

## **IMSUT held a get-together for international students and foreign researchers**

On Friday, November 11, IMSUT held a get-together for international students and foreign researchers in a restaurant near IMSUT. A total of 34 people attended the party, including 22 international students, five international researchers, and seven faculty members and staff.

It was a two-hour buffet style party. Starting with welcoming remarks from Prof. Sumiko Watanabe (head of the International Exchange Committee) and a toast by Prof. Kenta Nakai, the party got underway. All attendees gave brief self-introductions, and international students and researchers made presentations about things that struck them as odd or amusing in Japan. Faculty members and staff also shared things that surprised them about international students. As participants enjoyed the food and drinks offered at the party, the venue was filled with pleasant conversation and cheerful laughter.

The two hours passed quickly, but there were many international students and researchers who exchanged their e-mail addresses with each other, reluctant to leave the party.

We hope that this party contributed to the construction of a network among international students and researchers in IMSUT.



## **Extension of MOU on academic exchange between IMSUT**

### **and Institut Pasteur**

On November 2, 2016, an extension of and addendum to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) on academic exchange was signed between IMSUT and Institut Pasteur. The signing ceremony was held at Palace Hotel Tokyo, and attended by Professor Murakami (dean of IMSUT) and Professor Brechot (president of Institut Pasteur). The ceremony was timed with Professor Brechot's visit to Japan, and Institut Pasteur also took this opportunity to hold the signing ceremony with Kyoto University. IMSUT first concluded an MOU on academic exchange with Institut Pasteur in 2006, and extended it in 2011. This is the second time IMSUT has extended the MOU.

Institut Pasteur is a world-famous research institute of microbiology and infectious diseases with a long and brilliant history showcasing the fight of human beings against infectious disorders. We have shared a lot of missions and research activities with each other, and over these past 10 years, our collaboration has been well-organized and our tight relationship has been developed and strengthened in fields of mutual interest.

This MOU not only extends the previous MOU on academic exchange, but also integrates a novel scope in an additional provision regarding the establishment of International Joint Research Units both in Paris and Tokyo. This ideal and advanced type of collaboration will greatly contribute to accelerating collaborative research and also strengthen interaction between members of both institutes, ultimately helping to build a global network for researching infectious diseases and immunology in order to aid the international community.





(From left) Professor Shinji Uemoto, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Kyoto University / Professor Christian Brechot, President, Institut Pasteur / Professor Yoshinori Murakami, Dean, the Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo

## Visitors from the University of Lyon

On October 5, 2016, IMSUT welcomed a delegation from the University of Lyon including the presidents of the Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 and the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon.

The University of Lyon is a consortium of higher education and research institutions in Lyon and Saint-Étienne, founded in 2007, and a total of 130,000 students study at the University. It concluded an international academic exchange agreement with UTokyo in 2015. The delegation visited IMSUT to attend the signing ceremony for memorandum on international alliance research internship program (IARI program) between the Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, the Institute of Molecular Bioscience and the Institute of Medical Science of UTokyo, and Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon and Institut Des Sciences Appliquees De Lyon which are three members of the University of Lyon.

Before the ceremony, they made a short tour of IMSUT's labs and facilities. First, they visited the supercomputer room and received a brief introduction to the facility and its project from Associate Prof. Rui Yamaguchi. Second, they visited the animal research facility at the International Research Center for Infectious Diseases. There, Associate Prof. Masaki Imai and Assistant Prof. Kiyoko Iwatsuki-Horimoto explained the latest research progress on their research. Finally, they visited IMSUT hospital, which was explained by Associate Prof. Yoichi Imai

The signing ceremony was held at the Tommy hall, attended by all of the delegates, Prof. Yoshinori Murakami (Dean of IMSUT), Prof. Mutsuhiro Takakawa (Vice Dean of IMSUT), Prof. Yasushi Kawaguchi (Vice Dean of IMSUT), Prof. Takashi Mino (Dean of GSFS), Dr. Koichi Matsuda (Professor of GSFS), and Dr. Mari Matsuoka (International Liaison Office, Assistant Professor of GSFS). After the ceremony, they discussed how this program should be conducted and promoted while having lunch together.

We hope this visit will encourage a further expansion of cooperative ties between UTokyo and the University of Lyon through this student internship program.



## Visitors from Guangdong Province and Sun Yat-Sen University

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, IMSUT welcomed a delegation of high level officials from Guangdong Province, accompanied by Professor Liu and other researchers from Sun Yat-Sen University.

IMSUT signed an agreement on academic exchange with Sun Yat-Sen University, located in Guangzhou-City, the capital of Guangdong Province in China, in 2011. Since then, we have conducted collaborative research in life science fields such as infectious diseases and cancer. Last December, we also welcomed a delegation from Guangzhou-City, and discussed how we should promote collaborative research between Japan and China.

On that day, Professor Yoshinori Murakami (Dean of IMSUT) and Professor Yasushi Kawaguchi (Vice Dean of IMSUT) welcomed them, and discussed the renewal of the Agreement and collaborative research. They also talked about how IMSUT should develop collaborative relationships with Guangdong Province and Guangzhou-City where Sun Yat-Sen University is located.

The short visit lasted only one hour, but we hope this visit will encourage a further expansion of friendly and cooperative ties between Japan and China.

### ◆List of Visitors

#### Sun Yat-Sen University

Prof. Huanliang Liu: Deputy Director, Guangdong Institute of Gastroenterology, Sun Yat-sen University; Chair, Department of Clinical Laboratory, The Sixth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University

Dr. Yanhong Xiao: Technical Assistant, Department of Clinical Laboratory, The Sixth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University

Ms. Yan Wang: Secretary for International Collaboration, Guangdong Institute of Gastroenterology, Sun Yat-sen University

#### Guangdong Province

Mr. Mutang ZHOU: Associate Counsel, Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province

Mr. Jinsong ZHAO: Deputy Director, Division of Planning and Finance of Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province

Mr. Zhixiang CHEN: Director, Guangdong Productivity Center

Ms. Saihua DU: Director, Office of Guangdong Science and Technology Infrastructure and Platform Center

Ms. Xiaomin XIANG: Associate Researcher, Guangdong R & D Center for Technological Economy



## Visitors from Guangzhou-City and Sun Yat-Sen University

On December 17, 2015, IMSUT welcomed a delegation of high level officials from Guangzhou-City, accompanied by Prof. Huanliang Liu and other researchers from Sun Yat-Sen University.

IMSUT and Sun Yat-Sen University have conducted collaborative research in science and technology fields such as infectious diseases and cancer for more than 10 years. Further, an agreement on academic exchange

between the University of Tokyo and Sun Yat-Sen University was made in 2011, and since then, we have been fostering the relationships more enthusiastically. On this occasion, the delegation from Guangzhou-City where Sun Yat-Sen University is located visited IMSUT to aim to develop a further expansion of cooperative ties between Japan and China through collaborative research in science and technology fields.

On that day, they received a warm welcome from Professor Yoshinori Murakami (Dean of IMSUT), Professor Yasushi Kawaguchi (Deputy Dean of IMSUT and Project Director). They talked about IMSUT history and collaborative research with Sun Yat-Sen University. Also, they made a short tour of Division of Molecular Virology and IMSUT facilities such as the Pathogenic Microbes Repository Unit, Bio Bank Japan, and the Medical Science Museum. They received a brief introduction to the lab, each facility and its mission.

The short visit took only 2 hours, but we received a positive response that it was a fruitful time for them to develop the relationships between us.

We hope this visit will encourage a further expansion of friendly and cooperative ties between Japan and China through collaborative research.



## **Visitors from the Institute of CAS Institute of Microbiology**

On October 27, 2015, IMSUT welcomed Director-General Shuang Jiang Liu and Dr. Juncai Ma from the Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IMCAS).

IMSUT established three collaboration sites in fiscal 2005 in China, two in Beijing and one in Harbin, and conducted China-Japan research collaboration, for two 5-year terms (fiscal 2005-2010; 2010-2015), supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology. In 2015, IMSUT launched the China-Japan Research Collaboration on Defense against Emerging and Reemerging Infections, a new 5-year J-GRID program of the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED). The Institute of Microbiology, represented by Director-General Shuang Jiang Liu, is our counterpart in China, and belongs to the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), a large national institution consisting of more than 100 research institutes all over China.

They received a warm welcome from Professor Yoshinori Murakami (Dean of IMSUT), Professor Keiya Ozawa (IMSUT Hospital Director) and Professor Sumiko Watanabe (Chief, Committee of International Exchange).

There, both parties thanked each other for the great efforts they had devoted to the collaborative research in the past and committed to developing much stronger ties between them in the future.

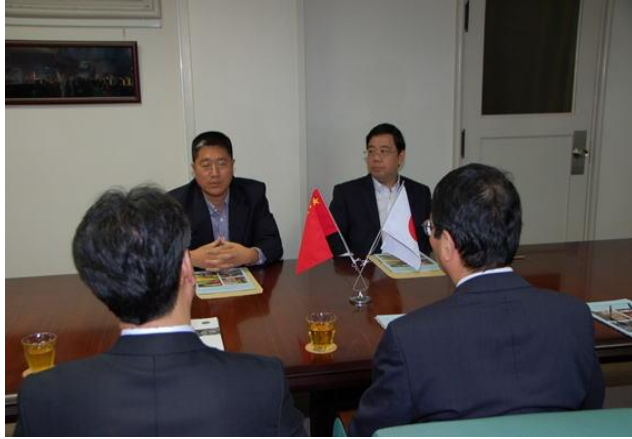
During their visit, they met with Professor Yasushi Kawaguchi (Deputy Dean of IMSUT and Project Director), Professor Jun-ichiro Inoue (Chief of China-Japan Joint Laboratories in Beijing), Project Professor Mitsue Hayashi (Beijing Project Office) and other IMSUT scientists working in the joint-lab to discuss how future research collaboration should be conducted and promoted.

Also, they made a short tour of IMSUT facilities such as the Pathogenic Microbes Repository Unit, the supercomputer room and Bio Bank Japan. They received a brief introduction to each facility and its mission, and asked about the facilities with great interest.

We hope this visit will encourage a further expansion of friendly and cooperative ties between Japan and China through collaborative research.







## "Visit of Malaysia Youth Delegation (Sakura Science Plan)"

From September 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, IMSUT welcomed a delegation of 4 young and promising Malaysian researchers, accompanied by an officer of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. Their trip to Japan was funded through the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)'s "Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science (Sakura Science Plan)", which aims to increase opportunities for young Asian researchers to travel to and learn about Japan, and foster good international relationships in the science field. The researchers were two graduate students from the University of Malaya, one Senior Lecturer from the Universiti Putra Malaysia, and one professor from the Universiti Sains Malaysia.

First, they visited the Medical Science Museum and heard a brief history of the institute from the head of the museum, Prof. Toshio Kitamura. Second, they went to BioBank Japan, and received a brief introduction to the facility and its rules from Prof. Koichi Matsuda. There, they visited the Serum Bank and the Tissue Bank. At the Medical Proteomics Laboratory, Associate Prof. Masaaki Oyama explained the facility's mission, and showed them the mass spectrometer. Finally, they visited the supercomputer room, which was explained by Senior Assistant Prof. Rui Yamaguchi.

After they had given presentations on their research the next morning, they attended training over two days in the Laboratory of DNA Information Analysis, the Division of Infectious Genetics, the Division of Molecular Therapy, and the Department of Public Policy. They were very active, raising a wide range of questions and discussing the issues.

Also, they visited the Kazusa DNA Research Institute and the Green Earth Institute in Kazusa Academia Park, a space for world-leading intellectual work in Chiba Prefecture. Here, too, they were able to experience advanced technologies and facilities.

IMSUT will continue to promote international exchange and looks forward to a further expansion of friendly and cooperative ties between Japan and Malaysia.



## Visitors from the University of Lyon, France

May 14, 2015

List of Visitors:

Prof. Renaud Mahieux

(Director of the Biology Department, ENS Lyon)

Prof. Dominique Baas (Director of the master's program  
Biosciences, ENS Lyon, CGPhiMC - Center for Molecular and  
Cellular Genetics and Physiology, Université Claude Bernard Lyon1)

Prof. Caroline Moyret-Lalle (Assistant Professor, Director of  
Oncology master's program, Université Claude Bernard Lyon1)

Prof. Philippe Clézardin

(Director of Laboratory INSERM UMR 1033, LabEx DEVweCAN)

On May 14, 2015, Visitors from the University of Lyon, France visited IMSUT.



## Visitors from the University of Newcastle, Australia

April 10, 2015

On April 10, 2015, a total of 11 people from the University of Newcastle, Australia, including lecturers, university students, and administrative staff, visited IMSUT.

The group toured the Medical Science Museum, followed by a lecture by Professor Kaori Muto. The group visited Biobank Japan, where Prof. Matsuda explained about the state-of-the-art facilities, followed by a Q&A session.



## **Nobel Laureate Dr. Richard Roberts Delivers Special Lecture**

March 25, 2015

The Institute of Medical Science (IMSUT) held a special lecture on March 2, 2015, inviting Dr. Richard Roberts, recipient of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. This special lecture was timed with Dr. Roberts' visit to Japan, as he attended the Nobel Prize Dialogue Tokyo 2015, the first Nobel Prize Dialogue held outside Sweden (The Nobel Prize Dialogue, which has been held annually since 2012 in Sweden, is a symposium open to the public that is held during the period of the Nobel Prize Awards Ceremonies). In addition to the special lecture, a round-table discussion session, which invited students, was held as part of the Nobel Prize Inspiration Initiative by the Nobel Foundation (Nobel Media AB).

In the special lecture titled "Bacterial Methylomes," Dr. Roberts introduced the results of his latest research on bacterial DNA methyltransferase. Currently, he is working on a comprehensive analysis of both the recognition sequence of DNA methyltransferase and the methylation status of the bacterial genome with the use of single molecule, real-time sequencing technology (SMRT) developed by Pacific Bioscience. Dr. Roberts made a presentation of his latest findings that these analyses would lead to the identification of new recognition sequences by DNA methyltransferase and the clarification of their biological functions. After the lecture, the round-table discussion was held, which featured participation from faculty members, postdocs and graduate students of IMSUT and the Department of Medical Genome Sciences at the Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, as well as graduate students from Sophia University in Tokyo. The session provided a very good opportunity for participant students to ask the Nobel laureate questions at a close distance. Dr. Roberts talked not only about his research but also about various topics, including his childhood when he came to have interest in science, his visions as a researcher and career advice for graduate students after graduation. The special lecture was attended by 115 faculty members, postdocs and graduate students mainly from the University of Tokyo. After the lecture, a reception was held at Tommy Hall to facilitate interaction among participants.



Dr. Richard Roberts



Dr. Richard Roberts and audience during the special lecture



Round-table discussion

## **China Youth Delegation (Sakura Science Plan)’s Visit**

On Tuesday afternoon, December 2, IMSUT welcomed a delegation of young and promising Chinese researchers, healthcare professionals, students, and members from the Japan China Medical Association. The group consisted of 31 persons was invited by the Japan China Medical Association under the Japan Science and Technology Agency’s (JST), “Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science (Sakura Science Plan)”, and the visit to IMSUT was the first part of a week-long study program in Japan.

They first visited the Medical Science Museum and were briefed on a history of the institute by the Head of the Museum, Professor Toshio Kitamura. After that, they moved to a conference room on the 8th floor of the hospital and received introductions of IMSUT, hospital, and programs that are implemented at the Research Center for Asian Infectious Diseases by Professor Hiroshi Kiyono (Dean of IMSUT), Professor Keiya Ozawa (Hospital Director), and Professor Aikichi Iwamoto (Head of Research Center for Asian Infectious Diseases) respectively. The delegation was very active raising wide-ranging questions which led to exchanging views and experiences among all participants. Lastly, they visited the BioBank Japan where they received a brief introduction of the facility and its projects by Associate Professor Koichi Matsuda.

Although the visit took only two hours, the feedback obtained by both Japanese and Chinese was positive that they all appreciate the opportunity given to interact with each other. IMSUT will continue to promote international exchange and expect a further expansion of friendly and cooperative ties between Japan and China.



## **Shirokanedai Campus - Get to know it, and get to know each other!**

On Friday, October 31, IMSUT hosted an event “Shirokanedai Campus - Get to know it, and get to know each other!” which was selected at the first International Event Planning Contest of the University of Tokyo. This event was designed to provide an opportunity for both the institute's international and Japanese students/researchers as well as foreign students/researchers who reside in the International Lodge Shirokanedai to get to know more about IMSUT and each other. The 56 participants consisted of 16 Japanese and 25 international students, 6 foreign researchers, and 9 faculty and staff members that include 6 students and one supervisor from the International Lodge Shirokanedai. At the first part of the event, “Get to Know It!”, which was held at the Medical Science Museum, a graduate student representative introduced IMSUT’s 122 years old history using some images from the time of Institute of Infectious Diseases. They also explored the exhibit space and gained a further understanding of IMSUT of that time. This was followed by the second part of the event, “Get to Know Each Other!” where participants focused on building network ties among all participants. They were divided into groups based up of their affiliated laboratory, program, and the residence - in groups that were not similar to their own programs. Group members made self-introductions and competed in inter-group games. Because many of the games were quizzes related to the University of Tokyo and IMSUT, participants were able to enhance their understanding of and attachment to the university and the institute. Although many of the participants had never met before this event, they worked together as a team during the game, and the venue was filled with pleasant conversation and constant cheerful laughter. After the event, IMSUT staff regarded the participants greeting and talking to each other in the Shirokanedai campus and realized that “Get to Know Each Other!” really opened up the exchange on the campus. Because this event was held under University’s international event, they were able to go beyond the scope of an internal event and invite the residents of International Lodge Shirokanedai. If we are acquainted with each other, it will become possible to help out each other immediately in a time of emergency, such as earthquake. It would also allow the residents in the International Lodge Shirokanedai to become more attached to IMSUT and feel safer in the community. IMSUT will maintain and expand the network and trust relationship built with the residents in the International Lodge Shirokanedai.





## Visitors from Institut Pasteur

September 5, 2014

On September 5, 2014, a four-member delegation led by Pr. Christian Brechot, President of the Institut Pasteur, visited IMSUT.

List of Visitors:

Pr. Christian Brechot, President

Dr. Marc Jouan, Director, International Division

Mr. Paul Brey, Institut Pasteur International Network, Asia-Pacific Region, Regional Advisor

Mr. Cédric Guillerme, Attaché for Science and Technology at French Embassy in Tokyo



## IMSUT-Soonchunhyang University (SCHU) Academic Exchange Agreement Signing Ceremony

September 26, 2013

On September 26th 2013, the signing ceremony of the academic exchange agreement between IMSUT and SCHU was held in the IMSUT Dean's Office.

It was agreed that we would promote exchanges of young researchers and faculty members between the two institutes, research collaborations and joint symposia with this agreement marking the start.

After the signing ceremony, Dr. Kyo-il Suh (President of SCHU) and other SCHU members visited IMSUT facilities, such as the FACS Core Laboratory, the Stem Cell Bank, IMSUT Hospital and the Cell Resource Center.



Dr. Kyo-il Suh (President of SCHU) and  
Dr. Hiroshi Kiyono (Dean of IMSUT)



《Back row, from the left》 Dr. Jin-Ri Kim (SCHU), Dr. Arinobu Tojo (Vice-Director, IMSUT Hospital), Dr. Makoto Otsu (IMSUT), Dr. Kuk Won Kim (SCHU), Dr. Jeongbin Yim (Chair Professor, SCHU), Dr. Kozo Imai (Director, IMSUT Hospital), Dr. Kensuke Miyake (Vice-Dean, IMSUT), Dr. Sumiko Watanabe (IMSUT), Dr. Nobukazu Watanabe (IMSUT), Ms. Kikue Konno (General Manager, IMSUT Administration Office)

《Front row, from the left》 Dr. Seung Woo Kim (Vice-President, SCHU), Dr. Kyo-il Suh (President, SCHU), Dr. Hiroshi Kiyono (Dean, IMSUT), Dr. Yoshinori Murakami (Vice-Dean, IMSUT)



《Back row, from the left》 Mr. Masamitsu Oikawa (Administrative Office, IMSUT), Dr. Arinobu Tojo (Vice-Director, IMSUT Hospital), Dr. Kozo Imai (Director, IMSUT Hospital), Dr. Kensuke Miyake (Vice-Dean, IMSUT), Dr. Jin-Ri Kim (SCHU), Dr. Makoto Otsu (IMSUT), Dr. Sumiko Watanabe (IMSUT), Ms. Kikue Konno (General Manager, IMSUT Administration Office)

《Front row, from the left》 Dr. Kuk Won Kim (SCHU), Dr. Seung Woo Kim (Vice-President, SCHU), Dr. Kyo-il Suh (President, SCHU), Dr. Hiroshi Kiyono (Dean, IMSUT), Dr. Jeongbin Yim (Chair Professor, SCHU), Dr. Yoshinori Murakami (Vice-Dean, IMSUT)

## Visitors from the Soonchunhyang University

June 17, 2013

List of Visitors:

Institute of Medi-bio Science, Soonchunhyang University

Prof. Jeongbin Yim

International Health Center, Soonchunhyang University Hospital

Dr. Jin-Ri Kim

On June 17, 2013, Prof. Jeongbin Yim and Dr. Jin-Ri Kim from Soonchunhyang University, Korea, visited IMSUT. After a meeting in the dean's office, they visited the MucoRice hydroponic cultivation system, FACS core lab, and iPS research.



## Visitors from the Arabian Gulf University, Kingdom of Bahrain

March 22, 2013

List of Visitors:

Arabian Gulf University President Dr. Khalid A. N. Al Ohaly

Arabian Gulf University Vice President Dr. Khaled S. Tabbara

SBI Pharma CSO Dr. Motoo Nakajima

On March 22, 2013, Dr. Khalid A. N. Al Ohaly, President and Dr. Khaled S. Tabbara, Vice President of Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain, and Mr. Motoo Nakajima of SBI Pharma, visited IMSUT.

After a brief greeting at the Dean's office, the delegation visited the IMSUT Hospital, the DNA Strage, the supercomputer, and the MucoRice hydroponic cultivation system, and then met with Dean Hiroshi Kiyono, Hospital Director Kozo Imai, and Hospital Deputy Director Arinobu Tojo at the Dean's office. We hope that this visit will contribute to mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

