



Tsinghua University
China



**The Hong Kong Univ.
of Science and Technology
(HKUST)**



Chulalongkorn University
Thailand



**University of Malaya
(UM) Malaysia**



**Nanyang Technological University
(Nanyang Tech) Singapore**



**Bandung Institute of Technology
(ITB) Indonesia**



KAIST
Korea



**Tokyo Institute of Technology
(Tokyo Tech) Japan**



National Taiwan University
Taiwan



The University of Melbourne
Australia



The University of Auckland
New Zealand



AOTULE 2007-12, 5th Year Anniversary Asia-Oceania Top University League on Engineering

www.aotule.eng.titech.ac.jp



AOTULE 2007-12, 5th Year Anniversary

Asia-Oceania Top University League on Engineering

About AOTULE

The Asia-Oceania Top University League on Engineering is abbreviated AOTULE and pronounced "Our Tool". The AOTULE is an Asian-Oceanian regional league consisting of engineering faculties, staff and students from eleven premiere engineering and technological universities on the brochure cover page. The AOTULE promotes inter-university cooperation through joint programs including holding an annual Dean's meeting, staff meeting, multi-disciplinary student conference, and organizes short-term student exchanges in order to improve the quality of engineering education, promote interactions and research of its members. In addition, it aims to broaden participating faculty, staff and students' perspectives through best practice sharing, research collaborations, and cross-cultural activities. It celebrates its 5th anniversary at its annual meeting held at the University of Malaya,

Kuala Lumpur, in Nov. 2012.

AOTULE is operated by its members serving on a volunteer basis according to its by-laws and does not charge a membership fee. The AOTULE members are located in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, typically one institution per country. All expenses to participate in AOTULE activities are borne by the members. The AOTULE annual meeting is held on a different university campus each autumn and the host university covers the expenses for holding the meeting. However, students may receive partial funding to cover their expenses to participate in exchanges and attend conferences.

Organization and Executives

AOTULE is led by the Executive Chairman, who serves a one year term and serves as an advisor one subsequent year. The executive

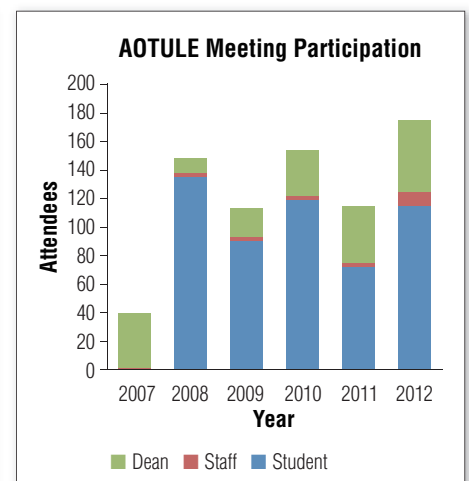
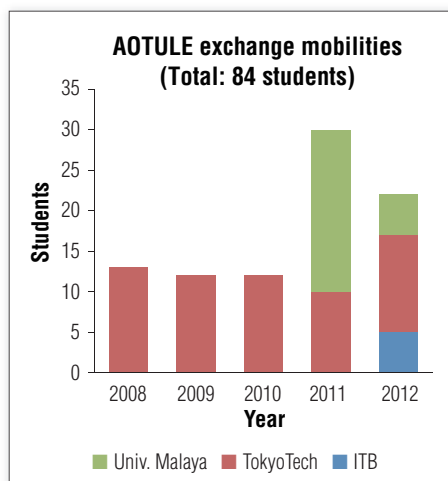
chair is automatically selected to serve based upon organizing and hosting the prior year's student conference, staff and Deans' meeting. The operation of AOTULE is undertaken by the Steering Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, who are elected for 2 year terms. The Steering Chairman also undertakes activities to promote AOTULE and deepen member participation in its programs. The position of secretary serves as the director of communications. The current executives are listed on the AOTULE website, www.aotule.eng.titech.ac.jp. The AOTULE standing working groups (WG) are listed below

- 1) Deans meeting preparation,
- 2) workshops and summer schools,
- 3) student & scholar exchange and
- 4) AOTULE web-site.

New working groups are formed based upon proposals at the Deans' meeting.

AOTULE Growth

Participation in AOTULE student exchange programs has doubled due to more universities hosting students and greater student mobility. In addition, attendance at the Annual meeting has also seen greater participation by Deans, Faculty, Students and Staff. (Note: the student conference began in 2008 and in 2007 the Deans meeting was held twice.)



History of AOTULE's Foundation



AOTULE's first Deans' meeting in 2007 at Tokyo Tech

The idea for forming AOTULE began with discussions between Tokyo Tech's Prof. Kiyoshi Okada and Monash University's Prof. Yi-Beng Cheng in 2006. These discussions ultimately led to the

formation and signing of a memorandum of understanding at the first Dean's meeting held at Tokyo Tech in March 2007.

AOTULE has firmly established itself as a forum for interactions among engineering Deans, Faculty, Staff and Students in the Asia-Oceania region. The annual graduate student conference and Deans' meeting has seen tremendous growth in the numbers of participants, approximately 110 participants per meeting (see Fig.). The AOTULE annual conference host rotates yearly as noted in the table.

List of AOTULE Meetings from 2007-20012

Host, Location and Date

Tokyo Tech, Tokyo, Japan, March 2007
KAIST, Daejeon, Korea, Oct. 2007
Univ. Auckland, Auckland, NZ Oct. 2008
National Taiwan Univ., Taipei, Taiwan Oct. 2009
ITB, Bandung, Indonesia, Oct. 2010
Tsinghua Univ., Beijing, China, Oct. 2011
Univ. Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Nov. 2012

Activities

Graduate Student Conference

The student conference provides graduate students an opportunity to present their research results to an international multi-disciplinary audience and learn about other students' research as well. The workshop is held in conjunction with Dean's and Staff meeting.



Nanyang Tech. Univ. Dean Fouke speaking at Tsinghua Univ. 2011 AOTULE Deans' meeting



AOTULE banquet at National Taiwan University, 2009



ITB AOTULE Banquet and cultural activity 2010



KAIST 2007 AOTULE Deans' meeting

Deans' Meeting

The core activity of AOTULE gathers Deans of all member universities together each fall to discuss education and research issues, make decisions regarding the operation of the AOTULE, receive working group reports as well as build relationships among the member universities.

Staff Meeting

From 2008, administration staff information exchanges regarding best practices in international programs have been held at the AOTULE annual meeting between Tokyo Tech and the AOTULE meeting host. In 2012, an administration staff information exchange meeting will become part of the annual meeting to discuss best practices in administration of educational and international exchange programs.



Student Exchange Programs

Short-term overseas student exchange activities are organized annually to promote research and educational activity as well as to promote cross-cultural fellowship among students usually in the summer. Over 80 students have participated in exchanges over the last 4 years (see Fig.). Universities that are organizing or hosting



AOTULE student exchange field/factory tours in Japan, Malaysia and Indonesia.



student exchanges include Tokyo Tech (photos above), ITB, Univ. Malaya, Chulalongkorn Univ. and Nanyang Tech. Univ.

Vision for 2017

During the next 5 years (2012-2017), relationships among AOTULE members are expected to deepen and new programs will be initiated based upon shared interests, including outreach to interested organizations worldwide. In addition, on-line coursework between

AOTULE members relating to topical subjects is being considered to provide students with an international experience without leaving their home campus. Finally, short-term staff and faculty exchanges within AOTULE is also under consideration.

Acknowledgements

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