**APRU at a glance**

**APRU is the international organisation of 45 leading research universities in the Asia-Pacific region, across 17 APEC economies**

**Education**
- **140,000** faculty members
- **2 million** students (1.1 million undergraduates and 0.5 million graduates)

**Research**
- **20%** of APRU publications are ranked in the top 10% in the world (by citation)
- **24%** of all citations in the APEC region

**Innovation**
- More than **10,000 patents** active in 2015
- **32%** of publications produced with international collaboration (compared with 20% on average for APEC institutions)

**History**
APRU was established in 1997 by the presidents of
- California Institute of Technology (Thomas Everhart)
- University of California, Berkeley (Chang-Lin Tien)
- University of California, Los Angeles (Charles Young)
- University of Southern California (Steven B. Sample)

APRU began with 34 charter members with the declaration, “The objective of this association of premier universities around the Pacific Rim is to help these institutions become more effective contributors to the development of an increasingly integrated Pacific Rim community.” The first annual meeting of presidents took place in Los Angeles from 1-3 June 1997. 20 university leaders attended this meeting.

**Previous Chairs**
- 2010-2014: Henry T. Yang, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2009-2010: Wei Yang, President, Zhejiang University
- 2008-2009: Yuichiro Anzai, President, Keio University
- 2006-2008: Gavin Brown, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Sydney
- 2002-2006: Choon Fong Shih, President, National University of Singapore
- 1997-2002: Steven B. Sample, President, University of Southern California
01 Vision and APRU Members
02 Chairman’s Message
03 Introduction by Secretary General
05 Steering Committee
07 In Memoriam: Steven B. Sample
09 Calendar of Events
13 Presidential Retreat and Annual Presidents Meeting 2015
17 Senior Staff Meeting 2015
20 International Policy Advisory Committee Meeting 2016
21 Strategic Framework
22 Shaping Asia-Pacific Higher Education and Research
25 Creating Asia-Pacific Global Leaders
28 Partnering on Solutions to Asia-Pacific Challenges
31 APRU International Secretariat
Seeing the rapid economic integration of the region and the formation of APEC, the founding presidents’ vision was to establish a premier alliance of research universities as an advisory body to international organisations, governments and businesses on the development of science and innovation as well as on the broader development of higher education. The vision now encompasses focusing new knowledge on the global challenges affecting the region.

**APRU Members**

**Australia**
- Brian P. Schmidt AC, Vice-Chancellor and President, Australian National University
- Glyn Davis AC, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Melbourne
- Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Sydney
- Ian Jacobs, President and Vice-Chancellor, UNSW Australia

**Canada**
- Martha Piper, Interim President and Vice-Chancellor, University of British Columbia

**Chile**
- Ennio Vivaldi Véjar, Rector, University of Chile

**China and Hong Kong SAR**
- Xu Ningsheng, President, Fudan University
- Tony F. Chan, President, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Chen Jun, President, Nanjing University
- Lin Jianhua, President, Peking University
- Qiu Yong, President, Tsinghua University
- Peter Mathiessen, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Hong Kong
- Wan Lijun, President, University of Science and Technology of China
- Wu Zhaohui, President, Zhejiang University

**Chinese Taipei**
- Pan-Chyr Yang, President, National Taiwan University

**Indonesia**
- Muhammad Anis, Rector, University of Indonesia

**Japan**
- Atsushi Seike, President, Keio University
- Jujiro Nishio, President, Osaka University
- Susumu Satomi, President, Tohoku University
- Makoto Gonokami, President, University of Tokyo
- Kaoru Kamata, President, Waseda University

**Korea**
- Jae-ho Yeom, President, Korea University
- Nak-in Sung, President, Seoul National University
- Yong-Hak Kim, President, Yonsei University

**Malaysia**
- Mohd Amin Bin Jalaludin, Vice-Chancellor, University of Malaya

**Mexico**
- Salvador Alva, President, Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education
- Enrique Luis Graue Wiechers, Rector, National Autonomous University of Mexico

**New Zealand**
- Stuart McCutcheon, Vice-Chancellor, University of Auckland

**Philippines**
- Alfredo E. Pascual, President, University of the Philippines

**Russia**
- Sergey V. Ivanets, President, Far Eastern Federal University

**Singapore**
- Tan Chorh Chuan, President, National University of Singapore

**Thailand**
- Bundhit Eua-arporn, President, Chulalongkorn University

**USA**
- Thomas F. Rosenbaum, President, California Institute of Technology
- John L. Hennessy, President, Stanford University
- Nicholas B. Dirks, Chancellor, University of California, Berkeley
- Linda P.B. Katehi, Chancellor, University of California, Davis
- Howard Gillman, Chancellor, University of California, Irvine
- Gene D. Block, Chancellor, University of California, Los Angeles
- Pradeep K. Khosla, Chancellor, University of California, San Diego
- Henry T. Yang, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Robert Bley-Vroman, Interim Chancellor, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa
- Michael Schill, President, University of Oregon
- C.L. Max Nikias, President, University of Southern California
- Ana Mari Cauce, President, University of Washington
The past year has been a milestone year for APRU as it celebrates its twentieth year. The year has been marked by two major initiatives that will build on APRU’s strong legacy and also enable APRU to respond to the opportunities and challenges of the Asia-Pacific region, in particular the fast-changing higher education environment. The Annual Report records these initiatives and other significant achievements.

At the June 2015 Annual Presidents’ Meeting in Osaka, presidents endorsed a strategic move to build the network’s capacity for international advocacy and impact. The APRU Impact Report 2016, is the first key initiative in this direction. The report provides statistical evidence, case studies and analytical comment on the economic and social contributions of APRU universities to the Asia-Pacific region.

Over the past two decades APRU’s International Secretariat has been hosted by USC in Los Angeles and then by the National University of Singapore. Last year, after consultation with NUS, the Steering Committee accepted the invitation by The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology to be the next host. In October 2015, the International Secretariat moved from Singapore to Hong Kong and a new staff team was employed under the leadership of the Secretary General. I expect that the new team in collaboration with APRU member universities will build the network’s capacity for international advocacy and impact. They will also explore innovative initiatives that will strengthen the strategic goal of APRU.

I thank President Tan Chorh Chuan and the National University of Singapore for hosting the Secretariat over the last 13 years, and I want to thank members of the secretariat in Singapore for their dedicated service to APRU. I also express my sincere gratitude to President Tony Chan, HKUST, for hosting the international Secretariat.

We are now at the beginning of an exciting phase of APRU’s life in a new location with a new team. As an international network, we are well positioned to make important contributions towards solving tomorrow’s most pressing challenges.

C. L. Max Nikias
Chairman, APRU
President, University of Southern California
The past year has seen both strategic and organisational shifts as APRU has responded to the opportunities and challenges of the Asia-Pacific region and of the fast-changing geopolitics of higher education.

In Osaka in June 2015, APRU’s presidents endorsed a step up in strategy with a new emphasis on international advocacy and impact. At the Senior Staff Meeting in Auckland in September, considerable time was spent on ensuring that this new emphasis will be advanced by a focused set of programs that have the support of the constituency.

We have also intensified our interaction with the public and private sectors, with other international organisations and communities of interest. Program highlights have included major events and collaborations on Global Health, Multi-Hazards, Population Ageing, the Digital Economy and on Gender and Equity.

Innovations over the year which have further advanced this strategy included a Presidential Retreat as part of the annual meeting, the first APRU Vice-Presidents for Research Meeting (hosted by UNSW Australia), the Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership Roundtable (hosted by the University of Hong Kong) and intensified interaction with APEC as a guest member of both the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation and the Human Resource Development Working Group.

The International Secretariat’s change in location from Singapore to Hong Kong provided the opportunity to employ a new team with the skills and experience in policy development and analysis appropriate to the new strategy.

I was particularly pleased to welcome Keith Wong as the new Director of the International Secretariat. He has an extensive background in business, university teaching, and policy research. A graduate of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, McGill University and HKUST, he came to us from being Senior Researcher at the Harvard Business School Asia-Pacific Research Centre. He and the other new staff quickly picked up their responsibilities with enthusiasm, intellectual rigour and a spirit of common commitment. The biodata of the other talented staff we have recruited (or retained) are included in this Report.

In April 2016, a new Business Plan for the coming year, developed with the new staff team, was presented to the International Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) for their feedback. The revised version was then considered by the Steering Committee in May and then circulated to all presidents for their comment.

This Plan responds to the recommendations made by governing and advisory bodies this past year by clarifying priorities, focusing current activities, and building the outreach capabilities of an international organisation. It also prioritises external fund-raising, activating a more agile and targeted communications
and marketing strategy and consolidating strong relationships with our host, HKUST, with the University of Hong Kong and with other agencies and partners in Hong Kong. This work has already begun and will be reflected more fully in next year’s report.

I wish to thank the members of the Steering Committee, IPAC, and the Senior Staff Meeting for their dedication, critical insights and support during the year. Special thanks go also to President Tan (NUS) and President Chan (HKUST) for their facilitation of the move to Hong Kong and to Professor Shantanu Dutta, USC, and Vice-President Eden Woon, HKUST, for their assistance in bringing together the feasibility study for the transition as well as subsequent advice and support.

Susan Madon, Director of the USC Office in Hong Kong, Dr Steven Cannon, Executive Vice-President (Administration and Finance), University of Hong Kong, and Mark Hodgson, Vice President for Administration and Business, HKUST, were of major assistance in establishing APRU as a legal entity in Hong Kong and in many related business issues. I am most grateful to them.

I also express APRU’s gratitude to the outgoing staff in Singapore, Margaret Leong, Jacquelline Heng and Clara Wong, for their many years of service to the organisation.

This report shares a wide range of activities which demonstrate the value that APRU members derive from their commitment. The ‘strategic topography’ underlying these programs ensures that we are constantly deriving even more value, as are others in this information age, from being a network. There is much more to be gained from this unique character as we enter another phase of APRU’s development.

Christopher Tremewan

Secretary General, APRU
President Nikias became the University of Southern California’s 11th president in August 2010. He holds the Robert C. Packard President’s Chair and the Malcolm R. Currie Chair in Technology and the Humanities, and chairs the USC Health System Board. Dr Nikias received a diploma from the National Technical University of Athens, also known as National Metsovion Polytechnic, the oldest and most prestigious higher education institution of Greece, and later earned his MS and PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

President Chan assumed the presidency of HKUST in September 2009. From 2006-2009, Professor Chan was Assistant Director of the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate at the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), which is the largest directorate at NSF. In that position, he guided and managed research funding in astronomy, physics, chemistry, mathematical science, material science, and multidisciplinary activities. Professor Chan’s scientific background is in Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering. He received his BS and MS degrees in Engineering from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and his PhD in Computer Science from Stanford University.

President Lin is President of Peking University and Professor of Chemistry. His presidential term began in February 2015. Prior to becoming President of Peking University, Professor Lin served as President of Chongqing University from December 2010 to June 2013, and President of Zhejiang University from 2013 to 2015. Other leadership roles have included: Dean of the College of Chemistry, Executive Vice President and Provost at Peking University from 1998 to 2010. Professor Lin received his PhD in Chemistry from Peking University in 1986 and joined the University as an academic faculty in the same year.

Vice-Chancellor McCutcheon was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Auckland in January 2005. He also chairs the University’s research commercialisation company, Auckland UniServices Limited. He is also the Chair of the Universities New Zealand Research Committee. Professor McCutcheon completed his bachelor’s degree with first class honours at Massey University in 1976, and was then appointed to the lecturing staff of that university while undertaking a PhD in metabolic physiology.

Chancellor Block was appointed University of California, Los Angeles’ Chancellor in August 2007. He serves on several leading national associations and advisory boards, including as Chair of the council of presidents of the Universities Research Association, an international consortium of 86 leading research universities. He holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology with distinction from Stanford University and a master’s degree and PhD in psychology from the University of Oregon.
Susumu Satomi, President, Tohoku University
President Satomi was appointed Tohoku University President on April 1, 2012. Prior to being appointed as President, he served as Vice President at Tohoku University (2005-2012), and as the Director of the Tohoku University Hospital (2004-2012). Dr Satomi has held several distinguished positions in major academic societies in Japan, including the President of the Japan Surgical Society (2008-2012), the President of the General Incorporated Association National Clinical Database, and the Director of the Japanese Society for Surgical Metabolism and Nutrition. He obtained his BSc in civil engineering from National Taiwan University, MSc from West Virginia University and PhD in structural engineering from Cornell University.

Henry T. Yang, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Barbara
Chancellor Yang was named University of California, Santa Barbara’s 5th Chancellor in 1994. He was previously Chair of the APRU Steering Committee from 2010-2014. Dr Yang is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Society for Engineering Education, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He obtained his BSc in civil engineering from National Taiwan University, MSc from West Virginia University and PhD in structural engineering from Cornell University.

Alfredo E. Pascual, President, University of the Philippines
President Pascual became the 20th President of the University of Philippines (UP) in February 2011. He is also a Trustee of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and Chair of UP Foundation, Inc. and UP Provident Fund, Inc. He obtained his BS Chemistry (cum laude) and MBA from the University of Philippines and received an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy (Ped.D) degree from Angeles University.

Keith Chi-ho Wong, Director (International Secretariat), APRU
Mr Wong was appointed as the new Director (International Secretariat) in January 2016. He comes from the Harvard Business School Asia Pacific Research Centre where he was a Senior Researcher. Since 2007, he wrote case studies for the HBS and coordinated research programs across the Asia-Pacific region. He has over 15 years of experience in managing academic research projects and business operations in the technology and hospitality sectors. He has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, an MBA from McGill University, and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from HKUST.

Christopher Tremewan, Secretary General, APRU
Dr Tremewan was elected as APRU’s 4th Secretary General in June 2011. He was previously the Vice-President (International) of the University of Auckland. Dr Tremewan holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social anthropology from the University of Auckland, a PhD in political science (on Southeast Asian politics) from the University of Canterbury, and a master’s degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. He was elected Senior Associate Member, St Anthony’s College, Oxford University in 1991.

APRU Presidents
- Annual Presidents Meeting
- Steering Committee

APRU International Secretariat
- Senior Faculty and Administrators
- Network Meetings
- Senior Staff Meeting
- International Policy Advisory Committee
- Shaping Higher Education (Working Group 1)
- Creating Global Leaders (Working Group 2)
- Partnering on Solutions (Working Group 3)
- Provosts
- Deans
- Senior Administrators
- Student Leaders
As the Pacific Rim emerges as an economic community, APRU is bound to emerge as an ever-stronger force. Whenever a group of institutions with similar roles and missions join in a cooperative endeavor, their collective impact will inevitably surpass anything the group’s member institutions could achieve on their own.

Steven B. Sample
APRU Co-Founder and Former Chairman
In the 1990s, Professor Steven Sample, former President of the University of Southern California, felt that many American universities were too Eurocentric. Many people were predicting that the 21st century would be the “Pacific Century”, and for him, it was clear that the Pacific Rim would become the political, economic, and cultural nexus for the entire world. Thus, he set out to create an international organisation modeled after the Association of American Universities, comprising of stringently selected universities from the Asia-Pacific region.

In 1997, Professor Sample brought together the heads of leading universities from around the Pacific Rim for an exploratory meeting at the University of Southern California. 20 presidents attended this meeting. They recognised the potential positive impact that a collaborative network of world-class scholars and researchers would have on issues of vital importance to the Pacific Rim community – economic development, environmental protection, technology transfer and the development of the region’s next generation of leaders. Professor Sample believed that APRU universities would constitute an East-West think-tank of unparalleled breadth, expertise and potential.

Professor Steven Sample, who served as USC’s 10th president from 1991 to 2010 and APRU Chairman from 1997 to 2002, passed away on 29 March 2016.
APEC Boracay

The APRU Secretariat intensified interaction with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation as a guest member of both the Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation and the Human Resource Development Working Group, Boracay, May 2015

Global Research Council Tokyo

JSPS President Yuichiro Anzai, formerly president at Keio University and APRU Chair at the 4th Global Research Council, May 2015

Undergraduate Program Kuala Lumpur

Vice-Chancellor Dato’ Dr Mohd Amin Jalaludin (University of Malaya) during his opening address at the 8th Undergraduate Summer Program hosted by University of Malaya, August 2015

Student Leaders Forum Singapore

Asia-Pacific Students Leaders Forum hosted by the National University of Singapore, June 2015

Digital Economy Tokyo

Offsite visit to Kurohime, Nagano Prefecture, during the Digital Economy Summer Seminar hosted by Keio University, August 2015

Disaster Risk Reduction Sendai

Participants engaged in a group discussion on academia’s contribution to the Implementation of the four Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction priorities during the 3rd Multi-Hazards Summer School hosted by Tohoku University, July 2015

Annual Presidents Meeting Osaka

APRU Presidents during their retreat at Taiko-en at the APRU Presidential Retreat and 19th Annual Presidents Meeting hosted by Osaka University, June 2015

Calendar of Events May 2015 - April 2016
APEC
Manila

Steering Committee member and President of the University of the Philippines, Professor Alfredo Pascual, represented APRU at the APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Science and Technology on Higher Education, August 2015

Minister’s Address
Auckland

The Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, New Zealand, speaking at the 13th Senior Staff Meeting hosted by University of Auckland, September 2015

Multi-Hazards
Diliman

Participants engaged in the Resilience Survive and Thrive game which was launched at the 11th Multi-Hazards Symposium hosted by University of the Philippines, October 2015

Population Ageing
Sydney

The APRU Population Ageing Hub was launched at the Ageing in the Asia-Pacific Research symposium hosted by UNSW Australia, September 2015

Global Access
Kuala Lumpur

APRU participated in the Global Access to Post-Secondary Education Conference for the first time in October 2015

Global Health
Osaka

(L) APRU Global Health Program Chair, Jonathan Samet (USC) at the Global Health Workshop hosted by Osaka University, October 2015
Shanghai
APRU Chairman and USC President C.L. Max Nikias speaks at the 2015 USC Global Conference; Secretary General Christopher Tremewan represented APRU at the event which was held in October 2015

Hangzhou
Dr Jian Wang, Chief Technology Officer, Alibaba Group, giving the keynote address at the 14th Doctoral Students Conference hosted by Zhejiang University, November 2015

Mandaluyong
Franklin M. Drilon, Senate President of the Philippines, giving his keynote address at the 6th Law Deans meeting hosted by University of the Philippines, November 2015

Okinawa
Secretary General Christopher Tremewan moderated an early session on “Our Hyper-Connected World: Problems, Issues and Implications” at the Cyber3 Conference, November 2015

Seoul
Secretary General Christopher Tremewan led off with a presentation prior to the panel on University Networks at Yonsei Global Summit which was hosted by President Kap-Young Jeong, Yonsei University, October 2015

Sydney
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) & Vice-President Professor Les Field (UNSW Australia) addresses the Vice-Presidents Research meeting hosted by UNSW Australia, November 2015

Shanghai
USC Global Conference
APRU Chairman and USC President C.L. Max Nikias speaks at the 2015 USC Global Conference; Secretary General Christopher Tremewan represented APRU at the event which was held in October 2015

Senator’s Address
Mandaluyong
Franklin M. Drilon, Senate President of the Philippines, giving his keynote address at the 6th Law Deans meeting hosted by University of the Philippines, November 2015

Cyber3 Conference
Okinawa
Secretary General Christopher Tremewan moderated an early session on “Our Hyper-Connected World: Problems, Issues and Implications” at the Cyber3 Conference, November 2015

CTO, Alibaba Group
Hangzhou
Dr Jian Wang, Chief Technology Officer, Alibaba Group, giving the keynote address at the 14th Doctoral Students Conference hosted by Zhejiang University, November 2015

Vice-Presidents Research
Sydney

Yonsei Global Summit
Seoul

=(Photo: UNSW Australia)
Calendar of Events
May 2015 - April 2016

Campus Safety
Sendai
Participants of the APRU-IRIDeS Campus Safety Workshop hosted by Tohoku University, February 2016

APRU-APAIE Roundtable
Melbourne
The University of Melbourne hosted the APAIE Conference, 29 Feb-3 Mar. Professor Susan Elliott, Deputy Provost and DVC (International) is both President of APAIE and a member of APRU’s International Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC). Dr Tremewan represented APRU at the Roundtable discussion on future cooperation and a potential strategic alliance between the two organisations, March 2016

Digital Economy
Tokyo
(L-R) Malavika Jayaram (Digital Asia Hub), Nikolas Smith (Office of International Communications & Information Policy U.S. Department of State) and Yudho Giri Sucahyo (University of Indonesia) at the Digital Economy Business Offsite hosted by Keio University, April 2016

Multi-Hazards
Kyoto
Vice President for International Relations Junichi Mori welcoming delegates to the 12th Research Symposium on Multi-Hazards hosted by Kyoto University, March 2016

International Policy Advisory Committee
Hong Kong
(L-R) President Tony Chan (HKUST) with IPAC Co-chairs Dennis Galvan (University of Oregon) and Andrew Wee (NUS), April 2016

Gender Equity
Hong Kong
President and Vice-Chancellor Peter Mathieson (HKU) shares his views on shaping policy recommendations to APRU presidents during the APWiL Policy Round Table on Gender Equity hosted by University of Hong Kong, April 2016

Active Learning Technologies
Seattle
Dr Jerry Baldasty, Interim Provost and Executive Vice-President (UW), engaging participants with the latest active learning technologies and tools at the 3rd APRU Provosts Forum hosted by University of Washington, March 2016

(APRUAPE Roundtable, Photo: Asia-Paciﬁc Institute for the Digital Economy)
The Presidential Retreat and 19th Annual Presidents’ Meeting
Osaka University, 28-30 June 2015

Presidents emphasise APRU’s role of international advocacy

"Government and industry across APEC economies are increasingly looking to leading research universities for a number of challenging issues such as global health, multi-hazards and risk management, climate change and sustainability, population ageing and gender equity, among others. As APRU moves to a more international role of advocacy, the Annual Presidents Meeting is the stage for APRU presidents to discuss these issues and share new ideas for the future."

APRU Chairman, President C.L. Max Nikias, University of Southern California

The APRU Presidential Retreat and 19th Annual Presidential Meeting, Osaka.

The Presidential Retreat and 19th Annual Presidents Meeting, which was hosted by President Toshio Hirano, Osaka University, was one of the best attended meetings in APRU’s history, drawing over 106 representatives from 35 member universities, including 26 APRU presidents.

In his opening address, APRU Chairman, President C.L. Max Nikias, University of Southern California, postulated that the high attendance of presidents was a testament to the growing importance of APRU’s evolving mission. Describing his vision as APRU’s Chair, he added, “I have focused on increasing cooperation among member universities in order to leverage our collective expertise and resources. Our partnerships across public and private sectors support growth and innovation throughout the region, and together, our institutions are natural incubators for the leaders who will confront tomorrow’s most pressing challenges.”

The theme of this year’s meeting was “The University as an Agent for Global Transformation,” which involved revisiting the mission of research universities in the 21st century. President Hirano, Osaka University, also stressed that APRU member universities were pioneering transformations taken place across Pacific Rim nations. He said, “(APRU) universities train leaders and professionals of the next generation, pioneer innovations that will enrich society and set the course for the growth and prosperity of this region and beyond”.
Inaugural Presidential Retreat

The first Presidential Retreat was held at a historical Japanese pavilion and garden, Taiko-en. The presidents only retreat provided an opportunity for the sharing of common challenges and experience. One of the main themes was how presidents could take on a greater international leadership role.

On the recent developments in higher education, Chancellor Gene Block, UCLA, and President Atsushi Seike, Keio University, shared both the short- and long-term goals for universities. Administrative support structures and physical infrastructure were important enablers for these priorities in both private and public universities.

The leadership role of APRU presidents was another highlighted area. President Tan Chorh Chuan, National University of Singapore (NUS), summarised the leadership roles of APRU presidents and how they could create greater impact. Presidents discussed the breadth and depth of engagement in these issues, agreeing that APRU members’ complementary strengths could be leveraged to distinguish APRU from other international organisations. Also, some presidents believed that APRU should put forward statements and recommendations on policy issues as a group of leading research universities.

Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon, University of Auckland, also emphasised the importance of promoting APRU’s global expertise in dealing with regional natural disasters arising from location, on the Pacific Ring of Fire.
International Impact

Collaboration with Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

As chair of the APEC Human Resource Development Working Group (HRDWG), President Sergey Ivanets, Far Eastern Federal University, explained that APRU had been accorded a 3-year guest membership of APEC’s HRDWG whose mission is to share knowledge, experience, and skills to strengthen human resource development and promote sustainable economic growth. APRU is the first invited guest to this forum in its 37 meeting history.

APRU recently strengthened APRU members’ collective capabilities with policy development in the region. President Alfredo Pascual, University of the Philippines, represented APRU in a keynote presentation during the Preparatory Meeting for the High-Level Dialogue on Science and Technology in Higher Education in the Philippines.

Secretary General Tremewan also added that APRU is a member of the APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation, contributing to the shaping of public policy in this arena, and its membership has been renewed for another three years. Similarly, APRU is working with APEC on the Internet economy, emergency preparedness and other cross-border education issues and with UN agencies and coalitions of governments and NGOs in some of these areas.

UN Women’s HeForShe Initiative

President Peter Mathieson, University of Hong Kong, presented on the UN Women’s HeForShe initiative and its 10x10x10 Impact. As one of the 10 University Presidents in the Impact Group, President Mathieson invited APRU presidents to join the group which aims to increase gender awareness and discuss measures to tackle gender-based violence, among others. The Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL) core group would discuss how APRU could be an advocate for HeForShe and its principles.

As more governments are realising that APRU is a bridge to the enormous resources and capabilities that we can bring to bear from the 45 leading research universities, President Tony Chan, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, also urged presidents to look beyond the research aspect and consider how students from APRU universities would help to shape the region as global leaders.

Dr Christopher Tremewan during his Secretary General’s address, where he poses a question to the audience: what is the unique contribution APRU can make at the international level that will have maximum impact?

Secretary General Tremewan emphasised that “as governments and industry increasingly tap into APRU’s strengths to address challenges, we must look to each for ways to collaborate even more. APRU must promote our mission by further partnering our strengths in education and research with other international agencies such as APEC and the UN.”
Keynote Speeches and Panel Session on Higher Education in Japan

As part of Osaka University's contribution to briefing the attendees on developments in Japan, keynote lectures made by representatives from the government, the national research funding body and from a leading Japanese company.

Speakers included Kihei Maekawa, Deputy Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT), Japan, Takashi Onishi, President, Science Council of Japan; President, Toyohashi University of Technology, and Hiroaki Nakanishi, President and CEO of Hitachi Ltd.

Following the keynote lectures, Professor Mayumi Ishikawa, Osaka University, moderated a panel session on higher education in Japan where four university leaders, Executive Vice-President Toshiya Ueki, Tohoku University, President Atsushi Seike, Keio University, President Juichi Yamagiwa, Kyoto University, and President Hirano, Osaka University along with Hideto Matsumoto, Director, International Planning Office, Higher Education Policy Planning Division, Higher Education Bureau, MEXT, discussed the prominent issues facing each university as well as some strategies to overcome current challenges.

Senior Staff Working Session

While APRU presidents were at Taiko-en, International Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) members Professor Susan Elliott, University of Melbourne, and Professor Dennis Galvan, University of Oregon, chaired a Senior Staff Working Session. The session consisted of presentations about The Student Experience in Research Universities (SERU), on new APRU proposals such as the Teaching and Learning and Fundraising initiatives, and an update on the Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership program.

A New Opportunity: Moving to Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The APRU Secretariat to be located at the new Institute of Advanced Study building on HKUST’s Clear Water Bay campus.

Chairman Nikias announced that following a feasibility study and the Steering Committee’s approval, the APRU Secretariat would be relocating from its current host university, NUS, to HKUST. The meeting placed on record its appreciation to NUS for hosting the secretariat over the last 13 years.
In the higher education sector, impact is increasingly at the fore of our minds. As traditional institutional missions broaden to include engagement with local and international communities, industry and agencies in our swiftly changing economies, the issue of impact, along with its varied meanings, measures and implications, raises complex set of questions… it is clear that we can achieve greater impact by working together.

Professor Jenny Dixon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Engagement), University of Auckland

A new spirit of commitment, critical reflection and enthusiasm was immediately evident when more than 50 delegates from 30 APRU member universities attended the 13th Senior Staff Meeting (SSM) in Auckland to review the activities and events of the past year and to strategise APRU’s next phase as the Secretariat moves from its location at the National University of Singapore to Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

This arose from the consensus developed by the APRU presidents at their Osaka meeting in June when they focused on balancing the roles of universities and how presidents can play a greater role in policy advocacy.

Providing a clear direction to APRU’s next phrase, the Strategic Framework is a higher level strategy which aims to increase APRU’s international impact and its capabilities in advocacy.
International Impact and Advocacy

Drawing this inspiration from the Presidential Retreat and 19th Annual Presidents Meeting, the theme of the meeting was “International Impact and Advocacy: APRU’s next phase”.

In his report to the meeting, Secretary General Christopher Tremewan set out the developments that would be required to achieve this higher strategy of impact and advocacy.

These included:
• The Members’ Engagement Report which analyses the engagement of each member with APRU activities in order to understand interests and guide program development.
• The APRU Impact Report, a three-year pilot project, which will demonstrate the value of research universities and how the APRU network can build greater collective impact for its members through research collaborations and unrealised research opportunities within the network.
• An ongoing shift in the role of the International Secretariat towards a more strategic and analytical capability with less emphasis on event management. Host members will take on these functions in consultation with the Secretariat.

The Way Forward

“As APRU moves from running comfortable events to policy impact and advocacy, members should consider how to go about doing so and finding the right balance between these two areas”, said Professor Andrew Wee, National University of Singapore.

Professor Dennis Galvan, University of Oregon, also urged Senior Staff to express their views on the Secretariat’s development. He suggested APRU members to consider playing a greater role in day-to-day coordination of APRU programs, freeing up the Secretariat to manage more strategic aspects of consortium development and international partnerships.

At the Working Group Breakout Sessions, Senior Staff pruned and prioritised programs under the Strategic Framework. They recommended finding synergies between programs and re-clustering activities.
Dr Erik Lithander, Australian National University, facilitated the first “free-flowing” session where Senior Staff discussed issues facing their universities and how APRU could add value to their respective institutions.

Major issues discussed included the challenges of promoting the APRU value to relevant parties within their own universities, finding and supporting faculty who were keen to champion APRU research collaborations, and the reach and impact of research through the network.

Many Senior Staff also felt that hosting APRU conferences were good opportunities to raise the international profile of their respective institutions. In addition, they suggested that future meetings could be a platform for discussions on best practices in internationalisation strategies among peers.

Keynote Speeches
The meeting was updated on New Zealand’s perspective on international education in the Asia-Pacific Region through keynote lectures from The Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, New Zealand and Associate Professor Damon Salesa, Director of Pacific Strategy and Engagement, University of Auckland.

APRU Senior Staff with Minister Steven Joyce (fourth from right). Minister Joyce spoke about the New Zealand government’s initiatives to give students regional and global exposure.

APRU Senior Staff also heard from Academy Award winner Associate Professor Mark Sagar during dinner on 3 September. Associate Professor Sagar has won two consecutive Oscars at the 2010 and 2011 Sci-tech awards for his work in computer-generated faces which was one of the first examples of how lifelike human features could be created onscreen.

Conclusion
Senior Staff expressed a strong feeling of progress at this meeting. There were many exchanges of ideas and suggestions on APRU’s evolving role in research and higher education policy within the Asia-Pacific. The meeting concluded with sense that a new, exciting stage of development had been reached based on greater ambition for the network amongst its members.
Moving to the Next Phase: Impact & Advocacy

The meeting in Hong Kong in April 2016 marked the first IPAC meeting hosted by the new International Secretariat at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) since its relocation from Singapore.

The meeting which was co-chaired by Vice President Andrew Wee, National University of Singapore, and Vice Provost Dennis Galvan, University of Oregon, provided a platform for IPAC members and invited guests to discuss APRU’s strategy, given its relocation. Much of that discussion followed up on the action points that came from the Senior Staff Meeting in Auckland.

In his welcome address, APRU Steering Committee Member and HKUST President, Professor Tony Chan, spoke about how APRU could benefit from being strategically located in Hong Kong, leveraging on the international media’s presence in the country. He also emphasised the Presidents’ endorsement of a new strategy of informing policy internationally during the Osaka Annual Presidents Meeting.

Similarly, Secretary General Christopher Tremewan drew the meeting’s attention to the APRU Impact Report, which will provide a resource for advocacy at the international level by APRU members and the International Secretariat. The draft Report was well received and spurred discussions on how to communicate the contribution of APRU universities to Asia-Pacific societies using this new evidence base.

On the topic of reviewing activities and the realignment of priorities for the Secretariat, Director Keith Wong presented a new business plan to IPAC for feedback and refinement prior to its presentation to the APRU Steering Committee.

Finally, IPAC members and guests also discussed strategic alliances with other networks such as the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance (PRRLA) and the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE).
In 2011, APRU embarked on a process to refocus its programs and activities to reflect the goals and aspirations of member universities. The product was a new Strategic Framework (2012 - 2015).

**1. SHAPING**

*Asia-Pacific Higher Education and Research*

APRU universities together aim to shape the policy environment for higher education and research in the region.

**2. CREATING**

*Asia-Pacific Global Leaders*

APRU universities cooperate to enhance their global leadership as institutions and the leadership of faculty, administrators and students.

**3. PARTNERING**

*on Solutions to Asia-Pacific Challenges*

APRU universities work together and with partners from governments and businesses, international organisations, other universities and community leaders on solutions to global and regional challenges.
APRU aims to shape the international policy environment and strategic options in education and research for the Asia-Pacific region through benchmarking, capacity building and collaboration.

## VISION

APRU aims to shape the international policy environment and strategic options in education and research for the Asia-Pacific region through benchmarking, capacity building and collaboration.

## ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- **Academic Leadership Networks** (Vice-Presidents (Research), Provosts, Law Deans meetings)
- **Administrative Leadership Networks** (Chief Information Officers meetings)
- **Equity and Access Program** (Lead: University of Chile)
- **Teaching and Learning Program** (Lead: University of Washington, Center for Teaching and Learning)
- **University Museums Symposium** (Lead: Kyoto University)
- **Education and Research Technology Forum** (Lead: University of Malaya)
- **Analysis of policy issues in higher education and research**

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Vice Presidents’ for Research Meeting**

Meeting for the first time at UNSW Australia, Sydney, APRU Vice Presidents for Research were engaged in a highly-interactive two-day dialogue on enhancing research intensity and entrepreneurial performance, led by Professor Les Field, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Vice-President. 30 APRU member universities and 50 VPs and delegates participated in the inaugural meeting which was held on 18-20 November 2015.

APRU VPs acknowledged the importance of maintaining the balance between fundamental, “blue sky” research and industry-driven research. It was equally important for research leaders to reduce barriers to inter-disciplinary research, and incentivise faculty to work together.
These challenges were contextualised through an overview of the Australasian research landscape, international science diplomacy, and funding collaboration. Invited speakers from Japan, the U.S. and Australia included Dr Yuichiro Anzai, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Dr William Colglazier, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Professor Mary O’Kane, NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer.

APRU Secretary General Christopher Tremewan shared with VPs an outline of APRU’s upcoming Impact Report. VPs showed strong support for the report in line with efforts to engage governments and build partnerships with international foundations as a network. With APRU’s participation and observer status in APEC regional meetings, VPs recognised research areas where APRU could add value, namely, in ageing, multi-hazards, migration, urbanisation, climate science and sustainable resource management.

**Provosts’ Forum**


Guided by faculty and experts, participants engaged first-hand with the latest active learning technologies and tools. A “course website” modeled the flipped classroom pedagogy.

Dr. Gerald J. Baldasty, UW Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Dr. Beth Kalikoff, Director, UW Center for Teaching & Learning, and Dr. Yusuke Morita, Director, Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology, Waseda University presented active learning sessions at the forum.

Session topics included:
- Best practices for Provosts - encouraging innovation in teaching and learning
- Creating knowledge and new practices from research on teaching and learning
- Active learning in diverse undergraduate and graduate classroom environments - classroom, online, hybrid and MOOCs
- From ideas to impact - advancing innovation, commercialisation and technology transfer in the university setting

This biennial forum aimed to provide the opportunity for provosts and academic administration leaders to share the trends, challenges and opportunities they encounter and engage in joint problem solving.
The University of the Philippines (UP) College of Law hosted the 6th Law Deans Meeting a week before the APEC Summit from 11 to 14 November, 2015 in Edsa Shangri-La Manila, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.

UP College of Law Dean, Danilo L. Concepcion formally opened the Law Deans Meeting, which was themed as “The Role of Law in Peace and Security in the Asia Pacific.” UP President Alfredo E. Pascual then gave a message that underscored the need for cooperation in the areas of teaching, research and outreach in the field of law among APRU universities to ensure quality legal education in the Asia Pacific Region.

Senate President Franklin M. Drilon gave the keynote address to postulate the challenges to global peace and security due to unbridled greed for wealth and power. He stated that countries had to be unified to waging a different war against agile, stateless and resource-rich enemies dealing with transnational crimes such as illegal drugs, arms smuggling, money laundering, human trafficking, and terrorism.

Other topics discussed include “Addressing Radicalisation Through Education: What is the Role of the Legal Academy” by former UP Law Deans Pacifico A. Agabin, “A Note on Radicalisation and the Law Academy” by Merlin M. Magallona and “Transnational Crimes and Cross Border Enforcement” by Dr. Jay L. Batongbacal, Prof. Jose Jesus M. Disini, Jr. of UP College of Law and Prof. Mari Nagata of Osaka University.
CREATING
Asia-Pacific Global Leaders

VISION

APRU aims to play a preeminent role in enhancing the global leadership capabilities of APRU universities’ faculty, administrators and students, by exchanging knowledge and experience, enabling them to build networks and connect to opportunities.

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Student leadership programs
(Asia-Pacific Student Leaders Forum, Undergraduate Leaders Program)

Research mentoring and networking opportunities
(Doctoral Students Conference, Early Career Researchers Network)

Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership -
a program for bridging the gender gap at senior levels in higher education

HIGHLIGHTS

Asia-Pacific Student Leaders’ Forum

“University Social Responsibility (USR)” was the theme of the Asia-Pacific Students Leaders Forum held from 8 to 10 June in Singapore. The inaugural forum was hosted by the National University Singapore (NUS) and featured a key dimension of USR in developing young leaders as the agents of positive social change. Eighty four students from 16 APRU member universities worked together to come up with ideas and proposals on addressing various social issues—poverty, unemployment and income inequality, climate change, ageing population, disaster preparedness, health, gender inequality, access to education and juvenile delinquency, among others.

Students also gained valuable insights on community service and social entrepreneurship from leading faculty, successful business leaders and social entrepreneurs. University administrators also engaged in a roundtable session and discussed how their respective universities can promote USR in particular through service learning and curriculum development.

Dr Christopher Tremewan, APRU Secretary General and Associate Professor Anne Pakir, Director International Relations Office officially opened the forum on 8 June. Joining Professor Andrew Wee, Vice President (University & Global Relations) at the closing ceremony on 10 June were Associate Professor Peter Pang, Associate Provost (Student Life) and Associate Professor Tan Teck Koon, Dean of Students at NUS.
A total of 54 students from 17 APRU member universities participated in the 8th Undergraduate Summer Program (USP) hosted by the University of Malaya’s (UM) International Student Centre from 2-12 August 2015. The 10-day program engaged students in dynamic lectures and panel discussions on:

- Governance and Public Policy
- Leadership in Non-Government Institutions
- Leadership in the Financial Sector
- Student Leadership, Empowerment and Community Engagement
- Women and Leadership, among others.

Prior to the lectures and panel discussions, a program orientation was conducted on 3 August. An introduction to the USP and UM was presented by Madam Zarina Zainol Abidin, Director of UM’s International Student Centre and Ms Cheryl Torrado, APRU Program Director (Global Leadership). This was followed by an opening ceremony in the evening whereby UM Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato’ Dr Mohd Amin Jalaludin and then APRU Secretariat Director Ms Margaret Leong welcomed all student participants, and UM senior leaders and faculty.

“The USP serves as a training ground to nurture students and enhance their skill, experience, teamwork and leadership qualities,” said Vice-Chancellor Mohd Amin.

During the course of the USP, students participated in a special leadership workshop where they worked in small groups that encouraged cross-cultural exchange and fostered collaboration among students. Students also formed teams and presented project proposals based on their key learnings from the program, with the top three teams receiving awards.

About 100 doctoral students, faculty and experts convened at the 14th APRU Doctoral Students Conference (DSC) hosted by Zhejiang University (ZJU) in Hangzhou, China from 23-27 November 2015.

The conference commenced with a welcome dinner and an introduction on APRU and ZJU. Associate Professor Min Li and Ms Tian Minjie of ZJU’s International Office led the overview of the host university and the conference proceedings. APRU Program Director, Ms Cheryl Torrado then gave an overview of APRU and the DSC.

Following the welcome addresses made by Executive Vice-President Professor Yonghua Song and Professor Jiaping Wang, Dean Graduate School, doctoral students and keynote speakers engaged with each other in discussions led by senior academic leaders and industry experts. Elsevier also prepared a seminar on academic publishing for doctoral students on practical tips for successful scholarly publishing.

Revolving around the overarching theme on “Shaping the Future: Promoting Multicultural Exchange and Technological Cooperation,” a total of 57 multi-disciplinary research presentations were made by doctoral students on various
subthemes ranging from humanities, culture, economics, science and technology. Following the presentations were site visits to key laboratories and research centers at ZJU where multi-disciplinary collaborations across the university were demonstrated. Students were also given a glimpse of academic and industry collaborations with a visit to an incubator for internet start-ups and Alibaba’s headquarters in Hangzhou.

Group mentoring sessions during the conference allowed doctoral students to have frank discussions with mentors on inspiring moments and various challenges in pursuing a PhD degree. Students were enthusiastic and appreciative towards such efforts, and discussed vividly about potential career pathways after completing their PhD degrees.

“I really enjoyed the session especially that I was able to share my aspirations and challenges to other PhD students like me. I also got helpful insights on how I might be able to overcome these challenges,” said a student from UNSW Australia.

Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL)

Senior university leaders, faculty, researchers and administrators from 19 APRU universities and invited institutions convened at the APRU Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL) Policy Round Table on Gender Equity. The Round Table meeting was hosted by the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and was co-organised by the University of Auckland and APRU from 26 to 28 April 2016.

The meeting featured presentations on recruitment, retention and success in the areas of gender equity and equity in general, and more specifically on gender equity policies prevailing in several APRU member universities. And a keynote presentation on Gender Equity in Hong Kong’s Universities was made to framed the discussions on the importance of empirical-based assessment and analysis of gender-related challenges in universities.

A Round Table meeting among University Presidents and Vice Presidents further enabled university leaders to share institutional aspirations and goals in bridging the gender gap in their respective universities. These included:

- greater participation and engagement of women in senior leadership positions;
- a balanced gender representation across all disciplinary fields particularly in various academic and professional staff positions; and
- creation of a more equitable and inclusive environment in universities, among others.

These discussions were integral in coming up with a set of principles and recommendations to be put forth to the APRU Steering Committee, and at the APRU Annual Presidents’ Meeting to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
By connecting and mobilising people and resources, APRU harnesses the collective research capabilities of its membership to foster regional scale knowledge partnerships. APRU universities work together in partnership with governments, businesses, international organisations, other universities, community leaders and funding bodies on solutions to regional and global challenges.

### VISION

By connecting and mobilising people and resources, APRU harnesses the collective research capabilities of its membership to foster regional scale knowledge partnerships. APRU universities work together in partnership with governments, businesses, international organisations, other universities, community leaders and funding bodies on solutions to regional and global challenges.

### ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- **Global Health Program** (Lead: University of Southern California, Institute for Global Health)
- **Multi-Hazards Program** (Lead: Tohoku University, International Research Institute of Disaster Science)
- **Digital Economy Initiative** (Lead: Keio University, Asia Pacific Institute for the Digital Economy)
- **Population Ageing Program** (Lead: UNSW Australia, ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research)
- **Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program** (Lead: University of Oregon, Global Studies Institute)
- **Brain and Mind Research in the Asia-Pacific**

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Global Health Program**

The 2015 annual workshop, hosted by Osaka University, was held Oct 30-Nov 2, 2015. 19 economies and 14 disciplines were represented among the 230 participants. As part of the workshop, the 2nd annual APRU Global Health Program student poster contest was held in 2015, with three winners chosen each in the undergraduate and graduate categories.

**Distance Education Courses:**

Global Health LIVE!, an online graduate seminar for students from five universities (four of which were APRU members- USC, University of California at Irvine, National Taiwan University, University of Tokyo and Chinese University of Hong Kong), was first offered in Fall 2015. Developed by Dr. Terry Schmidt at the UC Irvine and Mellissa Withers at USC, the course included a two-hour live seminar delivered weekly for 10 weeks. World-renowned global health leaders, including Greg Martin, Larry Gostin, Bill Magee, and Al Sommer, were some of the guest lecturers. The course will be offered again in 2016.
Another new online course on global health ethics will soon be available in Fall 2016, developed upon “Casebook on Ethical Issues in International Health Research” developed by Professor Alex Capron (from USC) and the WHO. This graduate-level online seminar course will draw together five APRU universities simultaneously and bring their students to certain major ethical challenges in conducting global health research and practice.

Grants and Publications:
A grant proposal was submitted to the Fogarty International Center of the NIH in May 2015 and will be re-submitted in May 2016. The program proposes the development a new Pacific Rim bioethics training program in collaboration with APRU members in Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines.

“Training the next generation of global health experts: experiences and recommendations from Pacific Rim universities.” Written by experts from USC, University of Tokyo, University of Auckland and National Taiwan University has been accepted for publication in Globalization and Health.

Multi-Hazards Program

The APRU Multi-Hazards (MH) Program actively engages with universities in the region and other stakeholders as a member of the UNISDR Asia, Science, Technology and Academia Advisory Group (ASTAAG). Being a member of the ASTAAG, APRU is well-recognised for organizing the MH program in contributing to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), adopted at the UN World Conference in March 2015.

The MH program continues to provide students, faculty and university staff with learning and collaboration opportunities through various activities such as the summer school, the annual symposium, and the campus safety workshop.

The 3rd MH Summer School 2016 (21-24 July 2015):
More than 40 participants from 10 countries joined the Summer School to learn from the lessons of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and to discuss universities’ role in implementing the SFDRR. During a field trip, the participants visited public housing and high school in Tagajo city, which was severely hit by the Earthquake to learn how the Japan International Cooperation Agency helped the local community rebuild and recover.

The Campus Safety Workshop (2-4 February 2016):
Universities have a responsibility to maintain safety and security of a community when a disaster strikes and must prepare an emergency/disaster management plan in advance. More than 30 participants from 16 universities attended the workshop to share lessons learned from other universities, common challenges and issues, and to develop an effective emergency plan that enhances overall university preparedness.

Digital Economy Initiative

The APRU Digital Economy Initiative connects and brings together academic experts with other members of the multi-stakeholder community concerned with the future development of the Internet. Keio University is host to an innovative program of events which are developed and organised in close partnership with the Asia Pacific Institute for the Digital Economy (APIDE).

Internet Economy Summer Seminar:
In August 2015 the Digital Economy Initiative convened the first APRU Internet Economy Seminar over a six-day period hosted at Keio University. The seminar was funded by the Sasakawa Peace Fund and brought together APRU faculty from several economies with government officials from the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia and Vietnam, and top young executives from major Japanese corporations including NTT, Fujitsu, Rakuten, Yahoo Japan and Sony.
Digital Economy Business Offsite:
The 2016 Digital Economy Business Offsite met on 11-12 April at the International House of Japan, Tokyo. The program was hosted by Keio University in cooperation with the Asia Pacific Institute for the Digital Economy (APIDE) and supported by contributions from leading digital companies in Japan and the US.

APRU scholars were joined by other prominent researchers from US and Asian universities, senior business executives, the US and Japanese government officials, and representatives from the civil societies, including ICANN and the Internet Society.

The Offsite focused on the implications of the recently concluded Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement for growth and innovation of the Digital Economy in the region. The conclusion was how TPP would clearly be a “game-changer”, as it was the first multilateral trade agreement that reflected the many transformations engendered by the Digital Economy. TPP was innovative from a trade perspective but its effectiveness was limited by the perceived non-transparency of its negotiation. Successful ratification and implementation would require efforts to build trust beyond traditional trade communities. APRU universities have key roles to play in this process through engaging relevant stakeholders and offering research and analysis on key TPP provisions with regard to intellectual property, data localisation, net neutrality and dispute settlement.

Population Ageing Program
UNSW Australia hosted the 2015 APRU Ageing in the Asia-Pacific Research Symposium from 27-29 September in Sydney, Australia. The sixth in APRU’s series of gerontology and ageing research symposiums, the event included three eminent keynote speakers: Philip O’Keefe, Lead Economist for Social Protection and Labour, East Asia and Pacific, The World Bank, Dr James P. Smith, Chair in Labour Markets and Demographic Studies, RAND Corporation, and Scientia Professor Henry Brodaty, Director, Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, UNSW Australia.

Les Field, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) & Vice-President of UNSW Australia welcomed the delegates and hosted a Welcome Dinner on 28 September. The 2015 symposium showcased papers on topics such as population ageing, aged care, and elderly wellbeing, and hosted concurrent sessions exploring economics and demographics, and physiological and biological aspects of population ageing. Doctoral students also presented their papers and took part in a poster session.

The event also saw the launch of the APRU Population Ageing Program Hub led by UNSW Australia and the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR). The APRU hub generated strong interest from participants and an advisory group was formed to help steer the activities of the hub over the next two years.

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program
The University of Oregon (UO) will build on its leadership in sustainable urban design and landscape planning to host a new research hub for APRU on Sustainable Cities and Landscapes (SCL). UO’s strengths include the renowned Sustainable Cities Initiative, the nationally number-one-ranked program in sustainable Architecture, and its internationally recognized programs in Landscape Architecture and Planning. The APRU core group for this hub will include UNSW Australia, National Taiwan University and University of Washington. UO will host the inaugural conference in 2017, as a part of its three-year plan.
Headed by the Secretary General, the APRU International Secretariat coordinates the agenda and programs of APRU and plays an instrumental role in driving APRU’s communications and global outreach. The APRU Secretariat is currently based in Hong Kong and located on the campus of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.
Biodata of International Secretariat Staff

Dr Christopher Tremewan, Secretary General

Dr Christopher Tremewan was elected as APRU’s 4th Secretary General and took up the role from June 2011. He has led a consensus-building process to re-focus the organisation through implementing a new Strategic Framework that delivers increasing value to its members. Before heading the APRU Secretariat, he was the Vice-President/Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) of the University of Auckland, New Zealand’s leading research university. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social anthropology from the University of Auckland, a Ph.D. in political science (on Southeast Asian politics) from the University of Canterbury, and a master’s degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. He was a visiting professor at Peking University in 2007 - 2008, and a visiting fellow at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. in 2003. He was elected a senior associate member of St. Antony’s College, Oxford University, in September 1991 from where he published the book The Political Economy of Social Control in Singapore (Macmillan and St Martin’s Press, 1994, reprinted 1996).

Mr Keith Chi-ho Wong, Director (International Secretariat)

Mr Keith Wong from Hong Kong has been appointed as the new Director (International Secretariat). He comes from the Harvard Business School Asia Pacific Research Centre where he was a Senior Researcher writing case studies for the HBS and coordinated research programs across the Asia-Pacific region since 2007. He has over 15 years of experience in managing academic research projects and business operations in the technology and hospitality sectors. He was a marketing lecturer at Hong Kong Polytechnic University for 5 years. Before that he was in China running a Hong Kong hotel management company and then in an IT start-up. He has managed the strategic, finance and HR sides of growing companies. He has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, an MBA from McGill University, and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from HKUST.

Ms Florence Chan, Office Manager | EA to Secretary General

Ms Florence Chan is the Office Manager/EA for the Association of Pacific Rim Universities. Having worked in education sector for many years, including London Business School in the UK, British Council HK and Richard Ivey School of Business HK campus, Florence is well experienced in program management such as EMBA, MBA, PhD and Executive Education, project management, research projects as well as office administration. Florence received her Bachelor degree in Business Administration in the United Kingdom and her Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling in Hong Kong. Prior to joining APRU, she managed various youth and family related projects, research and publications for a local NGO. Florence co-authored a couple of publications in family value and the stories were published in a local newspaper. Florence is currently an honorary Consultant of the Youth Ministry for Family Value Foundation. She has been a mentor for the Child Development Fund sharing her life experience with adolescents for over 4 years.

Ms Elaine Hung, Project Manager (Events & Relations)

Ms Elaine Hung has worked in various roles in the education sector and possesses hands-on experience in program administration, student recruitment, committee service, project and event management, and communications. Prior to joining the Secretariat in April 2016, she worked for different higher education institutions including the Hong Kong Baptist University, The Hong Kong Institute of Education and The University of Warwick of the United Kingdom. A graduate of The University of Hong Kong with a Bachelor of Arts and The University of Warwick with a Master of Arts in Translation Studies, Elaine has pursued further training in Public Relations and Marketing. A professional translator and interpreter, and also a language enthusiast, she can speak fluent Cantonese, Mandarin and has intermediate proficiency in French.
Ms Cheryl Torrado, Program Director (Global Leadership)

Ms Cheryl Torrado oversees APRU’s global leadership initiatives and drives the expansion of collaborative efforts and partnerships in advancing APRU’s leadership programs. She is the lead coordinator and a member of the Asia-Pacific Women in Leadership Program (APWiL) Core Group. Cheryl has participated in various management programs including courses by Stanford University and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Her professional background includes travel trade and tourism, healthcare, and NGO management prior to moving to the academic sector. She has widely collaborated with various global organizations through her work in Executive Education at INSEAD, one of the top global business schools. She received her Master’s Degree in Business from Northumbria University at Newcastle and her Bachelor’s Degree in Tourism (cum laude) from the University of the Philippines.

Ms Christina Schönleber, Program Director (Asia-Pacific Issues)

Ms Christina Schönleber comes from the international operations leadership of the Royal College of Art and the University of Kent. At the RCA she was Head of Knowledge Exchange with responsibility for developing external collaborations with partners from government, business and higher education. This involved showcasing the RCA’s leading research areas in human-centred design and how they provide innovative solutions for global challenges. She was previously Assistant Director of Kent Innovation and Enterprise. Prior to that she worked in the business sector of television and music companies as a business developer and manager. She has an MBA from Kingston University and a Bachelor of Science in Graphic Media from Hertfordshire University. She has also worked as a graphic designer in Germany.

Mr Ashley Pereira, Communications Manager

Mr Ashley Pereira joined the Secretariat in August 2014. He oversees the development and implementation of an integrated communications strategy that engages and connects APRU’s stakeholders and member universities. The communications portfolio will facilitate APRU’s integration as a key player of the Asia-Pacific regional architecture. His communications experience includes internship roles at Ernst and Young and Apple. He has also worked a student consultant for SMEs at the UOB-SMU Asian Enterprise Institute. Ashley graduated with a Bachelor of Business Management (Cum Laude) from Singapore Management University, majoring in Marketing and Strategic Management (Entrepreneurship Track). Involved in numerous social initiatives, Ashley has travelled to China and Malaysia for volunteer work and even clinched his alma mater’s social innovation team challenge award.

Dr Mellissa Withers, Program Manager, Global Health Hub

Dr Mellissa Withers is currently an Assistant Clinic Professor at the USC Institute for Global Health, where she teaches global health-related courses. She also works as an independent health research consultant. Her current research focuses on global reproductive health and women’s empowerment, including human trafficking, preventing unintended pregnancy, HIV/AIDS prevention among sex workers in Asia, and engaging male partners in family planning in sub-Saharan Africa. Other research interests include community participatory research; cultural competency; qualitative methodology; border, migrant, and refugee health; and how culture influences health-seeking behaviour. Prior to coming to USC, she taught at UCLA in the Department of Anthropology and other universities throughout California. She received her Ph.D. in Community Health Sciences from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health in Los Angeles, USA in 2009 with an emphasis on medical anthropology. Her dissertation was related to fertility intentions in Bali, Indonesia, where she lived for 15 months. She also holds a Master’s in Health Sciences from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of International Health in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Her Master’s concentration was Health Systems Management. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a B.A. degree in Global Development.
Dr Takako Izumi, Program Coordinator, Multi-Hazards Hub

Dr Takako Izumi joined Tohoku University in Japan as Associate Professor under the Office of the President (Promotion of international disaster science) and the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) in April 2013. She also plays a role of Programme Coordinator for APRU-Tohoku University Multi-Hazard Programme. She holds a Ph.D. in global environmental study from Kyoto University in Japan. She started her career in humanitarian assistance with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and involved in disaster response coordination in various countries in Asia, especially deeply involved in the recovery from the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2005 with the UN Office for the Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias (UNORC) and the earthquake in Yogyakarta in Indonesia in 2006. She also worked for the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to contribute to the preparation for the UN World Conference for Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Japan. Since 2007, she worked for an international NGO (MERCY Malaysia) based in Malaysia as Head of Disaster Risk Reduction Department and General Manager for Operations. Also, she serves as Advisor for the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) established in 2002 which aims for capacity development of Civil Society Organizations and advocacy for the need of multi-lateral collaboration among various stakeholders.

Farewell to Singapore Secretariat Staff

Secretary General Christopher Tremewan hosted a farewell lunch for departing Singapore staff on 11 February 2016 to express APRU’s appreciation for their service. President Tan Chorh Chuan, a member of the APRU Steering Committee, was guest of honour and presented certificates of appreciation to the staff.

President Tan Chorh Chuan (NUS) with Ms Margaret Leong (left photo) and Ms Jacquelline Heng (right photo) during a farewell lunch.