



Annual Report 2011



Asian Association of Open Universities Annual Report 2011

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31st December, 2011



1.0 INTRODUCTION

As of 1st January 2011, the Presidency and Secretariat of AAOU had moved from Universitas Terbuka Indonesia in Jakarta to Wawasan Open University in Penang, Malaysia. On behalf of all members, the AAOU Secretariat would like to record its sincere gratitude to the immediate Past President, Prof. Tian Belawati and her colleagues at Universitas Terbuka for the excellent job they had delivered over the past three years in providing the leadership and service to the Association.

In 2011, the AAOU website had been redesigned to be more engaging and interactive. A password protected 'CEO Forum' had also been set up to enable institutional leaders of member institutions to share and exchange views on matters of mutual interests.

One of the perennial issues encountered by the AAOU Secretariat is the membership fees collection. Following the usual practice, invoices are forwarded to all members at the beginning of each year and followed by email reminders by the Secretariat to those who have yet to settle their subscription fees. In year 2011, there was an improvement in the collection of membership fees. Further details are recorded in Item 4 of this report.

This report generally describes the AAOU related activities conducted in 2011 as well as the decisions of the Executive Board and General Body Meetings. This report also incorporates the 25th AAOU Annual Conference 2012 event and some of the actions taken based on the Minutes of the Meetings.



2.0 MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

2.1 AAOU Annual Meetings of the Executive Board and General Body 2011

Prof. Dato' Dr. Wong Tat Meng of Wawasan Open University (WOU) had assumed the Presidency of AAOU for a three-year term from January 2011 to December 2013. As a result, the AAOU Secretariat had been relocated from Universitas Terbuka Indonesia, Jakarta to WOU, Penang, Malaysia effective 1st January, 2011.

The 26th AAOU Annual Meeting of the Executive Board (EB) and the 25th Annual Meeting of the General Body (GB) were conducted in WOU on 28th September, 2011 in which WOU was also the host for the 25th AAOU Annual Conference.

Minutes of the EB and GB meetings had been circulated via email to all the relevant members for their comments and feedback. Only some slight typographical errors were noted and changes had been incorporated accordingly. The revised minutes were then forwarded to all members for their retention.



AAOU Executive Board Members



AAOU General Body Members

2.2 AAOU Annual Conference 2011

The 25th AAOU Annual Conference was successfully organised by WOU, Penang, Malaysia from 28th to 30th September, 2011 with the theme “*Transforming Asia through Open Distance Learning*”. The Conference brought together more than 270 international and local delegates comprising Vice Chancellors and Presidents, scholars, senior administrators and policy makers representing 68 Open Universities and other Open Distance Learning (ODL) institutions from 22 countries across Asia, Australia, Africa, Europe and America. The conference was officiated by the Honorable Minister of Higher Education for Malaysia who was represented by Prof. Dr. Morshidi Sirat, Deputy Director General of Public Higher Education Institute.



Opening Ceremony of the 25th AAOU Annual Conference: Keynote and Plenary Speakers

This annual conference featured a Keynote Address, five plenary speeches, one CEO Roundtable, five Panel Discussions, three Special Presentations and 23 parallel sessions where 126 oral presentations were delivered. The Conference deliberations focused on the role of open and distance learning in bringing about major transformations in Asian education and national development landscape over the past four decades. 126 oral presentations were delivered in the parallel sessions encompassing the following conference sub-themes:

- Culture and social change
- Quality
- Business model and the role of partnership in ODL
- Technology
- Future trends



The Keynote for the Conference was delivered by Sir John Daniel, President and CEO of Commonwealth of Learning who spoke on the topic “*Transforming Asia through Open Distance Learning*.”

The five plenary speakers and their topics were:

- Prof. Zita Haji Mohd Fahmi, Deputy CEO (Quality Assurance), Malaysian Qualifications Agency “*The Development and Importance of Quality Assurance in Higher Education*”.
- Prof. Zhang Deming, President, Shanghai Open University, “*Business Model and Partnership Function in Open and Distance Learning*”.
- Mr. Brian McKay Epp, Group Principal Consultant, Pearson eCollege, “*Leveraging the Promise of Technology to Solve Education’s Problems*”.
- Prof. Molly Lee Nyet Ngo, Programme Specialist in Higher Education at UNESCO Asia and the Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, Bangkok, “*Open Distance Learning and Social Transformation*”.
- Dr. Larry Johnson, CEO, The New Media Consortium, “*Reflections on the Future: The Horizon Project at 10 Years — A Sociological Retrospective on Technology and What it Means in Our Lives*”.

The Conference closing ceremony was officiated by the Hon. Senator Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department, who was impressed by the immense contribution of ODL in the development of human capital in Asia.



Closing Ceremony of the 25th AAOU Annual Conference officiated by
Hon. Senator Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department



2.3 AAOU Awards and the Winners

i. Meritorious Service Award

No nominations were received from members for the Meritorious Service Award in 2011. Members were invited to submit nomination(s) for the said award as early as the beginning of March 2010. The deadline for submission was initially set at 30th June, 2011 and was later extended to 18th August, 2011. Despite all this, no nominations were received by the AAOU Secretariat.

ii. AAOU Best Paper Award

The Adjudication Committee for the 2011 Best Paper Award consisted of the following persons:

Chair: Prof. Upali Vidanapathirana
Vice Chancellor, Open University of Sri Lanka

Members: Prof. Asha Kanwar
Vice President, Commonwealth of Learning

Prof. Yoichi Okabe
President, Open University of Japan

Associate Prof. Pranee Sangkatavat
President, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University

The Academic Sub-Committee of the Conference Organising Committee had selected twelve papers for further evaluation by the Adjudication Committee. The Adjudication Committee assessed the twelve papers and shortlisted 6 papers as the 2011 BPA finalists. The details of the six finalists are as follows:

| | Title | Author(s) | Institution |
|----|---|--|--|
| 1. | Paper No. 19: MyVLE as a platform to engage the open and distance learners and increase their retention: Sharing the experience of Open University Malaysia | Richard Ng | Open University Malaysia |
| 2. | Paper No. 165: A framework for online teaching and learning: The S-CARE pedagogical model | Abtar Kaur Shriram Raghunathan P. Ravichandran | Open University Malaysia Abdur Rahman University Kolej Yayasan UEM |



| | Title | Author(s) | Institution |
|----|--|--|--|
| 3. | Paper No. 60: Instructional design strategies for stress-reduced online collaboration in Asia's high context culture | Insung Jung & Sook-Kyoung Choi Masayuki Kudo | International Christian University Hokkaido Institute of Technology |
| 4. | Paper No. 262: Assuring the quality of online teaching and learning: The case of Wawasan Open University | Liew Teik Kooi & Teoh Ai Ping | Wawasan Open University Universiti Sains Malaysia |
| 5. | Paper No. 23: Implementation of Facebook study groups as supplements for learning management systems in adult ODL environments | Ishan Sudeera Abeywardena & Tham Choy Yoong | Wawasan Open University |
| 6. | Paper No. 116: Training skills with 3D simulation of workflow processes in Second Life environment | Nguyen Thanh Trung Tran Lan Thu Thai Minh Hanh | Hanoi Open University |

On 30th September, 2011, the BPA Adjudication Committee further evaluated the six finalists based on quality of their presentations. Three papers were selected as winners of the BPA competition. The results were approved by the President and announced during the closing ceremony. The BPA medal winners were:

| BPA Medal | Author(s) & Institution | Title |
|--------------|---|--|
| Gold Medal | Ishan Sudeera Abeywardena & Tham Choy Yoong (Wawasan Open University) | Paper No. 23: Implementation of Facebook study groups as supplements for learning management systems in adult ODL environments |
| Silver Medal | Insung Jung & Sook-Kyoung Choi (International Christian University) Masayuki Kudo (Hokkaido Institute of Technology) | Paper No. 60: Instructional design strategies for stress-reduced online collaboration in Asia's high context culture |
| Silver Medal | Liew Teik Kooi (Wawasan Open University) & Teoh Ai Ping (Universiti Sains Malaysia) | Paper No. 262: Assuring the quality of online teaching and learning: The case of Wawasan Open University |



Recipients of BPA Gold Medal



Recipients of BPA Silver Medal

iii. AAOU Young Innovator Award

The Young Innovator Awards (YIA) Adjudication Committee for 2011 comprised the following members:

Chair: Prof. John Leong Chi Yan
President, Open University of Hong Kong

Members: Prof. H. K. Cheong
President, Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) University

Dr. Ramamurthy Sreedher
Director, Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia



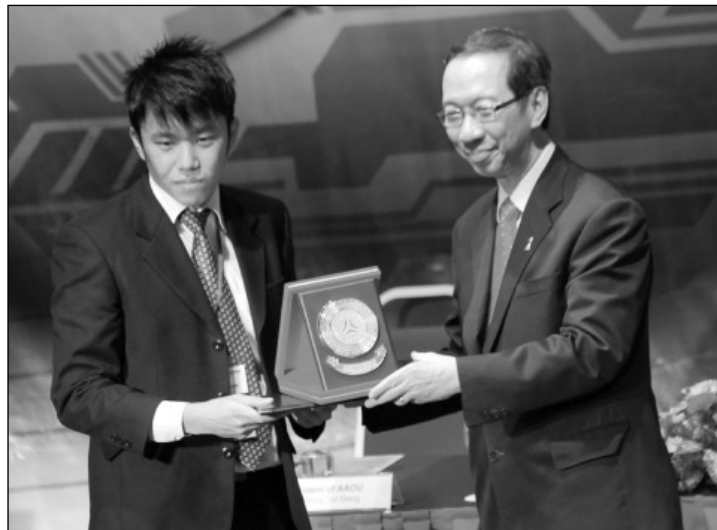
The Academic Sub-Committee of the 2011 Conference Organising Committee recommended six papers for evaluation by the YIA Adjudication Committee. The details of the six papers were as follows:

| | Title | Author(s) | Institution |
|----|---|--------------------------|--|
| 1. | Paper No. 242: Including special needs students in open distance learning: Prerequisites and model for open universities | Zahid Majeed | Allama Iqbal Open University |
| 2. | Paper No. 61: Virtual experiment and distance experiment in ODL | Ling Ping Gong | Open Education College of Yunnan Radio & TV University |
| 3. | Paper No. 124: Enhancing learning through the discussion forum | Nantha Kumar Subramaniam | Open University Malaysia |
| 4. | Paper No. 132: Augmenting the learning management system of the UP Open University | Al Francis D. Librero | University of the Philippines Open University |
| 5. | Paper No. 237: A comparative evaluation of web-based tools that showcase social media and video conferencing for distance education | Roberto B. Figueroa Jr | University of the Philippines Open University |
| 6. | Paper No. 239: Course delivery and module learning via learning objects (knowledge map) in mobile learning environment | Sheng-Hung, Chung | Wawasan Open University |



The YIA Adjudication Committee assessed the six papers and selected the following three papers as the winners of the YIA competition:

| YIA Medal | Author & Institution | Title |
|--------------|---|--|
| Gold Medal | Sheng-Hung, Chung (Wawasan Open University) | Paper No. 239: Course delivery and module learning via learning objects (knowledge map) in mobile learning environment |
| Silver Medal | Nantha Kumar Subramaniam (Open University Malaysia) | Paper No. 124: Enhancing learning through the discussion forum |
| Silver Medal | Al Francis D. Librero (University of the Philippines Open University) | Paper No. 132: Augmenting the learning management system of the UP Open University |



Recipient of YIA Gold Medal



Recipients of YIA Silver Medal



3.0 MEMBERSHIP

i. Membership termination

The AAOU EB and GB accepted the Associate Membership termination of The Open Universities Australia that had been in arrears for the past seven years since 2004. Their decision to discontinue their membership was conveyed to the AAOU Secretariat by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Stuart Hamilton.

ii. New membership applications

In 2011, AAOU received five applications for AAOU membership. The EB unanimously approved the applications of three institutions as listed below for AAOU Full Membership:

- Asia e-University, Malaysia
- Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University, Gunwahati, Assam, India
- Virtual University of Pakistan

The EB also accepted Caritas Institute of Higher Education (CIHE), Hong Kong as AAOU Associate Member. CIHE is a degree granting institution offering associate degrees and higher diplomas through the blended learning approach with 2,500 full-time students and less than 1,000 part-time students. CIHE also offers a joint master programme (Master of Theology) with an institution in Australia through the distance learning approach.

The AAOU membership of these institutions was effective from January 2012 subject to their settlement of their relevant membership fees.

However, the EB did not approve the Associate Membership application from The Hong Kong Web Symposium Consortium Limited (HKWSCL) as it did not meet the membership criteria. This was on the basis that HKWSCL does not deliver education and award degrees or diplomas even though it is a consortium of institutions in Hong Kong using ICT as learning tools.



iii. Waiver of membership fees in arrears

The EB had considered the request for waiver of arrears of the following institutions:

- Centre for Distance Education SNDT Women's University
- University of British Columbia
- Maulana Azad National Urdu University

In regard to the waiver of arrears, the EB had stipulated that all arrears up to 2009 would be written-off and members who wish to activate their membership must settle their fee payment from 2010 onwards. The usual penalty would apply if the member is unable to resolve their arrears in future.



4.0 AAOU STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR 2011

The AAOU bank account was transferred to WOU where the office of the AAOU President and Secretariat is now located on 16th March, 2011. Due to the fact that the AAOU is not registered with the Registrar of Societies/Registrar of Companies in Malaysia (or any other country for that matter), the AAOU account is operated under the joint account (in 'trust') in the name of the AAOU President (Prof. Dato Dr. Wong Tat Meng) and AAOU Secretary-General (Prof. Dato Dr. Ho Sinn Chye) as practiced when Universitas Terbuka Indonesia was holding the presidency.

The AAOU Executive Board accepted the proposal from the President in its 26th EB meeting to appoint the accounting firm, BDO Chartered Accountants of 51-21-F Menara BHL, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 Penang, Malaysia as the association's External Auditor for the period 1st April, 2011 to 31st March, 2014.

The Statement of Accounts (Revenues and Expenditures) and Audit Report for the period of 1st January, 2011 to 31st December, 2011 are presented in **Annexure A1**. According to the audited statement of accounts, there was an opening balance of USD232,795 at the beginning of year 2011. The closing balance as of 31st December, 2011 was USD267,622.

Cash received for the year amounted to USD40,856 that comprised USD29,191 from fees collected from Full Members, USD11,165 from Associate Members and AAOU grant sponsorship from COL and UNESCO totaling USD7,738. The interest accrued which was USD669 also formed part of the cash received in 2011. The details of the membership fees collected as well as the operating and other expenses are depicted in **Annexure A1**.



5.0 THE AAOU INTER-UNIVERSITY STAFF EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

The AAOU Inter-University Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme is developed to provide a platform for capacity building and the establishment of sustainable partnerships as well as fostering the exchange of knowledge and promotion of mutual understanding among staff of the open universities of Asia.

In 2011, the following four institutions had offered fellowships to deserving candidates from AAOU member institutions:

- a. Korea National Open University (KNOU)
- b. Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU)
- c. Universitas Terbuka (UT)
- d. Wawasan Open University (WOU)

KNOU and UT had actively participated in this programme for three consecutive years since 2009. The AAOU Secretariat expressed their great appreciation to the four institutions for their participation and support in 2011. The President invited and urged more members to come forward and participate in next year's AAOU Inter-University Exchange Fellowship Programme.

Details of the 2011 AAOU Inter-University Exchange Fellowship Programme recipients and the projects that they had undertaken are reflected in the table below:

| | Fellowships offered by | Recipient(s) | Project(s) undertaken | Duration |
|----|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 1. | Korea National Open University | Mr. Sun Hongfei, Learner Support Service Staff, The Open University of China | The research of student activity in the distance education | 13 June – 8 July 2011 |
| | | Ms. Nguyen Thi Nam Chi, Head of English Division at Faculty of Economics, Hanoi Open University | The role of distance education in Vietnam and potential cooperation between HOU and KNOU | 13 June – 8 July 2011 |
| | | Tuan Fatma Tuan Sulaiman, Lecturer at Faculty of Business and Management, Open University Malaysia | Corporate governance and ODL institution's business performance: A case study of KNOU | 13 June – 8 July 2011 |



| | Fellowships offered by | Recipient(s) | Project(s) undertaken | Duration |
|----|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| 2. | Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University | Prof. Dr. Yunjoo Park, Professor in the Dept. of English Language and Literature, Korea National Open University | Academic discussions with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. School of Management Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on “ICT for Instructional Media Development and Distance Education” (main project) b. School of Liberal Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio record for “Inter Cultural Communication” course • “Live chat” with STOU students on English course c. School of Nursing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on “English for Nursing” d. Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Session on “KNOU and Distance Learning” and “Public Speech in English as a Foreign Language” | 20 July –9 Aug 2011 |
| 3. | Universitas Terbuka | Mr. XuGang, The Open Univeristy of China | The Research of Internet-based student community forum | 5 –16 Sept 2011 |
| | | Prof. Kwang Sik Chung, Korea National Open University | Design and Establishment of a Mobile Learning Environment based on Digital Textbook: The Educational Contents, m-LMS, Business Model, e-Portofolio and Evaluations on Universitas Terbuka | 5 –16 Sept 2011 |
| 4. | Wawasan Open University | Ms. Shen Juan, Information Technology Centre, The Open University of China | Application and significance of E-learning management system in distance education | Nov –Dec 2011 (30 days) |



6.0 AAOU JOURNAL

The AAOU Journal is an international peer-reviewed journal published twice a year. The Journal addresses the need to disseminate and share theories and best practices of open distance education among scientists, students and relevant stakeholders.

In line with the recommendation of the 2010 meeting of the AAOU Executive Board, a new editorial board had been appointed and taken over the responsibility of publishing articles for the AAOU Journal effective 1st July, 2011. The new team of the AAOU Journal Editorial Board had been appointed for the period of January 2011 to December 2013 with Dr. Nagarajan Subramaniam of WOU serving as the Chief Editor.

The composition of the newly appointed AAOU Journal Editorial Board is as follows:

| Name | Institution | Email address |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Dr. Nagarajan Subramaniam | Wawasan Open University | nagarajans@wou.edu.my |
| Prof. Mohandas Balakrishna Menon | Wawasan Open University | mohandasbm@wou.edu.my |
| Prof. Abtar Kaur | Open University Malaysia | abtar@oum.edu.my |
| Prof. John Arul Phillips | Asia e University | john.arul@aeu.edu.my |
| Prof. Patricia B. Arinto | University of the Philippines Open University | patricia.arinto@gmail.com |
| Prof. Santosh Panda | Indira Gandhi National Open University | spanda@ignou.ac.in spanda.ignou@gmail.com |
| Prof. Taerim Lee | Korea National Open University | trlee@knou.ac.kr |

In 2011, the AAOU Secretariat received three (3) articles from its members out of which one was rejected because its content was not related to ODL. Only two (2) had been cited as meeting the criteria set by the AAOU Journal Editorial Board. Hence the number of articles was insufficient to warrant the publication of two issues of the AAOU Journal in 2011.

In this connection, only one issue of the journal was published in 2011 during the 25th AAOU Annual Conference in Penang, Malaysia. Based on previous practice, the Journal would comprise articles from the selected finalists of the Best Paper Award (BPA) and the winners of the Young Innovator Award.



The following articles were published in the Volume 6 (No. 1) September 2011 issue of the AAOU Journal:

| No. | Author | Contacts | Paper | University |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| FINALISTS OF THE 2011 BEST PAPER AWARD | | | | |
| 1. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zhong Zhixian Shen Jianhua | jxzzx@126.com Tel: +86-791-8520016 Fax: 8512930 | Cyber social network management: Enhancing the learning power of distance learners in learning communities | Jiangxi Radio and TV University |
| 2. | Melinda dela Pena-Bandalaria | mbandalaria@upou.edu.ph | Ensuring quality education in open distance eLearning (OeDeL) through virtual learning communities | University of Philippines Open University |
| 3. | Juvy Lizette Gervacio | Juvylizette.gervacio@upou.edu.ph Tel: +6-32-4261514 | Tutors and learners without borders: In a relationship but it's complicated | University of Philippines Open University |
| 4. | Jin Gon Shan | jgshon@knou.ac.kr Tel: +82-2-33684656 Fax: +82-2-3668-4208 | e-Portfolio standardization for sustainable learning communities | Korea National Open University |
| 5. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ishan Sundeera Abeywardena Ho Sinn Chye | ishansa@wou.edu.my scho@wou.edu.my Tel: +6-04-2180486 Fax: +6-04-2297323 | Development of a Computer-aided ODL course development tracking system (CDTS) | Wawasan Open University |
| 6. | Tai Wan, Woo | woo@oum.edu.my Tel: +6-03-27732578 Fax: +6-03-26978831 | Developing quality learning materials for effective teaching and learning in an ODL environment: Making the jump from print modules to online modules | Open University Malaysia |
| WINNERS OF THE 2011 YOUNG INNOVATOR AWARD | | | | |
| 7. | Teoh Ai Ping | apteoh@wou.edu.my apteoh77@hotmail.com Tel: +6-012-47799831 Fax: +6-04-22693231 | Student's Interaction in the online learning management systems: A comparative study of undergraduate and postgraduate courses | Wawasan Open University |
| 8. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheng-Hung, Chung Ean-Teng, Khor | shchung@wou.edu.my etkhor@wou.edu.my Tel: +6-012-583099 | Mobile agents approach for transaction processing in mobile database system — Mobile learning environment | Wawasan Open University |



Though the following article was identified as one of the winners of the Young Innovator Award, it was not published in the AAOU Journal 2011 issue as the article had been returned to the author for revision.

| No. | Author | Contacts | Paper | University |
|-----|-----------|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Song Yang | Sys20032004@126.com Tel: +86 13821327027 | The design and implementation of interactive teaching system platform | Tianjin Radio and TV University |

In support of the initiatives to reduce carbon footprint as well as promoting and creating a more sustainable environment, the AAOU Secretariat decided to produce Volume 6 (No.1) September 2011 of the AAOU Journal in CD-ROM format instead of the usual print copies. This initiative would add value by promoting a socially responsible message and at the same time reduce production costs.

Copies of Volume 6 (No. 1) September 2011 AAOU Journal in CD-ROM format were distributed during the 25th AAOU Annual Conference to all delegates of the conference. Additional copies were also provided to member institutions for retention in their respective libraries.



7.0 AAOU COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE

i. Collaboration effort between AAOU and Asian & the Pacific Training Centre for Information & Communication Technology for Development (APCICT-ESCAP)

APCICT, under the umbrella of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), had organised the *Second Regional Forum on ICT Capacity Building: "Where are we, where are we going, and what will it take to fill the gap?"* from 24th to 28th October, 2011 in Incheon and Cheonan, Republic of Korea. Approximately over 300 senior government officials, representatives from the academia, civil society, the private sector and other UN agencies and international organisations took part in this forum. The Secretary-General, Prof. Dato' Dr. Ho Sinn Chye represented AAOU at this forum.

ii. UNESCO sponsored Global Task Force (GTF) on Quality Assurance in e-Learning

AAOU was represented as a member of the UNESCO sponsored Global Task Force (GTF) on Quality Assurance in e-Learning. The GTF held its first meeting in Paris on 16th June, 2011. Other organisations represented at the meeting include UNESCO, COL, Caribbean Institute for Quality in Distance Education (CALED), African Council for Distance Education (ACDE), and European Association of Distance Teaching Universities (EADTU).

A follow-up meeting was held in Bali on 2nd – 5th October, 2011 as a satellite activity of the ICDE World Conference.



8.0 THE 27TH AAOU ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN 2013

In 2011, the AAOU Secretariat received expression of interest to host the 2013 AAOU Annual Conference from two institutions only i.e., Symbiosis Center for Distance Learning (SCDL), Pune, India and Karnataka State Open University (KSOU). However, during the 26th AAOU Annual Meeting of the Executive Board (EB) held in Wawasan Open University, Penang, Malaysia, only KSOU was present to present its proposal.

The EB had decided not to accept the expression of interest to host the 2013 AAOU Annual Conference by the two member institutions as their submissions were not done in accordance with the “Guidelines of the AAOU Annual Conference”. The two institutions were advised to re-submit their proposal based on the guidelines provided.

Upon the instructions of the EB, the Secretariat invited fresh applications from member institutions on 1st November, 2011. On the closing date, 15th January, 2012, only two applications were received i.e., Allama Iqbal Open University and SCDL who had resubmitted their proposal. The decision of the EB was sought through email circulation and the Board unanimously selected Allama Iqbal Open University to be the host for the 2013 AAOU Annual Conference.



9.0 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Overall, year 2011 was a reasonably eventful and successful. The Association wishes to record its heartfelt gratitude to all members of the AAOU Executive Board and General Body for their unyielding support and cooperation. The AAOU is also grateful to UNESCO Bangkok and COL for their continued sponsorship support.