

## 8. FY2020 Progress

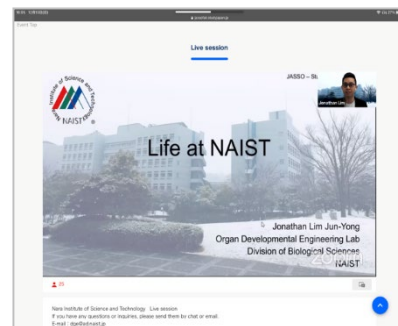
【 Nara Institute of Science and Technology 】

### ■ Common Indicators and Targets

#### Internationalization

##### ○ Strategic student recruitment using NAIST Overseas Offices

NAIST is actively recruiting using its overseas offices established in Indonesia and Thailand as hubs for education and research collaboration in Asia to attract talented international students and increase our international presence. In 2020, these activities continued using all-online formats due to the COVID-19-related travel restrictions. Through collaboration with the Indonesian NAIST Alumni Association, an online NAIST study abroad fair was held for students from our 7 Indonesian partner institutions where 50 participants talked directly with our faculty and students. (Oct. 2020) NAIST also actively participated in PR events for student recruitment including JASSO Study in Japan Virtual Fair and Study in Japan Overseas Base Collaboration Promotion Projects Virtual Study in Japan Fairs for South America, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, etc. for the first time to recruit students from new countries and regions. In one year, these activities reached more than 20 countries/regions and NAIST institution and research introductions were given to over 700 people who visited NAIST's online booths, etc., reaching out to a wider student audience. As of May 2021, there were 280 students from 33 different countries and regions and, even in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, NAIST has maintained its diverse student population.



〈Students presenting at Jasso Study in Japan Virtual Fair〉

#### University reform

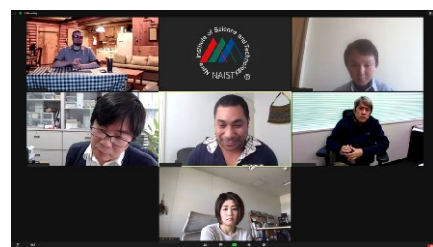
##### ○ Strengthened globalization support system through positioning of UEAs

Based on the new UEA personnel system (contract-to-permanent specialized staff employment) created in 2017, two UEAs were employed in the Division for Career Development and the career development support for Japanese and international students was improved and expanded.

#### Education reform

##### ○ Online overseas faculty development training

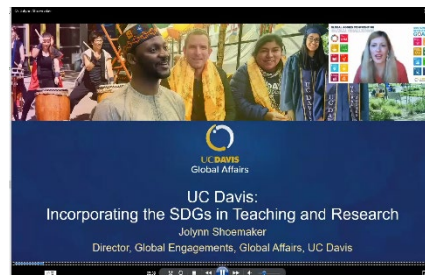
Every year NAIST sends its faculty members to UC Davis, a partner institution, for overseas FD training in order to further improve their education, research and managerial skills using English. In 2020, it was not possible to have in-person training overseas, so the first-ever online FD training was held on Nov. 17-19, 2020. Five faculty members from the Division of Information Science, Division of Biological Science and Division of Materials Science participated in the training and, utilizing Zoom and Canvas, an e-learning study management system, the training was very interactive and opinions and information were actively exchanged. The participants learned about student-centered learning and project based learning, shared information concerning class management and student motivation during the pandemic, and gained insight into practical methodology.



〈Online Overseas FD Training〉

##### ○ International FD Webinar

To improve faculty and staff's international awareness, an online FD webinar series (2 times in total) was held in cooperation with UC Davis. In the 1<sup>st</sup> webinar, "Aftermath of COVID-19 and an outlook for international education in New Normal" (Oct. 2020), the issue of educators needing to rethink education's function and mission as new online education and study formats are developing due to the pandemic was brought up. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> webinar, "UC Davis: Incorporating the SDGs in Teaching and Research" (March 2021), participants learned about the importance of UC Davis's approach to SDGs as part of its mission to stress diversity, equality and inclusiveness for university internationalization. A faculty member introduced a plan to undertake a human resource endeavor for 'sustainable society makers' through education and research focusing on the theme of bioeconomy in the Digital Green Innovation Center (Est. Jan. 2021) at NAIST, and lecturers and participants both actively exchanged opinions concerning this.



〈UC Davis International FD Seminar〉

##### ○ Continued education and research activities using ICT for 'continual learning' during the pandemic

Under the Guide for Limiting Activities at NAIST to Prevent the Spreading of the New Coronavirus Infection, the education and research environments for 'continual learning' was prepared and remote classes using the lecture archive began in April 2020. Also, to improve study environments, NAIST began offering archived classes with Japanese and English subtitles using AI technology to automatically add English subtitles to archived lectures. This initiative is a first in Japan. For student recruiting, the Open Campus was held twice (May 2020, Feb. 2021) using VR technology and entrance examination interviews were held online.

## University's own indicators and targets

[ Nara Institute of Science and Technology ]

### Campus-wide career development support

To increase momentum of Japanese students going abroad, "Study Abroad and Global Career Seminar" was held with participants introducing their study abroad/international internship experiences along with overseas opportunities. (Dec. 2020) A speaker was invited from the US for an online science/technology career paths abroad presentation. Through this kind of seminar, the establishment of a full-time study abroad counseling service, and long-term overseas study abroad support program which began from 2020, interest in taking the challenge to go abroad is high. Support for Japanese students to have overseas internships starting from last year continued and 1 student participated in a remote internship (July–Sept. 2020) at Joint Genome Institute, an internship destination that was newly established in 2020. For international student career development support, 2 counselors offering English support were placed and had 340 consultations.

Through an event introducing international graduates working in Japan and an event with companies interested in employing international students, students' interest in working for Japanese companies has increased. Additionally, international students who started their own venture business were invited to speak at a startup seminar to offer various career path information for students.



<Global Career Seminar>



<(US JGI Online Internship Report)>

## Featured initiatives based on university characteristics

### Strengthened graduate network

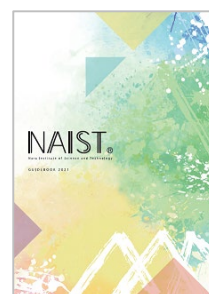
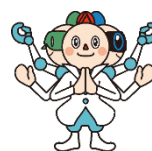
Every year Indonesian NAIST Alumni Association (INAA), a Indonesian government recognized nonprofit corporation and NAIST's sole overseas alumni organization, holds alumni gatherings throughout Indonesia with NAIST faculty participating. Due to the pandemic, the 2020 gathering was held online for the first time with NAIST Indonesia Office's cooperation. (Sept. 2020) Graduates working at NAIST's 7 Indonesian partner institutions introduced education and research activities. Also, NAIST's young researchers who collaborate with Indonesian researchers and current NAIST Indonesian students gave presentations. There were about 70 participants including INAA members, NAIST faculty, our alumni and current Indonesian students studying at NAIST who met online, catching up with old friends and colleagues and making new ties centered around their NAIST experiences.



<Indonesian NAIST Alumni Gathering>

### Dissemination of attractive information to overseas students

For the Virtual Open Campus for Prospective Students, a '3D campus' and '2D campus' were created by NAIST faculty and English versions were made. Using this, NAIST was able to introduce laboratories to recruit students and prospective students could take virtual NAIST campus tours. Also, NAIST Guidebook was revised to introduce students' life on campus and alumni career introduction to include attractive information for international students considering enrollment.



<Guidebook 2021>



<3D campus tour>

## Additional description

### Enhanced PR activities

The NAIST TGU homepage was renewed to improve access to NAIST TGU activities for NAIST and the public. Also, the Division for Global Education began issuing a newsletter to timely deliver updates and information concerning the globalization of education, international engagement, and globalization-related activities on campus.



<New TGU website>



<Newsletter>