APU's Security Measures for Zoom

As you have already been informed, APU is currently preparing to implement classes online via Zoom. However, in the last week lots of information has been spread regarding the security of Zoom, and some have expressed concern about our university introducing Zoom.

When considering the introduction of an online system, we deeply considered the safety and security of the system before deciding to introduce Zoom to our university, as its functionality aligns well with our university's learning. This was an unexpected situation, and we are currently working hard to proceed with implementation of classes online via Zoom as planned.

Although several security issues have been reported at this time, we have confirmed that most of the technical issues have already been resolved by Zoom and can be fixed by updating the application. For encryption issues, Zoom has officially stated it will not intercept the data or save the content of classes and meetings, and will promptly implement any necessary technical fixes.

Another major issue that has occurred is the vandalism of Zoom sessions (Zoom Bombing) in which malicious third parties invade and disrupt classes and meetings. It has been confirmed that almost all cases of these intrusions can be avoided by strengthening the Zoom-provided function settings on the university side.

APU faculty and staff have been informed of the proper settings to use in classes and meetings, and we are making our utmost effort to prevent intrusion from malicious third parties. In addition, APU will be also be providing students with Zoom accounts, so we will share the necessary information with them.

In order to solve these issues it is imperative that all faculty, staff, faculty and students work together as members of the APU community to recognize our responsibilities and follow the rules and guidelines.

We will do our best to ensure that students are able to receive APU's unique education via Zoom with peace of mind. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

April 9, 2020 Vice-President, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University YONEYAMA Hiroshi