an organisation who has over 800 members and its core task is to strengthen the European universities, with quality assurance and internationalization among the priorities for European universities. EUA has been involved directly — as a consultative party, representing Europe's universities - into the policy process of the Bologna Reforms and, in close cooperation with its memberships, it promotes its further development and implementation. The Bologna Process, including the 3 cycles of Bachelor, Masters and Doctorates, diploma supplement, recognition, quality assurance and other protocols, resulted in 2010 in the launch of the European Higher Education Area. In the framework of its global dialogue and internationalisation activities, EUA is exchanging and cooperating with Asia partners and has brought initiatives such as EU-Asia Higher Education Platform and contributed to the ASEM Education Process.



In the end, a coordinator, Professor Chiharu Nakamura, Executive Vice President of Kobe University concluded the session with his comments on the globalized society: a paradigm shift in our society brought us 1) changing economic and social systems, 2) multi-polarizing world, and 3) globalization and internationalization. The key is cooperation and collaboration with partners by developing advanced and leading model systems and creating diverse and advanced intellectual property for the realization of the quality and safety for securing society. Furthermore, factors to foster creativity and originality are ability and aptitude of individual scientists and research surroundings. He also emphasized the role of hybridization (exchange) and integration as a driving force of evolution of our society.