



IV. Hitotsubashi as an Educational Power House

Hitotsubashi aims to strengthen its position as a prestigious and internationally recognized research-oriented university through an endless pursuit of excellence in education for graduate and undergraduate programs. Towards this goal, new methods and systems of internationalization related to education and research will be implemented, and new curricula and programs will be selected and strategically introduced with the goal of developing individuals capable of actively contributing to global affairs.

Many universities aiming at internationalization frequently do so via means such as expansion plans based on quantitative goals. However, Hitotsubashi aims to foster innovative individuals with advanced problem solving skills who will then go on to become future leaders in world affairs. To this end, the University is planning advanced educational exchange programs with 47 institutions in the academic exchange program, 22 institutions with inter-faculty/graduate school agreements, 25 institutions in the international exchange and cooperation (19 inter-university agreements, 6 inter-faculty/graduate school agreements), and a support system of steady and realistic academic exchange programs. The international strategic domains are as follows:

1. Improving international recognition and commonality in education

1) Responding to multilingual and multicultural educational environments

In the ever-increasing globalization of society, multilingual and multicultural educational environments are not only an indispensable element of education, but are also becoming commonplace. In response to this trend, Hitotsubashi has offered classes taught in English mainly at the graduate level, will try to offer more courses in English with multilingual and multicultural considerations in the double, joint, or dual degree programs with foreign universities, and is expanding student exchange programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Moreover, rather than focusing on students' linguistic ability, Hitotsubashi would like to attract international students with excellent academic performance. For this purpose, multilingual and multicultural considerations need to be more

effectively incorporated into the educational environments to help students and faculty members to improve foreign language skills and to create an environment through which they share ideas and thoughts about the importance of multilingual and multicultural consideration.

2) Strengthening international recognition in education

As one of the qualitative improvements of higher education, it is important for the University to organize educational environments based on international standardization and openness of curriculums, development of international programs, transparency of evaluation criteria, and development of education programs for obtaining international certifications. Evaluation criteria, which allow comparisons with overseas universities and a system of accrediting degrees/credits between Hitotsubashi and overseas universities, will be needed for promoting the mobility of students and increasing international exchanges in education.

3) Offering accelerated dual degree programs

Through the cooperation of undergraduate and graduate schools, Hitotsubashi developed the Accelerated Dual Degree Program (five years), a combined bachelor's and master's degree program. In 2000, the Graduate School of Commerce and Management launched a MBA program. In 2004, the School also started the Doctoral Program for Training Researchers (five years) for those wishing to acquire advanced research skills. These kinds of programs not only reduce study time abroad, but also reduce the financial burden on international students.

4) Developing joint/dual degree programs with foreign universities

In conjunction with overseas graduate schools that are under student exchange contracts, Hitotsubashi will develop dual degree programs for students. The University will also examine the possibility of offering dual degree programs at partner universities as a part of its offshore programs. In addition, the University will consider the feasibility of implementing "twin" programs with foreign universities and expanding it into double, joint, or dual degree programs. Under the framework of the EUIJ, Hitotsubashi also intends to investigate the possibility of participating in the same kinds of programs with universities in the EU.

5) Expanding quality professional education at the Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy

In 1998, The Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy (ICS) was established with the aim of being a world-class business school, and has achieved international recognition for its education and research based on the combination of the “intelligence” of Japan with the “intelligence” of Western countries. ICS provides high-caliber professional education to foster business leaders capable of contributing to society on a global scale, especially in the fields of business law, international business law, and financial strategy. ICS offers students a curriculum based on the best practices of Japan and Western countries, and opens its doors to international students by offering classes taught in English and enrollment dates in October. ICS also has exchange programs with nine partner schools.

6) Expanding cutting edge professional education at the School of International and Public Policy

Workplaces require professional knowledge and skills relevant to the current highly competitive global environment. National governments, international organizations, self-governing bodies, and NGO/NPO’s now demand professional knowledge and practical skills from potential employees. To meet these societal needs, in April 2005, Hitotsubashi University established the School of International and Public Policy. This professional school offers students two courses: the International Governance Course and the Public Economics Course.

- International Governance Course

This course focuses on law and international relations, and offers two programs: Public Law Program (GL) and Global Governance Program (GG).

- Public Economics Course

This course focuses on economics, and offers two programs: Public Economics Policy (PEP) and Asian Public Policy Program (APPP).

The School of International and Public Policy offers classes taught in both Japanese and English (classes in the Asian Public Policy Program are conducted entirely in English), which is one of the unique features of this school.

The importance of cooperation between the Asia and the Pacific regions cannot

be overstated. Hitotsubashi is striving to become an international hub of education and research by interacting with researchers and students through the Program in International and Asia-Pacific Relations in the GG and the Asian Public Policy Program in the APPP.

7) Launching the Japan-Europe Legal Communication Training and Development Program

Through the cooperation of EUIJ, in 2005, the Graduate School of Law launched the Japan-Europe Legal Communication Training and Development Program to promote mutual understanding concerning Law and Law Culture in both Japan and the EU. Through this program, the Graduate School of Law provides classes and educational activities for graduate students who wish to be law scholars in the future so that they will be able to develop presentation skills in English and be able to participate in research with foreign scholars overseas. In addition, the graduate school aims to support foreign scholars of Japanese Law.

8) Promoting interaction between international and Japanese students at the International Village

Approximately 450 international students, and their family members, of Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo Gakugei University, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, and The University of Electronic-communications live together with approximately 350 Japanese students in the International Village at the Kodaira campus, which opened in 2002. International exchange programs in Kodaira such as the Cross-Cultural Exchange Program at an elementary and middle school, a class on Japanese culture, and co-hosted events such as festivals, are provided mainly through the Kodaira International Friendship Association. However, the International Village is also a space to learn about various cultures, so Hitotsubashi will try to further promote inter-cultural awareness, for example, by allocating rooms so that Japanese students and international students share rooms or live in rooms next to each other.

2. Developing study abroad programs for Japanese students

Hitotsubashi is currently reevaluating its one-year student exchange programs and aims to expand the diversity and quality of the programs. Three study abroad programs are being developed which will form the core study abroad offerings for Japanese

students: 1) short-term intensive study abroad programs during summer/spring break; 2) one-semester exchange programs; and 3) one-year exchange programs. Additionally, the University will focus on developing practical experience-based learning programs, including internships, volunteer programs, and fieldwork opportunities. These study abroad programs will be developed based on students' needs and abilities, and with the goal that 10% of the student body will be able to participate in a study abroad program. Hitotsubashi will create a support system for not only those who participate in exchange programs, but also those who study overseas at their own expense while taking a leave of absence from school, those who travel overseas on a working holiday, and those who go on to graduate school overseas after obtaining a bachelor's degree. In addition, an orientation and seminar will be held before studying abroad to help ensure students' success and safety in these international programs.

1) Developing and promoting long-term study abroad programs

Hitotsubashi will develop and promote long-term study abroad programs for graduate students who wish to either obtain degrees or pursue further studies in their respective fields at institutions abroad. Hitotsubashi currently offers the following study abroad programs:

- Short-term intensive study abroad programs for undergraduate students
- One-year student exchange programs for juniors, seniors, or graduate students
- "Programme Renault" for graduate students enrolled in Master's programs
- "Consortium japonais du Collège doctoral franco-japonais" for graduate students enrolled in doctoral programs.

In addition to these programs, Hitotsubashi will develop new long-term study abroad programs so that graduate students are able to increase their opportunities for overseas study. Hitotsubashi will design and develop these programs in accordance with the "University Education Internationalization Promotion Program (long-term study abroad support)" initiated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in 2005.

2) Developing short-term study abroad programs

As part of the diversification of Hitotsubashi's study abroad programs, short-term study abroad programs will be offered during summer/spring breaks, the first of which is a four-week program at Monash University in Australia held during March 2006 as a pilot program. During each summer and spring break,

Hitotsubashi will offer students two short-term programs for studying English and one short-term program for studying other languages such as Chinese, French, and German. Furthermore, in addition to English language study and cultural study programs, experience-based learning programs (i.e., volunteer, fieldwork, and internship programs) will be developed.

3) Diversifying short-term exchange programs

By creating short-term educational programs taught in English for international students and increasing the number of students participating in the programs, Hitotsubashi hopes to increase the feasibility of exchange programs for Japanese students. Also, through participation in study abroad consortiums such as ISEP (International Student Exchange Program) and IES (International Education of Students), the University can increase the number of programs without concluding exchange agreements with partner universities. From this consideration, Hitotsubashi will offer students study abroad programs that match their needs and abilities by preparing one semester exchange programs, one-semester study abroad programs without exchange agreements (students study at their own expense), as well as one-year exchange programs.

4) Providing extracurricular language programs

Hitotsubashi will support students who wish to study overseas by providing preparation classes for required language examinations such as TOEFL, IELTS, HSK (Chinese), DELF/DALF (French), and Test Daf (German), conversation classes for studying abroad, and study skills classes. With the aim of reducing the cost of tuition for the students, Hitotsubashi will examine outsourcing the instruction of classes and the preparation of teaching materials to language schools. Although Hitotsubashi will consider if the University or Josuikai can subsidize a part of the students' tuition fees, the students will have to basically burden the expense for the programs. So that students can measure their English ability while controlling costs, the ITP-TOEFL test will be periodically administered on campus in collaboration with the University Coop.

5) Offering support for international exchange activities of seminars and clubs

The research and educational activities carried out by each seminar have, at times, consisted of an international component, involving activities done outside of Japan. Sport and academic clubs also have many opportunities to interact with

students at foreign universities through similar extracurricular activities. However, Hitotsubashi has not sufficiently supported these activities so far. Thus, for future seminar and club activities abroad, Hitotsubashi will provide a competition-based fund and create a risk management system to support the international activities of the various groups.

6) Expanding scholarship programs for overseas study

Hitotsubashi provides scholarships, endowed by Josuikai, Meiji Sangyo Company and Meisan Cooperation, for students enrolled in the study abroad program. Approximately 30 students selected from those who wish to study at partner universities receive a one-year scholarship. Hitotsubashi will further expand this scholarship system by increasing and diversifying the study abroad programs. These scholarships are mainly for undergraduate students (approximately 28 students can receive a scholarship). However, although experience abroad is regarded as an important foundation for future researchers, only 6 scholarships are offered to graduate students per year. Thus, with the cooperation of Josuikai, the number of scholarships for graduate students to study abroad will be increased.

3. Enriching programs for incoming international students

Hitotsubashi aims to organize short-term educational programs to recruit high-caliber international students from various countries, and increase exchange programs for Japanese students. The University will also actively search overseas markets to recruit international students who show high academic aptitude to enter full degree programs. In addition to living and tuition expenses, these students will need to cope with life as an international student in Japan.

1) Reviewing entrance examinations and admission procedures for international students

International graduate students currently comprise 70% of international student enrolments on campus, and about 20% of the whole student body, while international undergraduate students represent 30% of international student enrollments, and about only 3% of the whole student body. Japanese government scholarship students outnumber privately-financed international students (37% of the international students enrolled are Japanese government scholarship students while 64% are privately-financed students). Increasing privately-funded

enrolments of international undergraduate students, especially from Southeast Asia, will provide more opportunities for Japanese students to interact with international students. To achieve this goal, entrance examinations for international students need to be reviewed by each department. Each department should be allowed to decide the number of students to enroll, the qualification requirements for taking the examination, and the academic subjects that will be included on the entrance examination. Moreover, each graduate department currently accepts applications only from prospective students already residing in Japan. However, a plan is being considered for each graduate department to directly accept applications from outside Japan.

2) Recruiting international students in foreign countries

Hitotsubashi needs to extend its scope beyond international students already enrolled in Japanese schools and universities in Japan, and begin direct recruiting programs abroad to attract more privately-funded international students who show high academic aptitude. The explicit plans are as follows: 1) to use the Hitotsubashi Beijing Office and Josuikai offices in foreign countries; 2) to establish Hitotsubashi's own scholarship system through which international students are informed before enrolling if they can receive a scholarship; 3) to cooperate with higher education institutions in foreign countries to accept undergraduate transfer students through twinning programs and graduate students based on recommendations, including the creation of an admission system based on recommendations from private high schools.

3) Developing short-term seminars and promoting short-term study abroad programs

Short-term seminars such as the Japanese and Japanese Culture Study Seminar (the credits of this seminar are accredited in overseas universities) and the Intensive Seminar for Japanese Teachers (this short-term seminar is for overseas Japanese teachers) are offered at Hitotsubashi University during summer and spring breaks. Hitotsubashi is examining ways to increase the number of international participants of these, including more promotion activities for partner universities. Through four-week programs in consortium member institutions (i.e. ISEP and IES), Hitotsubashi aims to increase external revenue and secure more participants.

By offering a short-term educational program taught in English, Hitotsubashi

will create a structure for accepting international students with low Japanese level for one semester to one academic year. Participation in the program will not be limited to exchange students (tuition waiver students) from partner universities, but will be open to students (tuition-paying students) from all institutions for the financial contribution to the short-term program in English.

4) Holding short-term seminars for professionals in conjunction with international organizations

Twice a year the School of International and Public Policy hosts the Hitotsubashi Executive Program for Macroeconomic Policymakers, a seminar on macroeconomic analyses and policy issues for senior officials at ministries, government agencies, and central banks in Asian countries who are engaged in macroeconomic policy. The program receives financial support from the Japanese government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The scope and number of participants has been expanding, and based on the success of the program, the University will make a support system so that each faculty can offer a similar kind of program. Furthermore, in conjunction with international organizations such as JICA and JBIC, Hitotsubashi will provide a short-term seminar (i.e., finance or law system) for staff training in developing countries.

4. Collaborating with domestic and foreign higher education institutions

In collaboration with foreign higher education institutions, Hitotsubashi plans to develop new programs and diversify existing programs such as international double degree programs. These programs aim to enhance student academic performance, foster international awareness, and contribute to international collaborative academic research and development.

1) Planning offshore programs in East and Southeast Asia

In recent years, many Western universities have successfully established degree programs in countries like China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Hitotsubashi plans to follow this trend, and is now considering two possibilities:

1) a “twin” program in which a student takes some courses at a local university and completes the remaining courses at Hitotsubashi; and 2) a program in which all courses are completed at a local university. If the institution is a university, Hitotsubashi will consider establishing double degree programs.

Plans are also being devised to increase the international students mobility by promoting international exchanges with universities in Asia and the Pacific. This will be achieved with the assistance of networks such as the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) of the Japan Association of National Universities, and the University's branch office in Beijing.

2) Examining the feasibility of opening new educational programs focused on foreign languages and cultures

Hitotsubashi is examining the feasibility of opening new educational programs focused on foreign languages and cultures in conjunction with foreign governments and partner universities. In order to effectively utilize the Kodaira campus, Hitotsubashi will offer these educational programs not only to Hitotsubashi students, but also to local people.

3) Actively participating in consortiums

Hitotsubashi has joined the following consortiums to offer students rich learning opportunities: 1) Tama-region Five-National University Educational Alliance, consisting of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo Gakugei University, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, The University of Electronic-communications, and Hitotsubashi; 2) Exchanges of credit between Tsuda College and Hitotsubashi; 3) Four- University Confederation, consisting of Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and Hitotsubashi; and 4) EUIJ (EU Institute in Japan), consisting of International Christian University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tsuda College, and Hitotsubashi. Working with these consortiums will help to develop international education exchange programs and resources at each university. The educational programs that are under consideration are as follows: 1) study abroad program; 2) short-term study abroad under joint management (each university offers their own programs); and 3) short-term program and Japanese program for international students under joint management (for example, international students in the consortiums will take classes at Hitotsubashi's Kodaira campus). The interaction of these various domestic and overseas programs will provide a large contribution to international education and research across various academic fields.

5. Sharing knowledge with, and interacting with local communities

Hitotsubashi University will collaborate with various organizations and groups in Kunitachi and Kodaira in an effort to be a center for promoting internationalization for the communities. One of the educational goals of Hitotsubashi is “to foster individuals with public-spiritedness and international perspectives.” Hitotsubashi not only nurtures students with public-spiritedness and international perspectives, but also improves the quality of internationalization in the University and communities by involving faculty, staff, international students, and communities.

1) Supporting students, researchers, faculty members, and family members from foreign countries

Currently, Hitotsubashi, local community organizations, and a support organization composed of Japanese students offer assistance to international students. The Kunitachi Public Hall and some volunteer groups in Kunitachi play a pivotal role in providing programs to support international students living at the International House on Hitotsubashi’s Kunitachi Campus. For international students living at the International Village on Hitotsubashi’s Kodaira Campus, the Kodaira International Friendship Association offers various means of support. Specifically, the University asks these organizations to participate in orientations held on both campuses to help international students to complete some of the necessary procedures before arriving in Japan and enrolling in university. In addition to these orientations, programs such as Japanese language classes, home stays and visits, host families, daily consultation activities, and cultural exchanges are provided for the students. However, the number of international students and nationalities are expected to increase in the future, meaning that it will become even more important to work with local communities to provide for the various needs of the international students and to ensure a comfortable living environment.

Hitotsubashi also plans to welcome more overseas visiting researchers and faculty members at the research center. Providing for their needs, and how the university will collaborate with local communities to provide a suitable and comfortable living and working environment will also need to be considered.

2) Opening international programs for the communities

Hitotsubashi is considering short-term study abroad programs at foreign

universities for faculty members, students, and local people so they can study together in foreign countries. These kinds of programs aim to reduce barriers between the University and communities, promote better mutual understanding, and promote international awareness and civil characteristics. The examples of study/training programs are based on inspections of Scandinavian cities widely acknowledged for accepting immigrants and on visits to Southeast Asia to research poverty and education.

Hitotsubashi has offered various programs aimed at sharing knowledge with local communities such as an open lecture on the history of the Euro and EU unification taught by professors in the EU program of University. The University also intends to contribute to the “Machizukuri” (town planning) program to further promote international exchange and cross-cultural understanding. Furthermore, as it endeavors to be recognized as a “university of the world” and a “university of the community,” Hitotsubashi will actively provide communities with international symposiums and seminars, and will strive to prove the University’s worth as a world-class intellectual powerhouse.

