

Report for the Visit to University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City

Shigenori Kanaya, Professor
Reiko Matsumoto, Secretary

Period: February 16-19, 2011

Destinations: University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Participants: Shigenori Kanaya, Professor of Graduate School of Engineering
Reiko Matsumoto, Secretary to Graduate School of Engineering

Itinerary:

February 16, 2011 Leave Kansai Airport to Vietnam

February 17, 2011 Visit University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City

February 18, 2011 Leave Vietnam to Osaka

February 19, 2011 Arrive at Kansai Airport

Aims

In order to recruit the students for the International Program of Frontier Biotechnology and to enhance the network with Vietnamese university, we visited University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City. We had a meeting with the vice president of the university, Prof. Dr. Tran Linh Thuoc, and Prof. Kanaya presented a model lecture, as well as introduction of the Frontier Biotechnology program, to graduate students and staffs.

Visit to University Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh city

University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City was established in 1942 as the Division of Indochina College of Science. In 1996, the Faculty of Science has become the University of Natural Science, one of the five affiliated universities of the Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City. From 2007, the university was renamed as the University of Science. The University of Science is a public university which plays a particularly important role in education and scientific research in the Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City. In 2007, Webometrics (a Spanish ranking system of world universities) ranked the University of Science number 1 in Vietnam, 28 in the Southeast Asia. It has about 10,000 undergraduate students, 1800 graduate students, and 530 staffs.

We first visited Prof. Dr. Tran Linh Thuoc, Vice President of the university at 8:50, and talked about the purpose of our visit.

Then, Prof. Kanaya delivered a model lecture on a scientific topic and introduced Osaka University and International Program of Frontier Biotechnology, one of the major programs of our program, “International Collaboration Program of Graduate School for Faculty Development”, a lecture room of Faculty of Biology. The title of the scientific topic was “Unique folding and stabilization mechanisms of subtilisin-like serine proteases from a hyperthermophilic archaeon”. Approximately 30 graduate students and staffs intently listened to him, and actively asked questions.

After that, we visited several laboratories in the Faculty of Biology, including those of Dr. Hoay Doc Huy, Vice Dean of Faculty Biology, and Dr. Dai-Nghiep Ngo, and discussed with the staffs and graduate students on research and education in the university. After having lunch with Prof. Tran Linh Thuoc, we went back to the hotel at around 3:00 pm.

After having lunch, we visited Research Center for Bioresources and Biotechnology again to talk about possible student exchange, and left the university at around 15:30 to go back to Jakarta.

Results

This trip was fruitful because it provided us with the important opportunity to talk face-to-face with the vice president of University of Science, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City about possible or upgraded academic exchange that could further strengthen our network with this university, and also because it gave us the chance to introduce International Program of Frontier Biotechnology directly to the students of this university who seemed to be much interested in the program and coming to Japan for studying.

