



THE CONSORTIUM EXPERIENCE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Academic Consortium 21 (AC21)



ACADEMIC CONSORTIUM 21 (AC21)

THE GLOBAL UNIVERSITY-ARCHITECT OF THE NEW CENTURY

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Possibilities and Challenges

1. History of AC21
2. Achievements
3. Challenges and Solutions
4. Future Possibilities



Our History and Vision

- Foundation: June 24, 2002
 - ▣ Founded at the International Forum called by Nagoya University, Japan

- Vision:
 - ▣ To upgrade our academic exchange activities
 - ▣ To reinforce the co-operation among member institutions
 - ▣ To support of an International Forum every two years



AC21 Member Institutions

Australia

- The University of Sydney *

France

- Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées* (ENPC)

Germany

- Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
- Technische Universität Chemnitz*

Japan

- Nagoya University*

Indonesia

- Gadjah Mada University

Laos

- National University of Laos

P. R. China

- Fudan University
- Huazhong University of Science and Technology
- Jilin University
- Nanjing University
- Northeastern University
- Peking University
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University*
- The University of Science and Technology of China
- Tongji University

Thailand

- Chulalongkorn University *
- Kasetsart University

U.K.

- The University of Warwick*

U.S.A.

- North Carolina State University*

* AC21 Steering Committee members

AC21 Partners

- Advantage West Midlands
- Asia House
- CHUBU Electric Power Co., Inc
- ITOCHU Corporation
- NGK Insulators, LTD.
- Toyota Motor Corporation

Motto and Mission of AC21

□ Motto

- “The Global University-Architect of the New Century,”
a creator of future generation, values and society

□ Mission

- Promote cooperation in education and research between members
- Form bridges between different societies in the world
- Deliver the accumulated wisdom to all people to contribute to mutual understanding and share values, knowledge, and cultures as necessary to improve the quality of life and to foster co-existence beyond national and regional boundaries in the 21st century



AC21 Governance

- **Governing body**
 - ▣ Steering Committee organized by eight institutions
 - ▣ Steering Committee Meeting: Once a year

- **Annual Contribution Fee**
 - ▣ Divided into 3 categories based on GDP/per capita (from USD 250 to USD 2,500)

- **AC21 General Secretariat: Nagoya University**
 - ▣ Operating budget of the General Secretariat is funded by Nagoya University



Achievements for the Past Five Years

- International Forum
- Student World Forum
- Benchmarking Activities
- Research Cooperation
- On-line Language Education Program
- University- Industry Relations
- Other Initiatives



AC21 International Forums

- First AC21 Int'l Forum (2002), Nagoya U, Japan
 - ▣ Theme: “Architect of the New Century”

- Second AC21 Int'l Forum (2004), U of Sydney, Australia
 - ▣ Theme: “Universities, Cities and Society in the 21st Century”

- Third AC21 Int'l Forum (2006), U of Warwick, U.K.
 - ▣ Theme: “Universities in the 21st Century”

- Fourth AC21 Int'l Forum (2008), North Carolina State U, U.S.A.
 - ▣ Theme: “University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21st Century”

- Fifth AC21 Int'l Forum (2010), Shanghai Jiao Tong U, P.R.China
 - ▣ Theme: TBA

AC21 Student World Forums

- AC21 Student World Forum 2005
 - ▣ At Nagoya University, Japan
 - ▣ Theme: “Coexistence of Nature and Humans”

- AC21 Student World Forum 2007
 - ▣ At Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, France
 - ▣ Theme: “Sustainable Cities”

- AC21 Student World Forum 2009
 - ▣ Planned at Technische Universität Chemnitz, Germany



Communication

□ Challenges:

- Who am I sending this information to?
- Are they really the people who I want to send my information to?
- Do they know who I am? – No.

□ Solutions:

- Visits to 14 members out of 19 members in 2007
- Now AC21 has build “AC21 communicator network”



Participation

□ Challenges:

- Participation of members

□ Solutions:

- Visits to member institutions
- Send out more information about AC21
- AC21 Monthly Report
- AC21 Newsletter



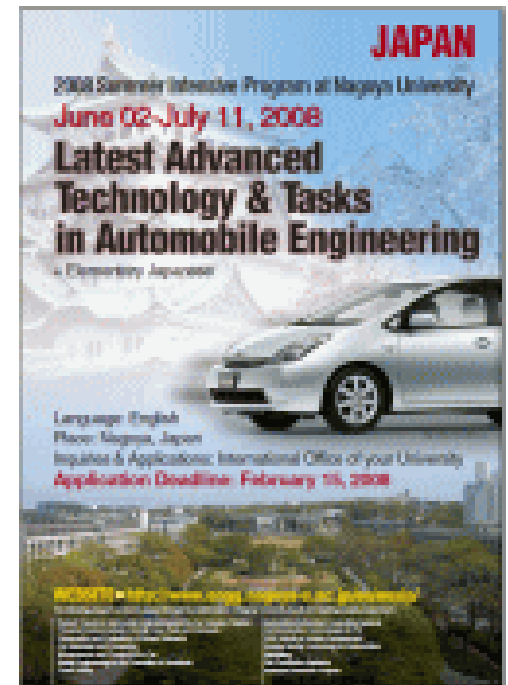
Enrich Activities

□ Challenges:

- IF and SWF every other year, and all have been a great success.
- We need to have more activities which are unique, something only our consortium can do.

□ Solutions:

- First AC21 automobile summer school program
- Summer school for post-graduates



What are our possibilities?

- Promoting AC21 Activities
 - ▣ Expand AC21 Activities
 - Faculties
 - Researchers
 - Students
 - Administrative staff
 - ▣ Collaboration with other university networks



What are our possibilities?

- Benchmarking activities, Industry, Academia, and Government Cooperation
 - ▣ Internationalization of Higher education
 - ▣ Information technology infrastructure
 - ▣ Quality improvement of education



What are our possibilities?

□ Industry, Academia, and Government Cooperation

- Nagoya- CHUBU Electric Power Co., Inc, ITOCHU Corp., NGK Insulators, LTD., Toyota Motor Corp.
- Warwick- Advantage West Midland, Asia House
- TU Chemnitz- Volks Wagen
- NC State- Research Triangle Park



Fourth AC21 International Forum

- This forum is open to everyone.
 - Theme: “University Partnerships: Global Collaboration and Innovation for the 21st Century”
 - Dates: July 28-July 30, 2008
 - Location: North Carolina State University, U.S.A.

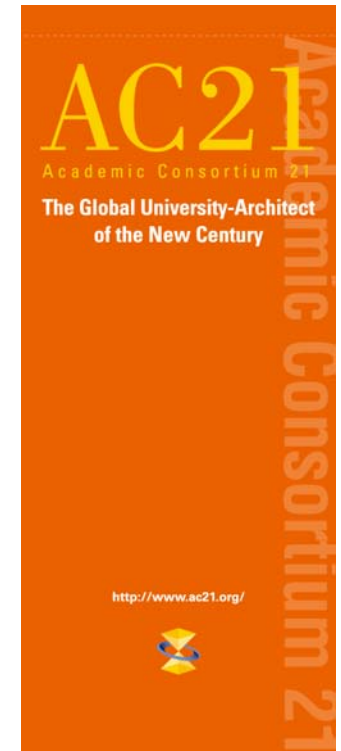
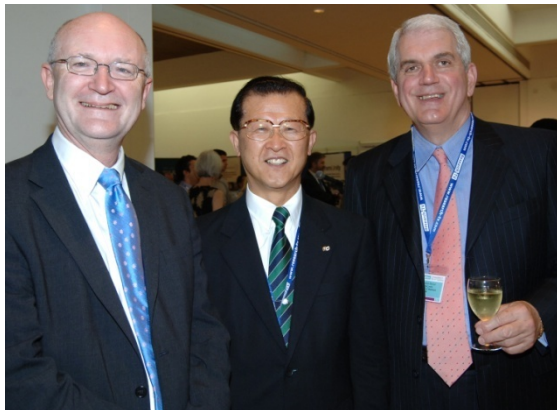
For more information:

<http://continuingeducation.ncsu.edu/ac21.html>



For more information

▣ AC21 website: www.ac21.org



Successful strategic alliances:

by Van Ginkel (1996)

- Congruence of missions
- The will to invest through budget allocation and extra resources
- Appointment of liaison officers to bridge the differences in culture between the partners
- Strong agreement on methodology and quality standards
- Agreement on intellectual property rights
- Take time getting to know each other



Tips of Successful Networking

by Roger Prichard (1996)

- ❑ Long-term relationships have to be built
- ❑ Cultivate sufficient resources to enable the programme of work, and any obvious spin-off programmes to succeed
- ❑ Network projects need to have limited and realisable goals, appropriate to the level of development of the institutions
- ❑ To get the network off the ground, it is important to have some project champions in key institutions who will keep the project moving forward
- ❑ In building networks, specific areas should be targeted, not the whole operation
- ❑ Set up a network listserv to keep as many participants in frequent contact as possible.



Don'ts by Roger Prichard (1996)

- Don't develop a network without significant involvement of the people who will be key players in the network
- Don't take a short term perspective
- Don't try to do too many things at once
- Don't have too many players

