The report on the 1st Meeting of 5 Veterinary Schools for Collaboration of Graduate Education

The meeting was convened on March 22 and 23 at Hokkaido University Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine. Financial supports were provided by the Program for Leading Graduate School entitled Fostering Global Leaders in Veterinary Science toward contibuting to "One Health". Twelve delegates from 5 leading veterinary schools in Asia, Chulalongkorn University, Hokkaido University, Kasetsart University, Seoul National University, The University of Tokyo, were invited for this meeting. We introduced graduate educations at each university, learned credit transfer system using UMAP and discussed on future collaboration plans of graduate education. The delegates for the meeting were Drs Mongkol Techakumphu (Dean) and Ornsiri Cheunsuang from Chulalongkorn University, Drs. Shigeo Ito (Dean), Yoshiharu Hashimoto, Masahiro Okumura and Takashi Umemura from Hokkaido University, Drs. Apinum Supraset (Dean), Theerasak Prapong and Amnart Poapolathep from Kasetsart University, Drs. Jae-Hak Park (Dean Academic) and Hang Lee from Seoul National University, Dr. Hiroyuki Nakayama (President of Japanese Society of Veterinary Sciences) from The University of Tokyo.



The contents of the meeting were as follows.

March 22: study session for credit transfer (speaker: Dr. Ornsiri Cheunsuang, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)

March 23: symposium entitled "Establishment of International Core for Veterinary Education in Asia" at auditorium of veterinary school. In this symposium, five schools talked on their education system of graduate course and made discussion for the collaboration of graduate education among 5 veterinary schools. The order of the presentation was Hokkaido University, the University of Tokyo, Seoul National University, Chulalongkorn University and Kasetsart University. In the presentations, following topics were included.

1. Current status of graduate course education in each university: number of students and faculties, number of international students and faculties, total credits, lectures and practices taught in English, and other information useful for our collaboration.

2. Distinctive features of graduate education at each school.

3. Education programs each university can provide to PhD students of other member schools.

4. Desirable collaboration in this project.

Eradication of zoonotic diseases, food safety, environmental conservation, high level veterinary clinical service, contributions to life sciences and drug development are compelling social demands for veterinary science anywhere in Asia. All the participants for the meeting agreed that the improvement and internationalization of veterinary graduate education in veterinary schools were desirable and imperative to respond to those social demands. In this context, we decided to seek for establishing international core of veterinary education in Asia by exchanging the excellent educational resources available at each school and to attain the improvement of veterinary education of the veterinary schools and also of the other veterinary schools in Asian countries.