

**AGENDA ITEM 3- Annual Report 2005**

## 1) Introduction

At the beginning of January, 2005, the Association's membership stood at 65 members (37 Full members, 26 Associate members and 2 Individual members) while the opening balance of its funds stood at USD 164,667.71.

At the XX Executive Board Meeting, the following application was admitted. The institutional application was approved to begin its membership from 1 January, 2006.

- Shenyang Radio and TV University, China

At the XIX Executive Board Meeting in Shanghai, one institution membership status was deferred: Irish International University, Malaysia. The representative from Open University Malaysia clarified that the status of the IIU in Malaysia was questionable as it consisted mainly of a small recruitment office. There was serious concern as to whether it was recognized by the National Accreditation Board of Malaysia. After the discussion on the Institution, the Board decided to reject the application of Irish International University.

As of 31 December, 2005 the total membership stood at 65 (37 Full members, 26 Associate members and 2 Individual member) and the closing balance stood at a healthy USD 182,499.61.

## 2) 2005 AAOU Annual Conference

The XIX AAOU Annual Conference was successfully hosted by Universitas Terbuka (UT) from September 14-17, 2005 at the Universitas Terbuka Headquarters, Pondok Cabe, Jakarta under the theme *'Building Knowledge- Based Society through Open and Distance Education'*.

A total of 247 delegates from 23 countries attended the conference.

The Opening Ceremony was presided by Prof. Dr. Atwi Suparman, Chairman of Steering Committee of the Conference. The Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. M. Jusuf Kalla, officially opened the XIX AAOU Annual Conference on 15 September, 2005. Prof. Dr. Bambang Sudibyo, Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia, Prof. Zhang Yaoxue, President of AAOU, and Dr. Reidar Roll, Secretary General of ICDE gave the opening speech respectively.

Sir John Daniel, President and CEO of Commonwealth of Learning, Prof. Gajaraj

Dhanarajan, Vice Chancellor and CEO of Wawasan Open University , and Dr. Reidar Roll, Secretary General of ICDE delivered the keynote speeches.

The Conference received 156 abstracts, 112 full papers eventually, and posters were presented in the Conference. For the Best Paper Awards, the gold medal was awarded to Prof. Wei-yuan Zhang of the Open University of Hong Kong and Tak-kay NG of Hok Yau Club, Hong Kong SAR, China. Their paper is known as: *Distance Guidance for Lifelong Learners in Hong Kong: Development of an Online Programme Preference Assessment Instrument*. One silver medal was awarded to Dr. Niu Jian of China Central Radio and TV University and Lecturer He Lanxiang of Beijing Radio and TV University, China. Their paper is entitled: *Using Real-Time Computer Conferencing as a Means of Continuous Assessment to Enhance Student Learning*. The other silver awardee was Bowon Kim of Korea National Open University, Korea. His paper is named as: *Tutoring in a Mega-University: Looking for an Asian Model*.

In addition, a Pre-Conference Workshop was also held at the UT Headquarters for participants interested in learning from the experiences of UT in managing distance education.

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

- Members of Selection Committee of AAOU Meritorious Service Award

Chair – Prof. Dr. Atwi Suparman (Rector, Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia)  
Prof. H. P. Dikshit (Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University, India)  
Prof. John C Y Leong (President, the Open University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China)

- Members of Selection Committee of AAOU Best Paper Award

Chair – Prof. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Anuwar Ali (Senior Vice President, Open University Malaysia)  
Represented by Prof. Ansary Ahmed (Open University Malaysia, Malaysia)  
Prof. Wong Tat Meng (the Open University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China)  
Dr. Reidar Roll (Secretary-General, ICDE), Represented by Prof. Ronnie Carr (the Open University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China)

AAOU Secretariat thanks the organizing committee of the Conference for their efforts and excellent job in hosting the 2005 AAOU Conference.

3) Sponsorship for AAOU 2005

AAOU contributed a sum of USD 3,000 to meet the costs of the holding of the

Executive Committee, the General Board Meetings and the XIX Annual Conference. COL has contributed a sum of CND 5,000 to support delegates from Commonwealth Asian countries (Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) to enable their participations in the Conference. UNESCO contributed a sum of USD 10,500 for the holding of a Post-Conference Workshop on the theme "A Community of Practice Approach to Open and Distance Learning: Sharing Knowledge, Experience and Practice", held on 17 September 2005. Participants to the Post-Conference Workshop totaled 51 people from 13 institutions of 11 countries, as shown in the following Table:

**Institutions and Countries of Participants to the  
UNESCO-Sponsored AAOU Post-Conference Workshop, 17 September 2005**

NO	INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	NUMBER of PARTICIPANTS
1	Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University	Pakistan	1
2	Bangladesh Open University	Bangladesh	2
3	CCRTVU	China	4
4	Hanoi Open University	Vietnam	3
5	Indira Gandhi National Open University	India	1
6	National University of Laos (Dongkok Campus)	Laos	1
7	The Open University of Philippines	Philippines	2
8	Open University Malaysia	Malaysia	1
9	The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda	Sri Lanka	1
10	SEAMOLEC	Indonesia	2
11	Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University	Thailand	2
12	Universitas Terbuka	Indonesia	17
13	Yunnan Radio and TV University	China	14
Total			51

#### 4) Inter-University Staff Exchange Scheme

For the year 2005, Korea National Open University (KNOU) joined the scheme.

We would like to appeal to all the AAOU members to support and enhance this program by offering one or more fellowship so that this program would continue to encourage more members to be contributors for exchange of ideas, experience and practice for better relationship.

#### 5) Conclusion

The Secretary-General wishes to record her sincere thanks to the President for his guidance and support and to all the Executive Board and General Board members for their co-operation and endeavors. It is a pleasure to record big thanks to Prof. Sir

John Daniel (COL) as well as Prof. Moly Lee (UNESCO-PROAP) for their sustained supports.

**The Board is requested to consider and adopt this report.**