IU President Michael McRobbie led a delegation of IU officials to four Asian countries in May 2014. The group met with university faculty and administrators, alumni, and government and diplomatic officials with the goal of strengthening existing ties and exploring new ones. They also opened the IU China Office, which will be the university’s gateway to the region. It is “a region of the world where the university’s connections are deep and long-standing,” McRobbie said. “Those connections reflect IU’s ever-expanding international impact. Today, IU is more internationally focused and committed than at probably any other time in the university’s history.”

IU Goes to Asia

BY RYAN PIUREK

ENGAGING INSTITUTIONS

JAPAN

Waseda University. Founded in 1882 as Tokyo College in Shinjuku, Tokyo, Waseda is Japan’s second oldest private institution and the alma mater of seven prime ministers and many CEOs.

• Formal agreement with IU in 2012
• Mutual interest in expanding student and faculty exchange, especially in the area of global studies
• Both institutions engaged in research into philanthropy and volunteerism
• Waseda alumnus Yasuyuki Ohara heads the Tschuiya Group, one part of which is the Tasus Corporation, headquartered in Bloomington.

Osaka University. Originally established as Osaka Prefectural Medical School in 1869, Osaka is one of Japan’s seven core public universities, with a full range of academic faculties and enrolling 25,000 students a year.

• Formal agreement with IU in 2012

Extensive details and reflections of the tour can be found in Ryan Piurek’s blog at global.iu.edu/blog/asia-2014. The high points of the visit, noted briefly here, are illustrated by Piurek’s photos.
• Shared interest in foreign language instruction and area and cultural studies

• Faculty exchanges for several years in medical radiation oncology and continued potential for shared research

CHINA

China University of Political Science and Law. With more than 20,000 students and 1,400 faculty members, CUPL is the largest institute in the world for legal education. CUPL’s original campus in Haidian, a northwest suburb of Beijing, is now dedicated to graduate study. Its larger campus in Changping, Beijing, serves undergraduates.

• The two universities signed a cooperation agreement establishing a jointly operated Academy for the Study of Chinese Law and Comparative Judicial Systems.

• The new academy will support lecture and research exchanges among legal scholars.

• Thomas Man, CUPL adjunct professor of evidence law and forensic science and one of China’s top legal advisors, graduated in 1997 from the IU Maurer School of Law.

From top to bottom:
Waseda University

Waseda University and IU share an interest in the study of philanthropy and volunteerism. IU First Lady Laurie Burns McRobbie leads a philanthropy roundtable with the Waseda International Volunteer Center.

Osaka University and IU cooperative efforts have included joint presentations, papers, and symposia on subjects such as proton therapy in cancer treatment. Here, the IU delegation tours Osaka’s research facilities in radiation.
Beijing Sport University. Key national institution with a focus on sports, amateur athletics, and public health and fitness. BSU students and faculty have won 30 gold, 16 silver, and 9 bronze medals in the past four Olympic Games.

- Quarter-century relationship with the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington
- Numerous joint initiatives, from assisting with China’s successful bid for the 2008 Olympic Games to developing a national plan for improving the fitness of Chinese schoolchildren
- Joint commitment to academic exchange and mutual efforts to understand how sports and physical education can improve public health

The China University of Political Science and Law and IU have formed an academy to support faculty exchanges to study comparative international law. CUPL officials, including Vice President Zhang Baosheng (fifth from left), stand with members of the IU delegation after signing the agreement to establish the joint academy.

Above left: Beijing Sport University

Left: “Mastering Knowledge of the East and the West.” Beijing Sport University presented President McRobbie with this scroll to be hung in the IU China Office.
Tsinghua University. Located in Haidian, Beijing, Tsinghua began in the early twentieth century with U.S. support, as a training ground for students preparing to study in the United States. Today, Tsinghua has broad academic programs committed to “the well-being of Chinese society and to global development.” It admits a small fraction of the top students who apply from all over China.

- The two universities renewed their long-standing partnership agreement and signed a new agreement, in which IU’s Lilly Family School of Philanthropy will share administration of a research institute to study the role of philanthropy and non-governmental organizations in China.
- The universities discussed stronger linkages between the China Education and Research Network, based at Tsinghua, and Internet2, for which IU is a lead institution.

SINGAPORE

School of the Arts-Singapore. Founded a decade ago, the School of the Arts fosters the literary, musical, and other artistic interests of students between the ages of 13 and 18, with an integrated arts and academic program.

- The IU delegation toured the nine-floor facility that includes a concert hall, two theatres, an exhibition gallery, and a roof-top athletic field.
- Joint interest in musical training, including attracting SOTA students to programs in the Jacobs School of Music
- Extended discussions of methods of training in integrated arts and arts administration
VIETNAM

Vietnam National University-Hanoi. Created in 1993 from separate institutions with academic traditions going back to 1906, VNU is one of two national universities in Vietnam.

- Partnership agreement with IU since 2009
- Mutual interests in environmental studies
- Consultation on IU’s plans to establish a center for Southeast Asian studies
- VNU-Hanoi solicited 11 research proposals for joint research with IU faculty.

National Academy of Public Administration. Founded in a village of the Bac Ninh Province in 1959, NAPA now has campuses in Hanoi, Hue, and Ho Chi Minh City. It provides undergraduate and graduate training in law and public administration, especially for future public servants.

- Partnership agreement with IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs since 2009, including faculty and student exchanges
- Mutual interest in preparing top government officials to deal with legal and public policy matters

Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam International Education Development (VIED). Founded as Project 322 a decade ago, VIED administers scholarships for studies overseas, including 400 for state workers to hone skills at institutions abroad.

- The Ministry and IU’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs cosponsor the Vietnam Young Leader Awards program, which brings government employees to IU in order to improve their policy management skills and expand their worldviews.
- VIED Director General Nguyen Xuan Vang reported to the delegation that funding has been assured so that SPEA will see a sizable number of applications from the Young Leaders Program next year.
HONORING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Record numbers of IU alumni in Japan and Singapore attended receptions with the IU visitors. For Japan, the reception honored the 50th anniversary of the IU alumni chapter. The Singapore reception attracted almost a third of all the country’s IU Singapore alumni, in a chapter that was established only two years ago by Phillip Chua (M.B.A.’88), retired CEO of the American Express Bank of Singapore. These and other events provided the opportunity to honor outstanding alumni achievements.

Cellist Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, recipient of the National Academy of Arts Prize in music from the Emperor or Japan, worked closely as a teenager with IU’s Janos Starker to earn an artist’s diploma in 1965. That was followed by a concert career performing with major orchestras worldwide. Tsutsumi returned to Bloomington to teach in 1988 and retired from that position in 2006. At the 50th anniversary celebration of the Japan alumni chapter, President McRobbie recognized lifelong achievements and his service to IU with the Thomas Hart Benton Medallion.

As part of the festivities surrounding the opening of IU China Office, President McRobbie recognized the achievements of two notable IU alumni.

Vincent Mo earned his master of arts degree at IU Bloomington. In 1999, he founded a company of 20 employees that provided online access to real estate information services. That company, SouFun Holdings, is now the largest real estate information provider in China, with more than a thousand employees. Mo has participated in IU business symposiums and has advised groups of IU business students about what to expect when working in a global environment. At the opening of the China Office, Mo received the Thomas Hart Benton Medallion.

Esmond Quek earned his B.S. in marketing and advertising from the Kelley School. He began a career in brand management in Singapore and became the founder of Ed Bernays, a leading brand consultancy firm in Beijing. He has been honored with a “Stevie” award as the best executive in Asia. At the opening of the China
Office, President McRobbie presented him with the Distinguished International Service Award.

Finally, at the Singapore alumni reception, President McRobbie recognized IU Maurer School of Law graduate David Carden (J.D.’76, Order of the Coif), with the Thomas Hart Benton Medallion. Carden has devoted much of his diplomatic career to working with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). The U.S. mission to ASEAN tripled under Carden’s ambassadorship. He established the first ever science advisor post at an American embassy, and he advocated for the creation of an ASEAN Fulbright Scholarship Program.
A highlight of the presidential delegation’s visit to Asia was the opening of the IU China Office in the Tsinghua Science Park, at the center of technology and education in Beijing. As the nexus of activity between IU’s activities in China, the new office will be the closest thing IU could design to Star Trek’s transporter room. It will provide a close connection and source of instant communication between IU in Indiana and its activities and partners in China. The office provides resources for research and teaching, conferences and workshops, study abroad programs, distance learning initiatives, executive and corporate programs, and alumni events. The 70 guests at the opening included IU alumni, business and government officials, administrators, faculty, students, and staff. Within days of the opening, the office hosted a workshop on research projects about philanthropy in China.

China Office Manager Steven Yin will oversee these connections and explore new ones. Yin will assist IUB international admissions with recruitment in six cities—Beijing, Qingdao, Chengdu, Chongqing, Nanjing, and Shanghai—this fall. The Office of the Vice President for International Affairs has made seed funding available for faculty and administrators seeking to build on IU’s partnerships in the region.

Information about IU’s new gateway office in China can be found at china.iu.edu.