Tokyo University of Agriculture, Tokyo Japan

Food, Agriculture and Environment in Asia

The 15th International Students Summit

September 26 – October 4 2015

Comprehensive International Education Program (CIEP)

October 4 – October 11 2015

Tokyo University of Agriculture (Tokyo NODAI) has been organizing the International Students Summit (ISS) on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century, in collaboration with its global partner universities, since 2001. It has proved to be a great venue for leadership training. Tokyo NODAI also offers a Comprehensive International Education Program (CIEP), a training course in food, agriculture and environment with special focus on Japan and Asia. CIEP runs for one week, consisting of intensive learning with lectures, field study and workshops.

For students who will play a major role as speakers of the ISS, two credits will be given under a subject, “Group Approach to Food and Environment.” For those students who successfully complete CIEP training courses in the second week, two credits each will be given under the two subjects, namely, “Sustainable Agriculture in Asia” and “Field Study of Food and Environment.”

In order to accommodate the two-week program, the 15th ISS will be held on October 1-2, 2015 at Setagaya Campus of Tokyo NODAI, and the CIEP training course will be conducted during October 4-11, 2015 in Tokyo and Joetsu.

The second week of the program will be optional, as the participants will be required to pay for their expenses.

The following is the introduction to the ISS and CIEP in 2015, consisting of two parts:

Part One: Announcement of the 15th International Students Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century

Part Two: Course brief for the CIEP training course
PART ONE

The Fifteenth International Students Summit (ISS) on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century

Students Taking Actions in Innovative Approaches to Build Local Resilience and Promote Awareness to Global Challenges

October 1 – 2, 2015

Statement

The contemporary world is facing a crisis of sustainability, and we see it as tremendously important to draw together the wisdom and vitality of youth, the torchbearers of the future of mankind. There are especially wide ranging missions for agricultural students, as agricultural science plays a key role in the solution of fundamental problems in food production and safety, environmental conservation, energy, and human health. The system of food production and consumption is without doubt closely related to the condition of the natural environment, the stage of economic development, and food culture in each country, and their patterns and problems reflect regional characteristics. It is thus important to understand how agriculture and food systems should be organized and maintained in each society.

In November 2001, Tokyo University of Agriculture (Tokyo NODAI) organized the “International Students Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century” to provide students from our global partner universities with an opportunity to gather and exchange views and ideas on global food, agricultural and environmental issues, and also to discuss their own roles in sustainable development. The outcomes were announced as the “Tokyo Declaration.” Since then, the International Students Summit has been held every year. The participating students adopted Action Plan in 2002 and agreed to establish the International Students Forum (ISF) in 2003. In 2005, Global NEFA was established by the former participants of ISS/ISF as a venue for continued sharing of information and knowledge on food, agriculture and environment issues. The 14th ISS in 2014 was sponsored jointly by Kasetsart University (KU) and Tokyo NODAI, and held at Kampheng Saen Campus, KU, in Thailand.

The International Students Summit has now come to the 15th time, and this will be held on October 1-2, 2015 at the Tokyo NODAI Setagaya Campus in Tokyo. The theme for this summit is “Students Taking Actions in Innovative Approaches to Build Local Resilience and Promote Awareness to Global Challenges” which was adopted at the 14th ISS in 2014. In fact, this is a very similar theme to the 14th ISS, but in 2015 the 15th ISS hopes to narrow the scope of their presentations and discussions to actual activities undertaken by the students of each university in the respective local community. By focusing on actual activities by the students in the participating universities, they hope to clarify the framework of student activity as to the rationale, methods, implications (economic, social and cultural), and constraints, in order to foster their contributions to the solution of global problems through taking actions in local communities.

Only one presentation will be accommodated for each participating university in the following sessions.

Opening Session: Opening ceremony and keynote speeches
Session 1: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of food
Session 2: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of environment
Session 3: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of agriculture
Closing Session: Discussion and adoption of joint communique

Organizing Committee & Students Committee,
International Students Forum,
Tokyo University of Agriculture

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ISS Program (Tentative)

♦ October 1, Thursday

Opening Ceremony

Session 1  Students’ Actions in the field of food
Session 2  Students’ Actions in the field of environment
Poster Session

♦ October 2, Friday

Session 3  Students’ Actions in the field of community development
Session 4  Students’ Actions in the field of agriculture
Session 5  General Discussion

Tentative Schedule

April 20, 2015:  Nomination of ISS & CIEP participants to Tokyo NODAI
June 10, 2015:  Submission of Abstract (400 words) to Tokyo NODAI
July 20, 2015:  Submission of Full Paper (3,000 words) to Tokyo NODAI
September 20, 2015:  Submission of Power Point Presentation to Tokyo NODAI

The ISS Week (26 September - 4 October 2013)

September 26  Arrival
September 27-28  Field trip
September 29-30  Rehearsal
October 1  The 15th ISS
October 2  The 15th ISS
October 3  Free, Sightseeing
October 4  Departure
PART TWO: CIEP Training Course

COURSE BRIEF

October 4 – 11, 2015

I. Title of the Course

Comprehensive International Education Program (CIEP),
“Food, Agriculture and Environment in Asia”

II. Course Description

Dimensions, dynamics and role of agriculture, food and environment in
the Asian economies, with emphasis on Japan and the following spheres:
(1) sustainable agriculture and post-production systems; (2) food
production and consumption patterns and behavior; and (3) integrated
approach to address the current and emerging problems in agriculture,
food, environment and energy.

III. Objectives of the Course

At the end of the course, the students should be able to describe the
important dimensions and unique attributes of Japanese and Asian
agriculture, food, environment and energy, as well as to explain their
relationship to regional development.

IV. Prerequisite(s)

Basic course(s) in agriculture, food and environment, or equivalent

V. Target Clientele

Undergraduate students, preferably of Junior (third year) or Senior
(fourth year) standing. However, any student who is considered by
partner universities qualified to participate may enroll. English
proficiency is required, as the entire course is conducted in English.

VI. Duration and Dates of Offering

October 4 – 11, 2015

October 4-7  Field Study in Joetsu
October 8     Lectures
October 9-10 Workshop
October 11   Departure from Tokyo

VII. Total Number of Unit Credits

4 units, broken down as follows:
2 units for the course on Sustainable Agriculture in Asia and
2 units for the course on Field Study of Food and Environment

VIII. Structure and Conduct of the Course

The course is intensive and shall be approached in the following ways:

In the first four (4) days, farm visits (reconnaissance/ocular visits
combined with briefings) and/or farm practicum (actual participation in
farm activities) will be conducted for a total of three (3) nights and four
(4) days in Joetsu, Niigata prefecture. This will enable the students to
visit model case farms in Japan and to gain hands-on experience in
sustainable and environment-friendly farm operations.

This will be followed by one day lectures by professors from Tokyo
NODAI and cooperating universities. Topics shall primarily focus on the
crucial issues and challenges in agriculture, food and environment in
Japan and Asia, as well as the alternative paradigms and strategies
toward sustainable agricultural development. Food and Energy crisis will also be dealt with.

A workshop will be conducted on October 9-10 at the final stage of the CIEP. The students shall be grouped to work on modular problem-based learning questions that are founded on the previous lessons and activities. The CIEP participants will be required to prepare a synthesis of CIEP, lectures and field study, at the workshop in group and then to put them into a presentation format. Since the course is pedagogically interactive in structure, the students are expected to demonstrate improved group dynamics skills at the end of the course.

Pre and post diagnostic examinations shall be administered to assess the relevance and effectiveness of the program.

IX. Schedule of Activities (tentative)

Please see attached tentative schedule.

X. Registration and Corresponding Costs

Total Number of Students Approximately twenty (20) students from Tokyo NODAI and its global partner universities.

Enrolment Procedure All application forms must be sent to Center for International Programs, Tokyo University of Agriculture by e-mail (email address: isf@nodai.ac.jp) on or before April 20, 2015. A letter of acceptance will be issued to all qualified applicants. They will be enrolled as visiting students of Tokyo University of Agriculture for 2015 so that credits will be officially given by Tokyo NODAI.

Certificate of Credits Upon successful completion of the program requirements, students will receive a certificate of credits by postal service from the Register Office of Tokyo University of Agriculture in March 2016.

Costs per Participant The registration cost amounts to thirty thousand (30,000) yen per subject (2 credits). However, accepted students from Tokyo NODAI’s partner universities may be exempted from paying the registration fee, if a special admission is granted by Tokyo NODAI.

On the other hand, the cost of the field study amounts to forty thousand (40,000) yen and must be borne by the students. This includes domestic transport, accommodation and eleven (11) meals during the three (3) nights and four (4) days duration of the field study.

Accommodation Student dormitory will be available to the participating students while staying in Tokyo.

Inquiries should be sent to:
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