

University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP)

# Newsletter



**UMAP** has been promoting mobility of university students and faculties in the Asia-Pacific region since 1991. Starting from 2016, our commemorative 25th anniversary, UMAP would like to periodically inform the general public and our patrons about our activities through this newsletter. This issue of the newsletter covers the period from October 2019 to December 2020.

**2020/12**  
**Vol. 7**

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# New UMAP NS Updates

This year, UMAP would like to warmly welcome a couple of new UMAP National Secretariat updates from Mongolia and the United States.

## ● MONGOLIA

UMAP Mongolia NS was switched to Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) effective as of January 2020. Here's the primary contact info as follows.

### **Mrs. Saruul Erdem**

Senior Officer for Foreign Relations  
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### **Mr. Zorigt Munkhtuya**

Officer for Foreign Relations  
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### **Ms. Yanjmaa Ochirbat**

Chief Executive Officer  
yanjmaao@accmon.mn

## ● UNITED STATES

Western Washington University is in charge of UMAP U.S.A. NS from January 2020 since Dr. Lee Sternberger, who was a representative of UMAP U.S.A. NS and James Madison University, made a career move to Western Washington University. Here's the primary contact info as follows.

### **Dr. Ryan Larsen**

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Ryan.Larsen@wwu.edu  
360-650-797  
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### **Dr. Lee Sternberger**

Executive Director, Institute for Global Engagement  
Lee.Sternberger@wwu.edu  
360-650-4859



# ■ highlights of **UMAP 2ND BOARD MEETING 2020 (ONLINE)**



On November 24 from 9 to 11 AM (JST), the 2nd UMAP Board Meeting 2020 was held online. This meeting was attended by representatives of Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, in total 14 countries/territories plus 2 proxies (Mexico and Vietnam).

## **Proposal of UMAP Summer Program 2021 in China**

Dr. Chen and Mr. Yue, China National Secretariat from Sias University explained their plan, “Discovery Camp 2021 in Sias University, China” scheduled for July 19 -July 30, 2021. The theme of the program is “Experience Amazing China” and they will invite 30 international students from UMAP Full Member Countries/Territories. The proposal was approved by the UMAP Board.

## UMAP-COIL AP (Advanced Placement) Program 2021

Prof. Ikeda, Institute for Innovative Global Education (IIGE), Kansai University, introduced the past events of UMAP-COIL Program, such as UMAP-Honors Program in 2019, UMAP-COIL Joint Program in 2020. In 2020, UMAP-AP kick-off meeting was held in September and some representatives from UMAP member countries joined as speakers. Following those events, UMAP-AP program will be launched in 2021. Next, Mr. Clay Hensley, The College Board, explained the detailed program. After the explanation, the launch of the UMAP-AP program in 2021 was approved by the UMAP Board.

## Review of “UMAP Exchange Online 2020 (Trial)”

UMAP IS reported 1) the list of participating institutions , and 2) the number of nominated students of the Trial program, and shared things to be developed to continue this program. UMAP IS also reported feedback from Taskforce members. After the reports, it was agreed that Taskforce will plan with feasible schedule and application system for 2021 to improve number of participating students.

## Proposal of “UMAP Micro-Credential”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Darasawang from King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi gave presentation of the “UMAP Online Micro Credential”. Replying to a question from member institution, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Darasawang answered there was no plan to charge any fees for students to participate prospective 10 programs since it is an initial stage of the program and is a part of KMUTT's research projects. It was agreed that Taskforce should discuss how to work with this program.

## Next UMAP IS Host Country/Territory

Dr. Martin, Canada NS from British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE), explained their proposal and action plan to host UMAP IS from 2021 to 2022. Those are the plan which BCCIE can propose at this moment since Federal Government of Canada has not yet answered whether they can provide funds for hosting UMAP IS or not, but BCCIE will be responsible for five years term as written in the UMAP Constitutions if they receive their government support. Therefore, for the following two years, BCCIE will take over UMAP IS, but operational tasks will be shared with the next Chair country, Philippines, and Toyo University. In terms of UMAP's student exchange programs A, B and C, BCCIE propose to hiatus them under the difficult situation created by COVID-19. And they promised to share the result from the Federal Government of the financial support to host UMAP IS once BCCIE received their answer.

UMAP IS explained that A Joint Research Team led by Prof. Kazuo Takahashi, Vice President of Toyo University will be responsible for taking care of the homepage and the online system during the period of UMAP's students' mobility programs are postponed (max. 2 years). And IIGE (Institute for Innovative Global Education) at Kansai University, agreed to be responsible for organizing UMAP-COIL Program and UMAP-AP Programs along with BCCIE until 2022. They receive funds from the Japanese government from 2018 to 2022 (5 years), which means its operation costs will be covered by the financial support from MEXT, Japan.

Canada was approved as the next UMAP IS Host Country by the Board Members.

(Note) With the support from the Federal Government in Canada, Vancouver Community College assumed the role of UMAP IS from 2021 to 2025.

## Revision of UMAP Constitution

1. Possible amendment of financial support for the next UMAP IS host country  
It was agreed that the UMAP constitution should not be amended at this time since the term of Canada as the next UMAP IS country has not been fixed.
2. The number of launching Board Meeting in a year  
UMAP IS explained the following modifications will be activated from January 1st, 2021 as agreed at the previous UMAP Board Meeting.

### Article IV, 4.8 - (b)

**(Current)** The Chairperson shall host the Board Meeting once a year and UMAP International Conference once during the term of chairmanship.

**(Revision)** The Chairperson shall host the Board Meeting once each Chairmanship year and the UMAP International Conference once during the term of chairmanship.

### Article IV, 4.9

**(Current)** The Board shall meet at least twice a year, once in the country/territory hosting the UMAP Chair and, in principle, once in the country/territory hosting the UMAP International Secretariat. Other meetings of the UMAP Board shall be determined by the Board.

**(Revision)** The Board shall meet at least once a year at the Board Meeting. Other meetings of the UMAP Board shall be called by the Chairman, Board or IS as necessary.

## Turn-Over Ceremony of the Next UMAP Chair Country (2021-22)

Atty. Macabangun-Milla, Commission on Higher Education in the Philippines gave a speech on behalf of Dr. De Vera III, DPA.

## Closing Remarks from Chairman & Video Message from UMAP IS

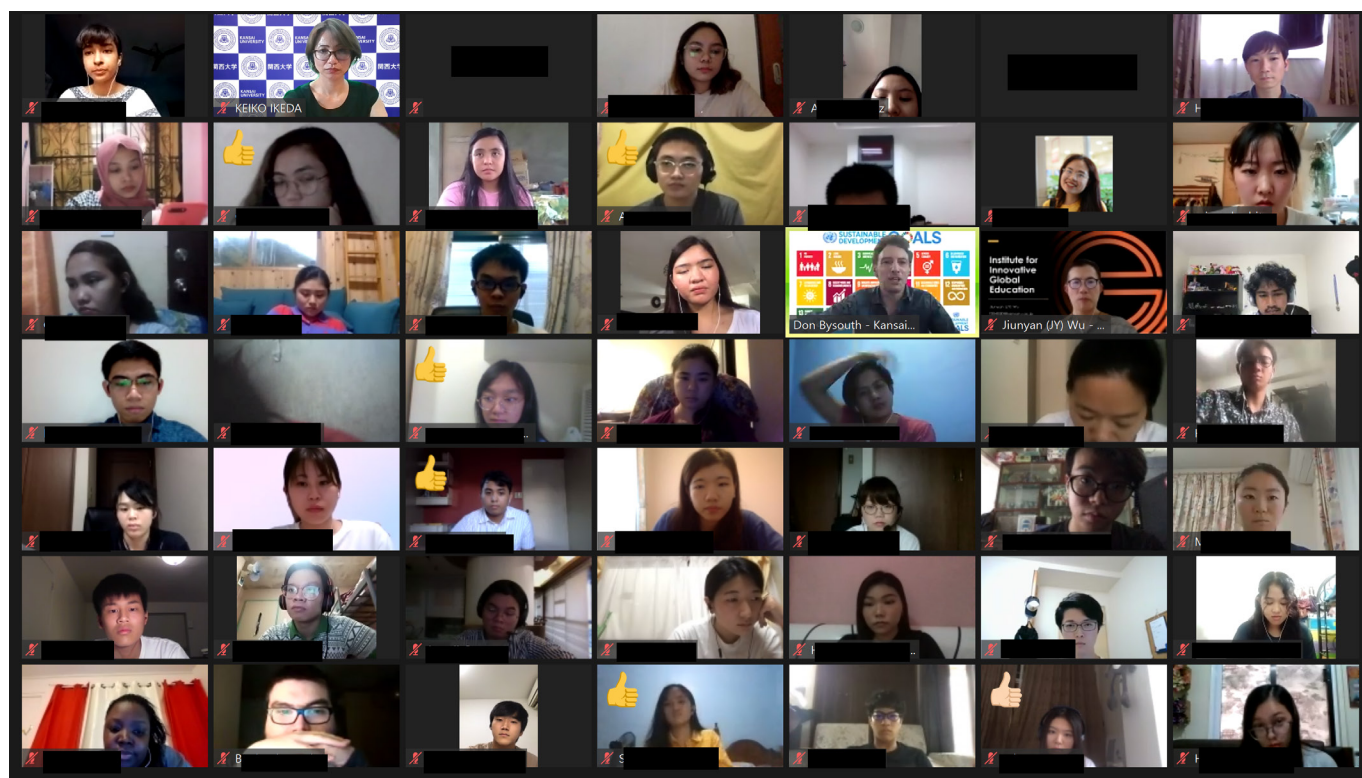
The Chairman, Dr. Sumate Yamnoon, expressed appreciation to the Board members and International Secretariat for contributing to UMAP. Then, UMAP IS and staff members from Toyo University, showed a video which explains their 5 years term of UMAP IS. They send their special appreciation to UMAP Board Members.






# Report of UMAP-COIL Joint Program 2020

By: Keiko Ikeda (Vice Director, IIGE; Professor, Kansai University), Michele Fujii (IIGE Coordinator, Kansai University), Izumi Wada (COIL Plus Coordinator, Kansai University)



With the lack of opportunities for students to undertake study abroad experiences due to the pandemic, the Institute for Innovative Global Education (IIGE) at Kansai University undertook a sustained consideration of a range of options to ensure that students could be afforded opportunities to develop intercultural competency in addition to a range of important global graduate attributes. In this respect the UMAP-COIL Joint Program for 2020 was undertaken as an entirely online program of study seeking to provide opportunities for UMAP students to gain international experiences.

Kansai University and IIGE had previously collaborated with UMAP conducting the UMAP-COIL Joint Honors Program in the summer 2019, this program featured an online component combined with a physical study abroad in Japan. In that program, students were given opportunities to consider global citizenship with regard to key contemporary social issues in international settings. Within a framework structured around the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a range of topics and themes were explored that included foreign policy, international affairs, trade and finance, health and wellbeing, international education, defense and security, and business innovation and development.



Students engaged in a range of activities, including participation in guest lectures, group project work and presentations, and COIL activities. Given the success and positive feedback from the program participants, the 2020 UMAP-COIL Joint Program was initiated in order to provide further opportunities for international students to undertake coursework and COIL related activities in an online setting.

# Program Description

The aim for this program was to give students opportunities to nurture their global citizenry competence necessary in the VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, Ambiguity) world, and to consider global citizenship with regard to key contemporary social issues in international settings, taking international and domestic perspectives. 140 students from 14 countries (Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, United Kingdom, -Vietnam) were asked to examine a range of broad themes relating to the SDGs, including topics on foreign policy, international affairs, trade and finance, and defense and security. In addition, they explored more specific areas of contemporary interest, for example aspects of health and wellbeing, international approaches to education, and business innovation and development.

## what is coil?

The COIL method is a cost-effective method of expanding global learning opportunities for greater numbers of higher education students. COIL is an innovative pedagogy involving collaborative teaching and learning in two or more countries facilitated by online communication that has been developed and promoted by the State University of New York (SUNY) COIL Center. Delivering global learning and intercultural experience to greater numbers of Japanese students has been a priority of Kansai University, and IIGE seeks to expand this through COIL promotion and delivery, with the COIL approach being affordable, accessible, and scalable. In practice, COIL involves faculty from Japanese and other universities collaborating with their Japanese counterparts to develop joint syllabi, and students in the two countries then work together to complete assignments that meet shared learning objectives.

# Program Recap

## Instructors:

1. Keiko IKEDA, Ph.D., Vice Director, IIGE
2. Don Bysouth, Ph.D., Associate Professor, IIGE
3. Jinyuan Wu, Ph.D., Assisting Professor, IIGE

## Guest Speakers:

1. Kate Sedwell, Co-Founder & Director, Atlantic Pacific (<https://www.atlanticpacific.org.uk/>)
2. Robin Jenkins, Founder & Director, Atlantic Pacific
3. Idrees Rasouli, Founder & CEO, X-Crop (<https://x-crop.com/>)
4. Robin Takashi Lewis, Co-Founder, mymizu (<https://www.mymizu.co/>)

## Schedule:

- July 22-26: **Pre-Program Workshop** - Introduction on SDGs, video self instructions, ice breaking activities, BEVI assessment\*
- July 27: **Lecture 1** - Overview of the United Nations SDGs
- August 3: **Lecture 2** - Design for Social Regeneration After Mass Disaster
- August 10: **Lecture 3** - Love our Oceans
- August 14-30: **Group Project** - Identifying a global contemporary issue related to SDGs and suggesting solutions
- August 31: **Lecture 4** - Business for SDGs
- September 7: **Lecture 5** - Globalization of Popular Culture
- September 14: **Final Presentation** - Presentation of group project
- September 15-19: **Post-Program Workshop** - Final presentation review, post-program survey, BEVI assessment\*

\*BEVI (Beliefs, Events and Values Inventory) is a survey tool for COIL assessment

**Organizers:** IIGE, Kansai University; UMAP International Secretariat

**Support:** 2018-2022 Inter-University Exchange Project promoted by MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports Science and Technology)

## participants' voices

Q. How would you use the experience you've gained for the future?

"Talking to other people around the world opened different perspectives and enabled me to have new approaches. I am encouraged by the program to participate in international discussions of certain issues.



"I have gained valuable insights on the different ways other people have contributed to enforcing some of the SDGs in their countries... It is inspiring to see such young people be able to come up with programs that can potentially cause a big impact on future living...I will continue collaborating with students from my home institution to possibly build an organization that seeks to address problems of international or global concern."

"I have learned so many lessons in this program. It was an eye-opener to me. It made me realize how lucky I am today in my home, safe and sound, while the world is suffering. I will use these lessons I gained for the future when I will be successful to also conduct infodrives to raise awareness to my community."

Q. Please share what you have learned from this program.

"I learned to be accepting of different opinions. Everyone has different opinions because he or she has a different angle of looking at things. Even cultures and languages foster an immense noteworthy influence on our mindset. Despite [our differences], we should learn to respect [others' opinions] and try to put ourselves in other people's shoes."

"...I was able to lift my confidence...thanks to my ever-supportive group mates and accommodating organizers. ... I acquired genuine happiness through this program. The feeling of being able to raise your voice to fight the right of the least, the last, and the lost and being acknowledged, commended, or corrected is something that is worthy of attention. Thank you so much, UMAP-COIL Joint Program, Kansai University, to all organizers, working committees, and speakers for this purposive program."

"I realized that the ability to speak English alone doesn't qualify you as a global talent. Everyone grows up in different environments, so we have to learn to overcome other non-verbal barriers, like different values systems."

"I was hesitant in the beginning, but after meeting other members who were willing to take the initiative, I realized that if I didn't change my attitude, I would be left behind, that if I don't take the initiative it will all be for nothing. This program taught me to take action."

Q. Please share your thoughts after completing the program.

"I think that this program is the embodiment of UNITY among different countries and nationalities despite the distance...It just demonstrates that virtually anyone in the world can connect and collaborate to create a better future."

"The program is 10/10. Amid this pandemic, we still got the opportunity to engage in international learning. The program flow was well-organized as well as the discussions. Moreover, the professors and lecturers in the program were very good. I also like it that we are given ample time to finish all our assignments, which is good. I would definitely recommend this program to my schoolmates."

"This program really made my stay at home worthwhile. Since we are in the middle of a global pandemic, it is nice to be able to experience and expand my horizons in the comfort of my home. I was also able to meet new people and gain new friends through this program. I would definitely remember and cherish every moment..."

"The program expanded my horizons. Up until now even though I was interested in these topics I was hesitant to take action, but now I feel like I can challenge myself to take them on."

# Photos of UMAP-COIL Joint Program 2020



**Damage to Kamaishi (2),**  
**Population: 33,000**

**Human damage:**

Number of fatalities: 1,064 persons  
Number of refugees: 9,883 inside the city, 633 inland

**Housing damage:**

Out of 16,182 dwellings, 4,704 were damaged (30%), of which 2,957 houses were completely destroyed

**Industry: Business:**

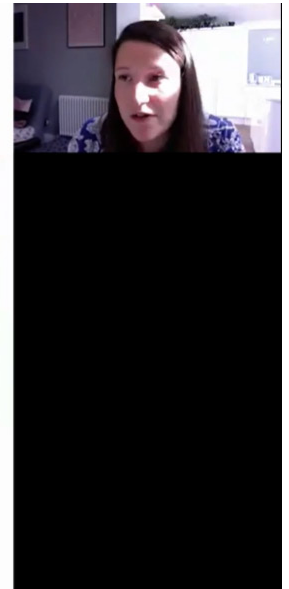
Out of 2396 business establishments, 1,382 (57.7%) located in the inundation zone



Kamaishi after the 2011 tsunami © The Atlantic

**Industry: Fishing:**

Out of 1,734 fishing boats, 1,692 (97.6% destroyed)



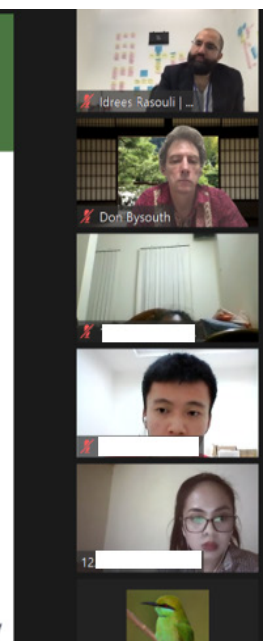
## 13 CLIMATE ACTION



- Promotes environmental awareness of locals through seminars and programs
- Promotes mechanisms for people in Batac to raise their awareness and capacity on climate change reduction
- Engages people in the growing market for eco-friendly products that are energy efficient and harmless to the environment
- This also encourages people to buy local food products that are produced locally



Harvesting Peanuts to be used for their OBOP (Barangay)



# report of UKM-DKS-Toyo Joint Study Project

**Theme:** Immigration, Diversity, and Cross-Cultural Issues

**Dates:** Oct. 24 - 31, 2020

Three UMAP institutions, UKM (Malaysia), De La Salle (Philippines) and Toyo (Japan), collaborated for a joint teaching project, focusing on “Immigration, Diversity and Cross-Cultural Issues”. The project was started in Oct. 5th by exchanging lectures from three universities. From Oct. 26, 108 participating from three universities, engaged in discussion for a week by using a new online system, Immerse U (Class 2 Class). The students were divided in 18 groups and discussed issues related to immigrants, overseas workers and refugees. Then, at the final joint class on Oct. 31, each group engaged in creating posters which raise awareness of human rights of those immigrants and foreign workers. It was quite an inspiring and enjoyable learning experience for students from three universities.

## 1. Instructors

UKM: Abdul Latiff Ahmad, Shazlin Amir Hamzah, Balqis Mustafa

DLS: Ron Bridget Vilog

Toyo: Shingo Ashizawa

## 2. No. of Participants

UKM: 32, DLS: 8, Toyo: 68

## 3. Student Groups

There will be 18 groups and each group will consist of 6 students

## 4. Goal of Joint Project

Each group will create a poster

- The poster should contain advocacy or a message to raise awareness about the human rights of immigrants or overseas workers.
- Students can use copyright free pictures or images from various websites.
- Students create original statements based on discussion among themselves.

## 5. Ice break and Pre-conference Discussion (on the Immerse U system)

- Mutual introductions (from Oct. 24)
- Ice breaking activities (from Oct. 24)
  - Each student will introduce their favorite cuisine from his or her own culture.
- Online discussion in preparation for final groupwork on Oct. 31
  - a. The groups will discuss possible topics, statements and issues that they would like to focus on.
  - b. The students in each group will share ideas and resources that they can use to create their posters.

## 6. Final Group Project (Oct 31, 2020)

Each group meet on the Zoom to complete the project. The final meeting was held on Webex to introduce posters created by 18 groups

**Time:** 10 AM - 1 PM (Japan Standard Time), 9 AM - Noon (Malaysia and Philippines time)

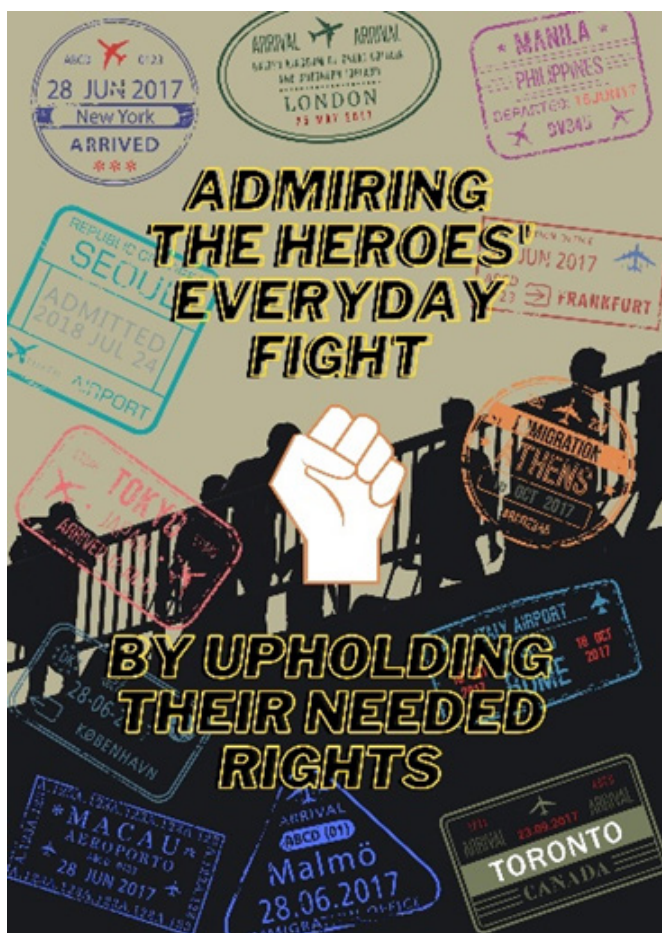
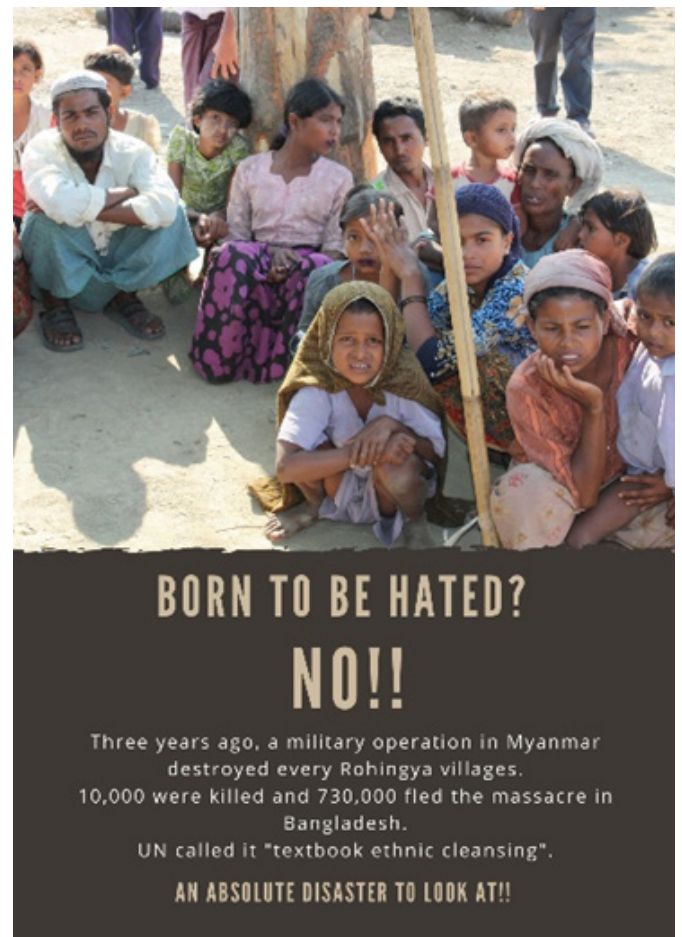
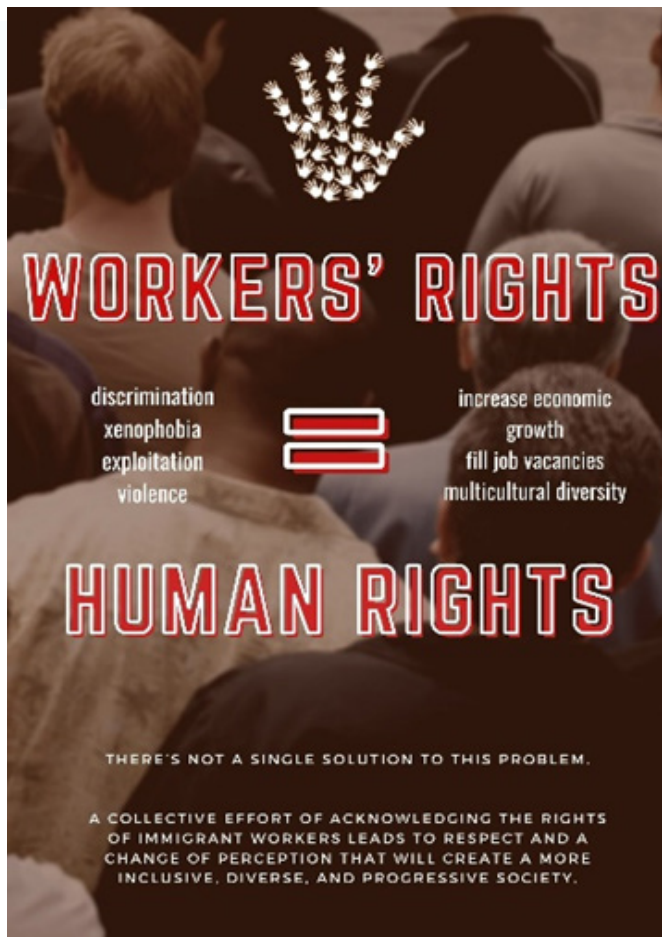
## 7. Video of the Final Meeting

Video of UKM-DLS-Toyo Joint Study Project (Oct. 31) 20201031 0337-1

URL: <https://bit.ly/38J6Zba>

Password: VckV7dqS





# Posters Made By the Students

## UKM-DKS-Toyo Join Study Project

This article will give you  
a glimpse of UMAP's  
performance by the end of  
2020's first exchange cycle.

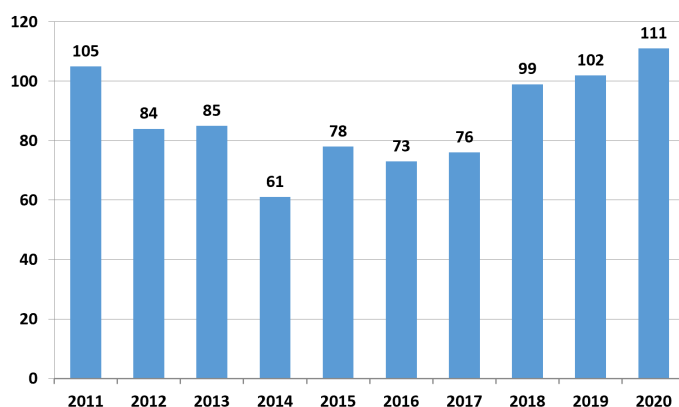
2020

# Statistical Data of UMAP Programs

The COVID-19 outbreak has disrupted life around the globe and the student mobility is no exception. It has been affected tremendously because of the shutdown of borders and cancellation of exchange programs. As shown in the below chart, statistics of program A, B, C show these difficulties in 2020.

## Number of Participating Institutions\* (2011-2020)

Program A&B



\* Participating Institutions :  
Institutions that registered their program information on  
USCO System with the intention to accept exchange students.

The next chart shows number of exchange students in Program A&B in ten years. There are two numbers for the year of 2019 and 2020, which mean numbers of accepted students (placement result) as well as number of students who have been affected by COVID-19.

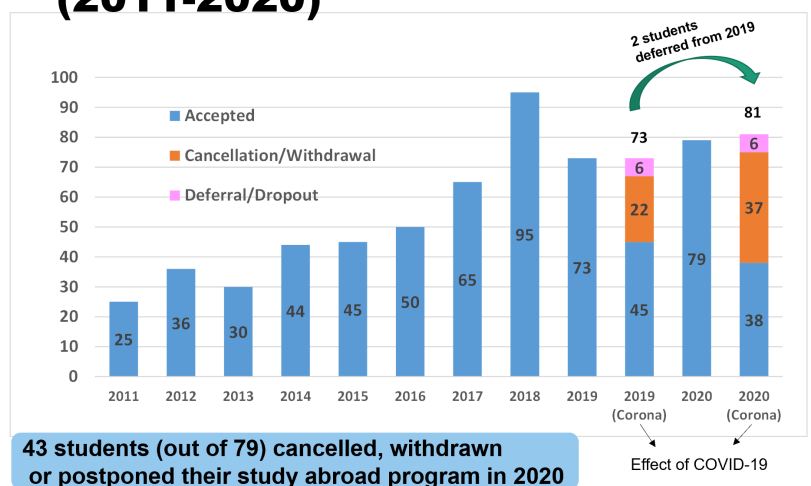
As of October 13, 2020, 45 students actually went abroad out of 73 students who were accepted in 2019 (41 students were in Fall 2019 and only 5 students in Spring 2020).

### 1. Program A & B

The graph shows that in 2020, 111 institutions have offered exchange programs to UMAP students (9 institutions more than 2019). This is a record in recent 10 years. A downturn trend from 2011 to 2016 has been reversed gradually and it peaked in 2020. The difference can be attributed to more institutions from new member countries/territories joining UMAP.

## Number of Exchange Students (2011-2020)

Program A&B



The rest of 28 students were affected by COVID-19. 22 students have been withdrawn or their programs were cancelled and 6 students have deferred their study abroad semester. Only 2 students out of 6 deferred students participated in fall 2020 program. All of them were spring 2020 applicants.

In 2020, out of 79 accepted students, 37 students were affected by either cancellation or withdrawal and 6 students decided to defer their study period. As the number includes spring 2021 exchange students, there will be more cancellation as well as withdrawal.

## 2. Program C & Summer Program

This year, the number of institutions that offered program C was 31 including 14 countries/territory and the number of programs was 56 increasing the previous year of 2019. However, number of participated students was nil because of outbreak of COVID-19. Almost of programs were cancelled and accepted students have been obliged to withdraw their applications. All Summer Program 2020, UMAP Discovery Camp 2020 in Malaysia has been postponed to 2022.

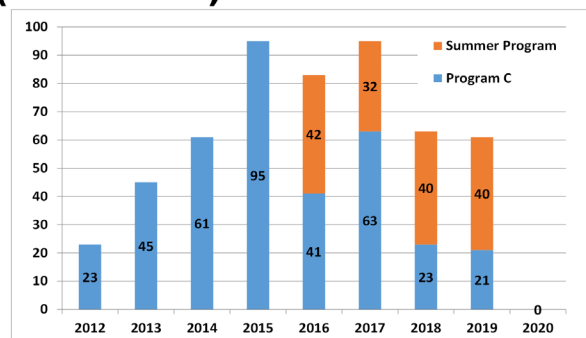
### Number of Participating Institutions and Programs

Program C

| Number of Participating Institutions |           |           |           |           |           | Number of Programs offered by Participating Institutions |           |           |           |           |           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Countries/Territories                | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      | 2019      | 2020      | Countries/Territories                                    | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      | 2019      | 2020      |
| Brunei                               | 0         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 1         | Brunei   | 0         | 2         | 2         | 1         | 1         |
| Canada                               | 0         | 0         | 0         | 3         | 3         | Canada   | 0         | 0         | 0         | 5         | 3         |
| Chile                                | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | Chile  | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 3         |
| China                                | 0         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 1         | China  | 0         | 0         | 0         | 4         | 1         |
| Indonesia                            | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | Indonesia  | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         |
| Japan                                | 2         | 1         | 5         | 2         | 2         | Japan  | 2         | 2         | 15        | 5         | 2         |
| Korea                                | 5         | 3         | 2         | 3         | 2         | Korea  | 8         | 4         | 2         | 3         | 2         |
| Kyrgyz                               | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         | Kyrgyz   | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 1         |
| Malaysia                             | 2         | 3         | 3         | 1         | 4         | Malaysia   | 3         | 5         | 10        | 3         | 17        |
| Mexico                               | 1         | 2         | 3         | 2         | 2         | Mexico   | 3         | 8         | 12        | 6         | 3         |
| Philippines                          | 5         | 5         | 5         | 5         | 4         | Philippines  | 7         | 14        | 14        | 8         | 5         |
| Taiwan                               | 9         | 5         | 7         | 5         | 5         | Taiwan   | 11        | 6         | 9         | 12        | 12        |
| Thailand                             | 5         | 8         | 5         | 3         | 2         | Thailand   | 6         | 9         | 9         | 3         | 2         |
| Vietnam                              | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 1         | Vietnam  | 0         | 0         | 3         | 0         | 3         |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>29</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>Total</b>   | <b>40</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>76</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>56</b> |

Program C

### Number of Exchange Students (2012-2020)



Zero student in 2020 due to the COVID-19

# UMAP

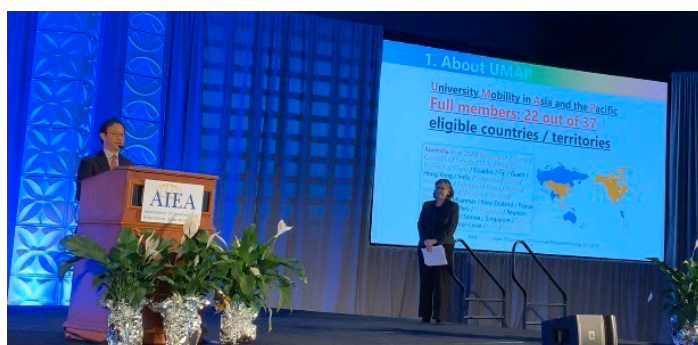


# UMAP's Activities

## Past Activities (Oct 2019 - Dec 2020)

- AIEC 2019 in Perth, Australia (October 15-18)
- Conference on UMAP as a Platform for Academic Mobility in the Philippines (October 23-24)
- AIEA 2020 in Washington, DC, USA (February 16-19)
- SIIEJ 2020(Summer Institute on International Education, Japan) in Osaka, Japan\* (September 2-4)
- UMAP COIL-AP Program kick-off meeting\* (September 5)

\*Considering Covid-19 pandemic, UMAP IS participated in the conference and meeting online.



AIEA 2020 in Washington, DC, USA on February 16-19

## Our Publications

1. UMAP at a Glance 2020
2. UMAP Newsletter Vol. 7
3. UCTS Users' Guide (Revision-1.1)
4. Social Media
  - Website: <http://umap.org/>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umap.org/>
  - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UMAP\\_ORG/](https://twitter.com/UMAP_ORG/)

## University Visiting / Online Meeting

UMAP IS had meetings with the following institutions to explain about UMAP and promote to join its network.

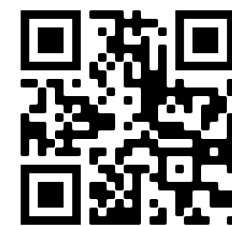
- Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Japan)
- Deakin University (Australia)
- Kyoto University of Advanced Science (Japan)
- Loyola Marymount University (U.S.A.)
- Mae Fah Luang University (Thailand)
- Mercy College (U.S.A.)
- Shizuoka University (Japan)
- Sophia University (Japan)
- Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria (Chile)
- Universitas Kristen Maranatha (Indonesia)
- University of Hawaii at West Oahu (U.S.A.)



**UMAP At A  
Glance 2020**



**UCTS Users' Guide**



**UMAP Website**

# message from UMAP IS

*Dear Colleague at Member Institutions,*

On behalf of Toyo University and UMAP IS, I would like to express our gratitude for your contribution to UMAP activities.

The COVID-19 continues to go on a rampage even though the outbreak has been suppressed and student mobility has been recovering in several countries and territories. I learned from staff member of UMAP IS that four UMAP students have successfully completed their spring semester study abroad in Korea and Taiwan this year in spite of the rampancy of the virus. I congratulate them. However, students in most of countries and territories still face shutdown of borders and cancellation of exchange programs and are obliged to give up their study abroad. I believe it is extremely important for us to continue to provide them with student mobility opportunities.

As the end of tenure as the UMAP International Secretariat for us, Toyo University, I would like to summarize what we have accomplished during 5 years. At first thanks to your cooperation, we have been successfully expanding our network. Canada, Chile, and the United States of America have joined UMAP as full member countries in the east side of the Pacific. And in Asia, Australia, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Kyrgyz, Laos have participated in this community while Macau and Mongolia have come back to us as our members. The number of Pledged Institutions, those universities/institutions that have signed the Pledge of Agreement has more than doubled reaching to 369 (as of Dec. 15th, 2020) from 176 in 2015 in accordance with the increase of member countries/territories.

Secondly, the UMAP Student Connection Online (USCO) System has been in operation since October 2018 and more than 200 institutions have registered their information onto the USCO system.

Thirdly, one of the UMAP flagship programs, Discovery Camp, was initiated in 2016 by courtesy of The Philippines National Secretariat and member universities. Since then, different countries/territories hosted the event every year, even though Malaysian turn in 2020 has been postponed to 2022 because of COVID-19.

We have also launched new program, UMAP-COIL, a joint project of UMAP, supported by the Government of Japan, and Kansai University, which aims to invite the best and the brightest students from UMAP member countries.

Despite the fact that we are currently unable to engage physical student mobility, UMAP has launched UMAP Exchange Online in which 18 universities from 8 countries have participated in the Fall semester of 2020. In this cross-registration program, 76 academic courses are available for UMAP students from those countries with mutually tuition waiver arrangements. Another online collaboration model was initiated by UMAP. In October, UKM, De La Salle and Toyo started an online joint teaching project where 108 students from three universities work together for creating advocacy posters concerning cross-border mobility.





In addition, Toyo University would like to propose a Virtual Model United Nations which is a student-centered international conference focusing on SDGs in the end of March. This Model UN program will be announced to UMAP countries to invite students from UMAP member institutions.

The aforementioned may not be enough for future success of this organization. We would like to pass the role of International Secretariat to our successor, British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE) in Canada, and wish their progress in further expansion and development.

Finally, let me thank you for your invaluable support and cooperation during our tenure and I wish good health for all our members and hope to meet all of you face to face somewhere sometime.

*Thank you.*

*Etsuko Yaguchi*

**ETSUKO YAGUCHI**  
**President, Toyo University**

# About



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## ● OUR MISSION

UMAP is the acronym for the “University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific”. Founded in 1991, it is a voluntary association of government and non-government representatives of the higher education (university) sector.

The general aim of UMAP is for each of the countries and territories in the Asia- Pacific region to achieve a better understanding of the cultural, economic and social systems of the other countries and territories in the region through enhanced cooperation among higher education institutions and increased mobility of university students and staff.

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## ● OUR PROGRAMS

UMAP has been administrating the following student exchange programs and providing research funds to selected research projects by UMAP members. The programs are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

1. Multilateral Student Exchange Program (UME) / Program A
  - One or two semesters long
  - Tuition: Participating universities are expected to waiver a tuition
2. Bilateral Student Exchange (UBE) / Program B
  - One or two semesters long
  - Tuition: Conditions for the waiver/non-waiver of tuition fees depend on host institutions
3. Super Short-Term Programs (SSTP) / Program C
  - One to eight weeks long
  - Tuition: Conditions for the waiver/non-waiver of tuition fees depend on host institutions
4. UMAP Summer Program

The UMAP Summer Program is a 1 to 8 weeks long special program. Venues and contents of the program differ every year depending on the organizer of the program. It started in 2016 in the Philippines, in 2017 in Japan, in 2018 in Thailand, and in 2019 in Taiwan.
5. UMAP Research Net (URN)

UMAP Research Net is a project that aims to promote research networks in the region by groups of two or more researches from different UMAP affiliated universities who share common research interests. UMAP is providing research funds to selected research projects that are relevant to the goals of UMAP.

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## ● HOW TO BECOME A UMAP MEMBER

First, you need to get endorsement from the National Secretariat in your country/territory. Then, you will sign the “Pledge of Agreement” with the International Secretariat of UMAP. Please note that UMAP doesn’t require any participating fees from individual institution and students.

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## ● UMAP CREDIT TRANSFER SCHEME (UCTS)

UMAP Credit Transfer Scheme was developed to simplify the process of transferring credits earned in UMAP Programs. For more detailed explanations about UCTS, please go to: <http://umap.org/ucts/>



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