

AGENDA ITEM 3 - Annual Report 2002

1) Introduction

At the beginning of January 2002, the Association's membership stood at 57 members (31 Full members, 25 Associate members and 1 Individual member).

By the third quarter of the academic year, the following applications were received:

- Seoul Digital University, Korea (Full membership)
- Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, India (Full membership)
- Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, Philippines (Assoc. membership)
- Papua New Guinea University of Technology, Papua New Guinea (Assoc. membership)
- Korean Educational Development Institute, Korea (Assoc. membership)
- Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Korea (Assoc. membership)

All institutional applications were processed by circulation and approved to begin membership on 1 Jan. 2003 thereby increasing the total membership to 63 members (33 Full Members, 29 Associate Members and 1 Individual member).

2) AAOU 2002 Annual Conference

Korea National Open University successfully held the AAOU 2002 Annual Conference between 5th and 7th Nov. 2002, in Seoul, Korea. More than 350 delegates from eighteen countries were in attendance. The President of KNOU, the Deputy Prime Minister, and the Minister of Education & Human Resources Development of Korea conducted the Opening Ceremony. The AAOU Award of Meritorious Service for the year 2002 was awarded to Prof. S W Tam, President of OUHK and former President of AAOU, for his lifelong contributions to open and distance education in Hong Kong as well as the Asian region.

Professor Michael G. Moore delivered the conference keynote address and the title was 'Distance Education and Lifelong Learning in the Digital Age'. In keeping with the improving standard of AAOU conferences, there were numerous quality presentations. The best paper prize was awarded to Dr. Yvonne Fung & Thomas Tang, Open University of Hong Kong for their paper entitled: *A Comparison of Two Learning Communities in the Digital Era*:

How Contexts and Functions Affect Online Participation in Distance Learning Courses for Teachers.

Two pre-conference workshops were also held:

- The workshop A was organized by Dr. Namin, Shin and the title was 'Research questions in ODL: what and how have they been addressed?'
- The workshop B was organized by Dr. Yeong-Mahn, You and the title was 'JIT (just-in-time) e-learning and knowledge objects'.

We wish to record our thanks to the following people who served on various adjudication and selection committees:

- AAOU Award of Meritorious Services:
Chairman:
- Dr. Norihito Tani^mbo, (The University of the Air, Japan)
Members:
- Dr. Atwi Suparman (Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia)
- Dr. Brenda Gourley (The Open University, United Kingdom)
- Dr. Hassan Zohoor (Payame Noor University, Iran)
- Best Paper Award
Chairman:
- Dr. Tong-in Wongsothorn (STOU, Thailand)
Members:
- Dr. Kim, Shin il (Seoul National University, Korea)
- Dr. Sun Lu Yi (China Central Radio & TV University, China)

In keeping with the standard of AAOU Conferences, there were numerous good quality presentations. The Best Paper prize was awarded to Dr. Yvonne Fung & Thomas Tang of The Open University of Hong Kong for their paper entitled *A Comparison of Two Learning Communities in the Digital Era: How Contexts and Functions Affect Online Participation in Distance Learning Courses for Teachers.*

Overall, the host, KNOU, deserves our congratulations and heartfelt thanks for the excellent job they did in organizing the conference.

3) Sponsorship for AAOU 2002

As in previous years, the Commonwealth of Learning generously provided a grant of CN\$5000 while UNESCO-PROAP provided a grant of US\$3000 to sponsor conference participants. These funds were disbursed in the form of COL and UNESCO-PROAP, each valued at the cost of the Conference

Registration Fee or the Airfare. The participants who received sponsorship are as follows:

3.1) COL Awards

- Dr. Suresh Garg
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. Kolita S. Weerasekera
- OUSL, Sri Lanka
- Dr. Kantayapalem Murali Manohar
- DEQSTI, SDLCE, Kakatiya Univ., India
- Dr. Madhavan Kolayamparampath
- Central Reference Library, India
- Dr. Dr. Namasivayam Nagappan
- Madurai Kamaraj Univ., India
- Dr. Nagarajan Viswanathan
- Madurai Kamaraj Univ., India
- Dr. R. Varadarajan
- Madurai Kamaraj Univ., India
- Dr. S.D. Suryawanshi
- Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open Univ., India
- Dr. Ashok Gaba
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. Prabir Biswas
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. Seema Suri
- School of Correspondence Courses & Continuing Education
University of Delhi, India
- Dr. Siran Mukerji
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. Purnendu Tripathi
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. P. Sivaswaroop
- IGNOU, India
- Dr. M.K Ghadoliya
- Kota Open Univ., India
- Dr. Than Singh
- Kota Open Univ., India

3.2) UNESCO-PROAP Awards

- Dr. Ravi Prasad Talagadadivi
- Kakatiya Univ. India
- Dr. Kolita Sirinatha Weerasekera

- OUSL, Sri Lanka
- Dr. Kamol Murodov
 - Samarkand Regional Language Center, Uzbekistan
- Dr. Sukanya Phromphon
 - Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University, Thailand
- Dr. Madhavan Kolayamparampath
 - Central Reference Library, India
- Dr. Laxmi Narain Gupta
 - St. Wilfred's College, India
- Dr. Seema Suri
 - School of Correspondence Courses & Continuing Education
University of Delhi, India
- Dr. Namasivayam Nagappan
 - Madurai Kamaraj Univ., India
- Dr. Sekhar Abbaraju Raja
 - Hindu College, India
- Dr. Srinivasa Rao Teki
 - Kakatiya Univ., India

(By 16th AAOU Conference Organizing Committee)

4) AAOU Website

AAOU Website (www.aaou.net) was registered at www.Register.com and we had changed some Information of new Secretariat. We remodeled the site with establishment of information and useful news of AAOU. We also can receive applications on the website.

5) Inter-University Staff Exchange Scheme

For the year 2002, three members have joined the scheme: The Open University of Hong Kong, Dr BR Ambedkar Open University and Payame Noor University. Each fellowship was for a month-long visit to the host institution for research and training purposes. The host institution provides working facilities, support for accommodation as well as a living allowance while the recipient institution has to bear the travel costs as well as the salary of their staff.

AAOU Secretariat will continue to encourage more member institutions to be contributors for exchange ideas, experience and practices for better relationships.

6) International Promotion

- a) The former President, Prof.Chan-Kyo Lee, and Prof Kyong-Son Kang,

former Secretary-General of AAOU, visited the institutions of in Japan, Spain and Portugal for promoting friendship and publicizing the 2002 AAOU Conference.

b) The President Dr. Kyoo Hyang Cho and the Secretary-General, Prof. Soon-Jeong, Hong participated in the 2002 ICDE Scop. It was held in The University of South Africa, Republic of South Africa from 20th~22nd Oct. 2002.

7) Conclusion and acknowledgement

The Secretary-General wishes to record his sincere thanks to the President for his support and guidance and to all EB and GB members for their co-operation and support. I believe that the Year 2002 was another rather successful year and I would like to big 'thank you' to former president Dr. S W Tam & Secretary-General Prof. T M Wong and Dato' Prof G Dhanarajan (and COL) as well as Prof. Wang YiBing (and UNESCO-PROAP) for their strong and sustained support of the Association's activities throughout the years

The Board is requested to consider and adopt this report.