

ABEST21 e-News

No.125, January-March 2024

ABEST21 International

THE ALLIANCE ON BUSINESS EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOMORROW, a 21st century organization

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I. ABEST21 General Information

1. ABEST21 International Office Report

January

- 11th: Conducting the online Accreditation Seminar I on "SCR(AAAS)"
- 16th: Holding the Accreditation Committee 2024
- 18th: Conducting the online Accreditation Seminar I on "SCR(APAS)"
- 23rd: Conducting the online Accreditation Seminar I on "KZR(APAS)"

February

- 07th: Holding the ABEST21 International Audit Meeting 2024
- 21th: Holding the ABEST21 International Board of Trustees 2024

March

- 18th: Holding ABEST21 International Annual Meeting, Tokyo, Japan
- 19th: Conducting the ABEST21 International Tsukuba Study Tour, Ibaragi, Japan
- 29th: Reporting on the Accreditation Results 2023 to MEXT

2. Holding the ABEST21 International Audit meeting 2024

On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, ABEST21 International Financial Audit Meeting 2024 was held in person and online. Firstly, the materials including "the Statement of Revenue and Expenditure 2023" and "the Balance Sheet 2023" for the period from Jaunary 1, 2023 to December 31, 2022 were confirmed by ABEST21 Audit Dr. Hua Xu at the ABEST21 office. Then, as a result of the audit held, the online ABEST21 Audit Meeting was held and the



auditors confirmed that the current fiscal report showed the settlement of accounts for the said period properly.

The ABEST21 Auditing Committee includes three auditors:

- Professor Dr. Hua Xu
 Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba,
 Japan
- Professor Gagaring Pagalung, Ph.D.
 Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Hasanuddin, Indonesia
- Professor Nor'Azam Matsuki, Ph.D.
 Arshad Ayub Graduate Business School, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia

ABEST21 International Statement of Revenue and Expenditure (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023) in the Annual Report 2024 is available to the public:

ABEST21 International Annual Report 2024 URL: https://www.abest21.org/about/report/

3. Holding the ABEST21 International Board of Trustees 2024

On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, the ABEST21 International Board of Trustees 2024 was held online. Based on the materials provided in advance, and following the detailed explanation by ABEST21 International President and the exchange of opinions, the ABEST21 International Financial Statement FY2023, the ABEST21 International Budget for FY2024, and other materials were discussed. The members



were also informed about the ABEST21 International Business Accompilshment 2023, the ABEST21 International Accreditation March 2024, and the ABEST21 KAIZEN Awards 2023. All items were accepted. At the end of the meeting, they exchanged their opinions how to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of ABEST21 International in 2025 because, ABEST21 International will mark two decades of fostering quality business and management education across Japan and Asia in 2025. For the latest updates, please visit the ABEST21 International website.

4. New Deans

Dean Professor Takamichi HOSODA, Ph.D. Graduate School of International Management, Aoyama Gakuin University

Dear ABEST21 members,

I am Professor Takamichi Hosoda, Dean and Head of Graduate School of International Management, Aoyama Gakuin University as of 1st of March 2024. Our school is also known as ABS (Aoyama Business School). I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the school.

The core of our school's mission is to foster students as creative leaders who fulfil their social responsibility and serve as global citizens, and to develop a prosperous future through our leading research activities. In our efforts to consolidate the position among the many business schools in the world,



our MBA programme is accredited by not only ABEST21 but also EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development) Global.

Our unique curriculum, culture, history, and location in Aoyama, Tokyo - the world's trendiest city - combine to provide a learning experience that will have a profound impact on students. During the first year, students will (re)learn foundations in the compulsory modules across nine fields, while in the second half of the first year and into the second year, students will develop their specialised and practical skills in elective modules. A wide range of elective modules are available, from those focusing on important domestic issues to those incorporating international learning experiences. It also features endowed elective modules by leading companies. Finally, students will culminate their learning in the Aoyama Action Learning (AAL). The main feature of our programme is that students will be able to experience their own personal change through the trinity of the compulsory, elective and AAL modules at the end of the programme.

Our global academic network is steadily expanding, which facilitates the international learning experience for our students. We also continue to focus on SDGs/ESG-related research and education to support not only our students, but also for alumni, local businesses, and society. Through our shared cooperation, we strive to enhance the student practical learning experience.

We are looking forward to your visit and to discussing future reciprocal initiatives. More about <u>Dean Hosoda</u>

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noorshella Che Nawi Malaysian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship and Business, University Malaysia Kelantan

Noorshella Che Nawi, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Entrepreneurship and Business (FKP) at Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK), holds a bachelor's degree in Information Technology from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). She pursued her Master's degree in Total Quality Management and Productivity Improvement at the same university before completing her doctoral studies in Management Information Systems at Victoria University, Melbourne. With a prolific record of publications in esteemed journals indexed in Scopus

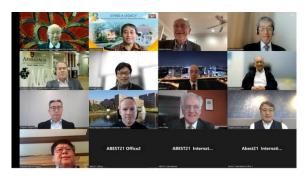


and Web of Science, Noorshella is deeply committed to impactful research, having secured over 30 grants from both international and national sources. Presently, she leads significant projects such as ERASMUS+ CBHE ANGEL, oversees the Asia Pacific Women's Information Network Center Project supported by the Korean government, and spearheads the Matching grant between UMK-Oman. Recognized for her research excellence, she has been appointed as Director of the Global Entrepreneurship, Research, and Innovation Centre (GERIC). In her current role as Deputy Dean of (Academic) at the Malaysian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship and Business (MGSEB), Noorshella is dedicated to elevating MGSEB into a world-class institution for entrepreneurship and business education in Malaysia. Her focus is on nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs, managers, and corporate leaders, instilling in them the mindset to innovate, transform, and excel in their organizations. Additionally, she holds membership in the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) (UK) and serves as a Research Fellow for two UMK Centers of Excellence: GERIC and Angkasa-UMK Research Academy (AURA).

II. "Assessing Today for Tomorrow"

1. Holding the ABEST21 Accreditation Committee 2024

Following the recommendation from the Peer Review Committee on accreditation results, the Accreditation Committee (AC) 2024 was held online on January 16, 2024. Based on the materials provided in advance, the AC discussed the Accreditation Results Recommendation 2024, and the nomination for the KAIZEN Award and other AC were recommended to the online ABEST21 International Board of Trustees held on February 21, 2024.



2. Schools accredited in March 2024

The ABEST21 International Board of Trustees meeting 2024 held on February 21, 2024 accepted the schools to be accredited after reviewing the recommendation by the Accreditation Committee. The accredited schools in March 2024 are listed below.

- Department of International Management, Graduate School of International Management, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, Japan
- School of International Corporate Strategy, Hitotsubashi University Business School, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan
- Master of Business Administration Program in International Business, Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Tokyo, Japan
- Bachelor of Management Program, Faculty of Economics and Business, Perbanas Institute, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Bachelor of Accounting Program, Faculty of Economics and Business, Perbanas Institute, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Bachelor of Business Administration (Human Resource management) with Honours Program, Faculty of Management and Economics, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Perak, Malaysia

3. Holding the ABEST21 Online Accreditation Seminar I for 2024

In January, the Accreditation Seminars I for Accreditation 2024 were conducted online. These seminars were designed to assist applicant schools and faculties in their report preparation. The primary focus was to provide clarity on the objectives of each stage (PAA, QIS, SCR, KZR) within the ABEST21 International Accreditation process. Additionally, participants gained a deeper understanding of the critical elements required for furnishing each report.

1) The online Accreditation Seminar I for SCR (AAAS) 2024

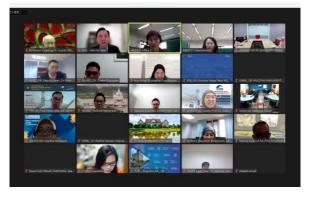
The Accreditation Seminar I for SCR under ABEST21 Academic Unit Based-Accreditation System were held on January 11th (AAAS). After introduction about ABEST21 Accreditation Process by Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH, President and CEO of ABEST21 International, Professor Ming-Yu Cheng, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia explained about the objectives of the Self-Check/Self-Evaluation Report and matter to be noted in their



writing their report under ABEST21 Academic Unit-based Accreditation System (AAAS). After that, peer review schedule, matter to be noted on submitting their SCR were presented by ABEST21 Office. The seminar was ended by active Q&A.

2) The online Accreditation Seminar I for SCR(APAS) 2024

The Accreditation Seminar I for SCR under ABST21 Program-based Accreditation System were held on January 18th (APAS). After introduction on the ABEST21 Accreditation Process by Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH, President of ABEST21 International, Assistant professor Dr. Hen Kai Wah, Tungai University, explained the objective of Self-Check/Self-Evaluation report, how the report is reviewed by the Peer Review Team with Desk Review and online Peer Review Visit, and issues to be noted



on preparation of the report. Then ABEST21 President Fumi ITOH presented further details of the SCR analysis according to the criteria necessary to conduct SCR. After that, Peer Review Schedule, clerical matters to be noted on submitting SCR such as format and check list were presented by the ABEST21 Accreditation Office. The presentations were followed by the Q&A session.

3) The online Accreditation Seminar I for KZR (APAS) 2024

On January 23, 2024, an accreditation seminar aimed to share detailed and updated information about the KAIZEN Report 2024 was held online. ABEST21 International requests all accredited Schools to submit their annual progress report, known as the KAIZEN Report, during the third year after receiving accreditation. The KAIZEN Report



shows how well the Action Plans outlined in the analysis at the last accreditation were performed to enhance the quality of management education according to the planned schedule. Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH, President and CEO of ABEST21 International provided an explanation about our accreditation system and the purpose of the KAIZEN Report at the 1st session. During the 2nd session, Professor Dr. Yudi Fernando delivered a presentation on the preparation of the KAIZEN Report, offering insightful suggestions. ABEST21 International Office shared updated information and schedule of the KAIZEN Report at the 3rd session.

III. "Assuring Quality for Tomorrow"

1. ABEST21 KAIZEN Award in March, 2024



ABEST21 accredits schools in the full confidence that their Action Plans to improve the KAIZEN issues found in the analysis of the plans to improve the KAIZEN issues found in the analysis of the Self-Check/Self Evaluation Report are promising. Since one of the aims of ABEST21 accreditation is to assure a substantial improvement of the educational quality to the stakeholders, we need to check the progress of the accredited schools on their Action Plans found in the analysis of the SCR, and provide a status report to the stakeholders. If the School performed all or most of the Action Plans and made an innovative improvement in the quality of the management education, ABEST21 would like to recognize the school's performance by giving it the

"KAIZEN Award". The Award is endowed based on the recommendation of the Accreditation Committee. The online Board of Trustees meeting held on February 21, 2024 ratified the accredited schools to be granted "KAIZEN Award". Following this decision, ABEST21 KAIZEN Award plaque was granted to the three accredited schools below:

- Department of Business Administration, Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
- Magister Manajemen Program, PPM School of Management, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Master of Management Program, School of Economics and Business, Universitas Telkom, Bandung, Indonesia

The KAIZEN Award Granting-ceremony was held on March 18th, 2024 at 12F of Souken building, Aoyama Campus

We congratulate the schools on their achievement in continuous improvement.

IV. ABEST21 Global Knowledge Network

1. ABEST21 International Annual Meeting 2024 in Tokyo



International Conference Room, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, Japan 12F Souken-building, Aoyama Gakuin University

ABEST21 International Annual Meeting 2024 was held on March 18 and 19, 2024 at 12F, Souken-building, Aoyama Campus, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, Japan. The Annual meeting was held in-person just like last year and about forty representatives from ABEST21 International school members participated to the meeting. The program schedule of the conference is as follows;

Day 1: Monday, March 18 ABEST21 International Annual Meeting 2024

Opening Remarks

Meeting 2024.

Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH

President and CEO ABEST21 International ABEST21 International President delivered opening remarks and explained about concept of the ABEST21 International Accreditation and main agenda of Annual



Welcome Message

Vice President Professor Tatsuya UCHIDA, Ph.D. Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan

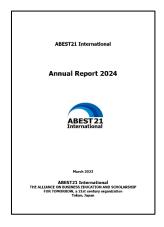
Vice President Professor Tatsuya UCHIDA, Ph.D. delivered a welcome message to our members and made introduction of Aoyama Gakuin University.



ABEST21 International Annual Report 2024

Firstly, ABEST21 Business Accomplishment 2023, Accreditation Certificate and KAIZEN Award March 2024 were reported. And then, the Financial Statement FY2023 and Budget for FY22024 were explained.

After mutual discussion, all items of discussion were approved.



Granting the New School Membership Certificate

ABEST21 International School Membership Certificategranting Ceremony was held.

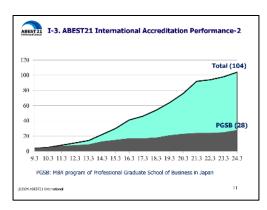
Acting Deputy Rector Dr. Sherizod Khannaev, Banking and Finance Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan, that had joined us last August received the certificate there.



Introduction of ABEST21 International Accreditation history

President and CEO Professor Emeritus Dr. Fumio ITOH ABEST21 International

President Itoh introduced history of the ABEST21 Accreditation began in 2007. The ABEST21 International was approved as an accrediting organization for Professional Graduate School of Business in Japan on October 2007 and Intellectual Property on October 2011 by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan. During past seventeen years, we accredited 104 management programs of School members in Asia-Pacific.



Granting the ABEST21 International Accreditation Certificate March 2024



Following schools received the Accreditation in March, 2024.

- Department of International Management, Graduate School of International Management, Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan
- School of International Corporate Strategy, Hitotsubashi University Business School, Hitotsubashi University, Japan
- MBA Program in International Business, Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Tokyo, Japan
- •Bachelor of Management Program, Faculty of Economics and Business, Perbanas Institute Jakarta, Indonesia
- •Bachelor of Accounting Program, Faculty of Economics and Business, Perbanas Institute Jakarta, Indonesia
- Bachelor of Business Administration (Human Resource Management) with Honours Faculty of Management and Economics, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Perak, Malaysia

ABEST21 International President Dr. Fumio ITOH granted the Accreditation Certificates to representative of the accredited schools there.











Granting the KAIZEN Award

Following schools received the KAIZEN Award in 2024.

- Department of Business Administration, Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
- Magister Manajemen Program, PPM School of Management,
 Jakarta, Indonesia
- Master of Management Program, School of Economics and Business, Universitas Telkom, Bandung, Indonesia

ABEST21 President granted the crystal trophy for the KAIZEN AWARD to the representative of Universitas Telkom there as one of the winning schools.



At the end, Banking and Finance Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan as our new school member, Deans of the accredited schools and KAIZEN Award winner schools made school presentations.

Closing Remarks

Senior Vice President Professor Dr. Abdolali Khatibi Management & Science University, Malaysia



Day 2: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 Tsukuba Study Tour (Optional Tour)



JICA Tsukuba Center

On fortunate day on March 19th, 2024, the Tsukuba Study Tour was held. With the cooperation of the Japan International Corporate Agency (JICA), we visited the JICA Training Center and gained various insights there. Also, we visited the JAXA Tsukuba Space Center (Tsukuba Center of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency).

Visit to JICA Tsukuba Center Visit the Tsukuba City's Start-up Park





At the beginning of the study tour, we visited Tsukuba Start-up Park run by Tsukuba City and being outsourcing to Tsukuba Kenkyu SHI-EN Center. INC. (TCI). Mr. Kazunori OTSUKA, Chief, Startups & SME Support Dept of TCI explained about 1. The Overview of the Start-up Park, 2. Tsukuba City and TCI's incubation initiatives, then went around their incubation facilities. He explained that The presence of these kinds of support system for star-up business as well as university students, including universities like the University of Tsukuba, contributes to a large student population and a predominantly young age group in Tsukuba City. As a result of these factors, Tsukuba City is a vibrant area with a youthful demographic.

The participants seemed to be interested in support systems especially related to funding, compared to the support systems for their own country's start-up companies.

Visit the JICA Tsukuba Center









At the beginning of the session, ABEST21 President Professor Emeritus Dr. ITOH Fumio expressed his gratitude to JICA, which provided this valuable opportunity.

The lecture started with the Welcome address and general explanation of JICA Tsukuba by Mr. TAKAHASHI Ryo, Director the Tsukuba Training Center. The participants were deeply impressed by the 70-year history of JICA's extensive ODA activities.





Then, Mr. HATANO Makoto, the Planning Officer in the Collaboration Promotion Section of the JICA Tsukuba gave the explanation of the Agriculture Co-creation Hub in JICA as well as training programs in various fields such as agriculture and advanced technology including grassroots technical cooperation,

collaboration with Japan's private sector, and so on. At the end of this session, Dean Professor Dr. Ir. Noer Azam Aschani as a representative of the participants, expressed gratitude to JICA and shared their experience of an extended stay at in the Tsukuba city. He also mentioned their desire to take the insights gained during this study tour back to their home country and introduce their students in lectures and other contexts.

After the lectures, many participants visited their practical facilities and after that enjoyed ethnic food lunch at the restaurant in JICA Tsukuba, "NERICA".

Visit to JAXA Tsukuba Space Center (Tsukuba Center of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)



Left JICA Tsukuba Center for JAXA Tsukuba Space Center, about 20 minutes away by bus. After passing by the strict security, the tour started with the introduction video about JAXA Tsukuba Space Center. After watching the video, we visited the Astronauts Training Center, where the astronauts' selection, training and health management as well as the space medical research are conducted for long-term stays in space. After that, we visited "KIBO" mission control center. "KIBO" is the Japanese Experiment Module in ISS (International Space Station). While

maintaining the condition of KIBO, they are conducting experimental operations and supporting astronauts 24 hours a day. They also constantly monitor the space station, remotely operate the experimental equipment and communicate with the astronauts in the control center.





"Furoshiki"

As a memento of the participants to the Annual Meeting 2024, "Furoshiki" were handed out to each participant. The "Furoshiki" was printed with the beautiful picture of "The Great Wave off Kanagawa" from "Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji" by Katsushika Hokusai. Hokusai is a famous Japanese ukiyo-e artist of the Edo period. The history and how to utilize "Furoshiki" were explained to the participants of the Tsukuba Tour in Day2. "Furoshiki" was featured in the article of The New York Times as of November 17, 2023 as the item drawing attention as "Gift Wrapping That Doesn't Create Waste". Being washable and reusable, it is good for the environment, and attracting renewed attention from the perspective of the SDGs. We hope every participant could enjoy the Japanese culture through the "Furoshiki".



"STUDENT'S NOTE"

Tsukuba Study Tour

Akane Fujisaki Aoyama Gakuin University

Visit to the Tsukuba Startup Park and the JICA Tsukuba

We left the Shinagawa Prince Hotel in the morning and took a bus for an hour and a half to Tsukuba City in Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan. Firstly, we visited the Tsukuba Startup Park, where Mr. Otsuka, Chief of the Venture Industry Support Department of the Tsukuba Research Support Centre, introduced the support system based on industry-government-academia collaboration. During the explanation from Mr. Otsuka, we had a lively exchange of views.

After the visiting Tsukuba Startup Park, we visit to JICA Tsukuba. JICA (Japan International



Cooperation Agency) provides international cooperation to developing countries as the implementing agency for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). At JICA Tsukuba, we listened to valuable stories about JICA Tsukuba's efforts to date, particularly with regard to agricultural co-creation. Dr. Ir. Noer Azam of IPB University, who has a long stay in Tsukuba, expressed his gratitude to JICA

Tsukuba.



After the session, we visit to JICA Tsukuba's practical facilities farm. Ibaraki Prefecture, which boasts one of the highest agricultural outputs in Japan, is home to individuals and organizations with advanced skills and knowledge in various stages of agriculture, from production to on-site distribution, research institutions, etc. JICA Tsukuba utilizes these local resources to meet the needs of developing countries and participating organizations, depending on the target, crop and issue.

After visiting the farm, we had lunch at the NERICA restaurant in JICA Tsukuba. A wide variety of food from different countries and regions was served, and each participant enjoyed his or her favorite meal.



Visit to JAXA Tsukuba Space Center-Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

The Tsukuba Space Center is located in Tsukuba Science City and was established in 1972. It is a comprehensive facility with state-of-the-art testing facilities on a side of approximately 530,000 square meters, in a green environment suitable for a research university city.

We participated in a guided tour of the Tsukuba Space Center. The tour lasted approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes and consisted of: 1. Screening of a film introducing the Tsukuba Space Center (10 minutes); 2. Tour of the Astronaut Training Area (20 minutes); and 3. Tour of the Kibo Mission Contral Room (20 minutes).





The Astronaut Training Building is the place where astronauts are selected, trained, and health-cared for, and where space medicine research is carried out to prepare them for long stays in space. In this area, we saw panels on space medicine research, experimental equipment and a 6° head-down bed rest that gives them the same feeling as if we were in space. We were also able to look through glass at the closed environment and low-pressure environment adaptation training facilities.

The Kibo Mission Control Room is where images and data from the ISS are constantly monitored, experimental equipment is operated remotely, and astronauts are communicated with and given instructions for their experiments. We were able to see it through the glass for a short time.







V. ABEST21 history -Vol.2

Looking back at the past 18 years, the growth of ABEST21 International (formerly ABEST21) can be attributed to its institutional approach towards international accreditation. Throughout this period, ABEST21 has embraced the principles of "broad-mindedness" and "living in harmony" recognizing and embracing the diversity of Asian values. ABEST21 is dedicated to developing a distinctive sustainable development of Asia. In this series of articles, we will take a retrospective look at the history of ABEST21.

Vol.2

ABEST21 News Letter No.1 issued

Since 2008, the ABEST21 News Letter has been a vital resource for enhancing the quality of business and management education and research in Japan and across Asia. Our mission is to promote excellence in these fields. Please remember, the ABEST21 e-News is more than just a newsletter—it's a platform for collaboration, learning, and growth

ABEST21 eNEWS No.

1. The third ABEST21 Accreditation Committee

We hold the third Accreditation Committee chained by Dean Robert S. Sullivan, Rady School of Management, University of California San Diego, on Thursday June 12, 2008 at Toshiba Corporation Head Office, Tolyo Japan. The Accreditation Committee approved Accreditation Plans of four Professional Business Schools in Japan. The Accreditation Plans are mainly composed of self-evaluations based on the "Common Standers" of the ABEST21 Accreditation Standards. The Committee admitted the four Professional Business Schools to go to the second step, which is preparation of Self-Evaluation Reports. The Self-Evaluation Reports are the target of main evaluation process for the accreditation. We will do fine evaluation for the run Professional Business Schools at the fourth Accreditation Committee on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at Sony Conrosition Head Office. Tokou, Japan. Corporation Head Office, Tokyo, Japan

2. Session on Company Needs for Management Education in Business Schools
We Implement a questionnaire research on Company Popicitations (Company Needs) for Management Education in Business Schools by seven business schools in Asia-Padific regions, that is Takubba University in Japan, Seout National University in Republic of Reroe, Moscow State University in Russias, Fudan University in Ohina, Chicago Hall University in Thailand, Management & Science University in Melaysia, and Technologico de Moniterey in Mexico, as a part of our consignment projects of 2007. We are planning to publish the Research Projects Results on that. Prior to publish the report, we will held a session on both an analysis report of Japan's survey and comparative analysis among these countries.

arative analysis among these countries.

Date: Thursday, September 4th, 2008 from 14:00 to 18:00 Place: ABEST21 office http://www.abest21.org/access/index.html

3. GSBA Field Study 2008

We were glid to serve as a bridge between Graduate School of Basiness Administration, Mozow Shet Linkmersh, Issaids (SRSA) and Jamesen institutions on SAB Field Study 200 during 22" for 31" 3 My 2008 in Jagen. About 25 GSBA students of its EMBA/MBA courses visited to Jagen. On 31" 3 My 24, the GSBA students had a session for reading research papers and took classes on MBABESTZ1 Management Game by fellow-MESTZ1 member, Gedulate School of Informational Management, Anyama Galatin Inhierathy (Anyama Basiness School), at Anyama Campus, Toloy. On July 25", they risked to Toyoria Factory in Aichi prefective with the cooperation of both Thyota Corporation and fellow-ABESTZ1 member, Nanzam University, On July 26, GSBA students received a curlificate of the first Study 2008 signated by CSBA, Anyama Business School and ABESTZ1. Also they received small gifts from ABESTZ1 at the granting ceremony.

Topics in ABEST21 News Letter No.1

- 1. New member introduction
- 2. Establishment of an official Business Accreditation Agency

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- 3. Set up of Accreditation Committee Japan Division
- 4. International symposium on Joint Research Project 1- "MBA Education and Quality Improvement System in Asian Countries"
- 5. Start of Joint Research Project 2 "Comparative Analysis on Company Needs for Management Education in Business Schools in Asian-Pacific Countries"
- 6. Start of Joint Research Project 3 "Comparative Analysis on Self-Evaluation in Management Education based on ABEST21 Business Standards in Asian-Pacific Region"
- 7. Establishment of ABEST21 Research Award
- 8. ABEST21 Seminar 2008

Start-up of Accreditation Activities (October 2007 -)

ABEST21 stated its accreditation activities for Professional Graduate Schools, with business schools in Japan. ABEST21 applied for and was approved by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science, and Technology (MEXT) as an accrediting organization for Professional Graduate School of Business (Business Management, Management of Technology, Finance, and Business Information) on of October 12, 2007.

Up to March 2015 ABEST21 has conducted initial/maintenance accreditation for 30 schools. In March 2015, the first accreditation for Professional Graduate School of Management of Technology was completed. The field of accreditation by ABEST21 was extended in October 2011 when it was certified as an accrediting institution for professional graduate school of intellectual property also. Extension of accreditation activities led to the development of evaluation system for "enhancement of educational quality" based on extensive knowledge and experience.