

## Summary of the Symposium

### Network Formation of Kuroshio Universities through Cross-Border Education

Akira Tominaga

We had the 8<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Kuroshio Science in Kochi University last September. Since 2007, a series of Kuroshio Science Conferences was started from Kochi University and succeeded by National Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan and Bicol University in Philippines. After two cycles of this series of conferences, the 7<sup>th</sup> Symposium was co-organized by University Malaysia Sarawak and Tanjungpura University and held in Pontianak, Indonesia. Both of these universities locate in the West of Borneo Island. These areas are also influenced by the Kuroshio Current. The 8<sup>th</sup> Symposium was the start of the third cycle of this series of Kuroshio Science Conference/Symposium. We focused on a network formation among institutions along the Kuroshio Current. We had three Keynote lectures: Cross-Border Education in Kuroshio Region by President Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya, Bicol University. Ocean Management: Integrated Approach of Science, Technology and Human Dimensions by Professor Hiroyuki Matsuda, Yokohama National University, UP-Marine Science Institute Studies on the Oceanography and Marine Science of Waters being Fed to the Kuroshio Current by Professor Rhodora V. Azanza. Topics were divided into the following four Sections:

1. Network Formation and Studies of Kuroshio Ecosystems and Biodiversity
2. Network Formation and Studies of Marine Resources and Management
3. Cross-Border Education and Studies in Marine Biomedicine
4. History and Societies along the Kuroshio Current; Network Formation of Cross-Border Education in the Kuroshio Region

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In 2009, I joined the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration event, International Academic Colloquium of Bicol University held in Legazpi city. The theme was “Raising a Nation’s Productivity and Competitiveness through Cross-Border Higher Education”. Professor Sylavano Mahiwo delivered us a lecture entitled, “The Meta-Nation State Relations and the levels of Global Cooperation in the Field of Education”. I felt the keen enthusiasm on the Cross-Border Education in the meeting.

Borders between countries are politically decided. According to Dr. Jeng-Di Lee, Sun Yat-Sen University, people in Orchid Island in Taiwan have relatives in Batanes Islands in

the Philippines and they can communicate using their native tongue. So, culturally they belong to one tribe.

### Role of the Kuroshio Science Consortium Academy:

During the general discussion at the end of the Symposium, Professor Rhodora Azanza suggested us to establish the **Kuroshio Science Consortium Academy** to nurture talented people to achieve a sustainable society in this region through cross-border education. Before that, in the last session, Ms Yi-Ching Huang suggested us to compare the Rhine River Consortium with our network to achieve a sustainable society in the Kuroshio Region while she gave us a talk on “Cross-Border Education and Credit Transfer Scheme”

Although the conservation of the environment of the Kuroshio Region is much more difficult because of the tremendous influences of the Kuroshio Current on earth, still there are some common aspects we can share. From the comparison between Rhine Conservation and Kuroshio Region Conservation, we can envisage these common themes described below. **The International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine** is de-centralized organization and maintained by neutral Secretariat to make decisions by consensus as recommendations to each participant. I think this policy can be applied to the **Kuroshio Science Consortium Academy**.

At this moment, we are thinking the following subjects as the activities of the Kuroshio Science Consortium Activity.

1. Cross-Border Education
2. Ecosystem Management
3. Diversity of Organisms
4. Fisheries and Agriculture
5. Usage of Marine Bio-resources
6. Integrated Management of Ocean Resources
7. Cultures, History, and Society

Professor Hiroyuki Matsuda suggested the importance of **Integrated Management of Ocean Resources** in his keynote lecture to resolve the conflicts such as those between fisheries and nature conservation. He also introduced us the **Port-city Universities League (PUL)**. It is described that it aims to develop a global network among those port cities and universities, and exchange ideas and views about the culture related to ports (history, trade, industry, maritime research, festivals, *etc*). It includes not only the faculties and students, but will in the future also address the citizens’ activities and initiatives ([http://www.pul.ynu.ac.jp/about\\_pul.html](http://www.pul.ynu.ac.jp/about_pul.html), 2015/06/24).

At this moment our network activities are restricted to faculties and students. We would like to facilitate the

engagement of people who live in each area into this network to enrich our activities. Recently, I joined Bamboo-Shoot-Picking organized by an Ami Group, one of the activities of Hualien Tribal College (Director Mr Sifo Lakaw). They believe that cultural diversity contributes to the development of human society and their ultimate goal is to promote indigenous autonomy and sustainable cultural development (cited from the Introduction to the Hualien Tribal College).

Kuroshio Science Consortium Academy is also pursuing an establishment of a sustainable society in the Kuroshio Region by nurturing talented people through cross-border education. I appreciate Ms Sonia Huang and Ms Panay Kumod (Office of International Affairs, National Dong Hwa University) who introduced me the activities of Hualien Tribal College.



**Participants of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Kuroshio Science**

**Front row** (left to right): Mahiwo, Sajise, Tominaga, Morooka, Morales, Houng-Yung Chen, Fukami, Taguchi, Lauraya, Mok, Matsuda, Takemura, Taguchi, Simanjuntak, Minoh, Camaya. **Second row** (left to right): Ueda, Tsubaki, Niger, Tien-Yi Chen, Kubota, Aldea, Habalo, Canon, Nieves, Te-Hao Chen, Huang, Ching-Nen Nathan Chen, Itani, Hori. **Third row** (left to right): Alcaraz, Dumalan, Macale, Yamamoto, Daclan, Yu-Hsin Chen, Wu, Pascua, Nakamura, Tuo, Kato, Iiguni, Ishikawa, Sinbo. **Top left:** Azanza.

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