

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Presidential Candidate Selection Committee

Date/Time : Tuesday, December 16, 2025, 18:00~19:17

Place : Conference Room No.5, 3rd Floor, APU Main Administration Building (attendance also via Zoom)

Attendees:

Presidential Candidate Selection Committee:

- Chairperson ASANO Akito (Vice-President, Executive Trustee)
- Members CHEN Ching-Chang (Professor, College of Asia Pacific Studies)
VYAS Utpal (Associate Professor, College of Asia Pacific Studies)
YOO Bosul (Associate Professor, College of International Management)
FUKUYAMA Kimihiro (Associate Professor, College of International Management)
YOTSUMOTO Yukio (Professor, College of Sustainability and Tourism)
YAMANE Tomomi (Associate Professor, College of Sustainability and Tourism)
JUNG Jonghee (Associate Professor, Center for Language Education)
TSURUHARA Toshiyasu (Associate Professor, Education Development and Learning Support Center)

HINO Satoshi (Deputy Director)
KONGO Rie (Outreach& Research Office)
TERAI Toshihiro (Outreach& Research Office)
PARK Seungwoo (Academic Office)
MATSUGU Junichi (Alumnus)
UWINEZA Celine (Alumna)
ABDULLAH Junaid (Alumnus)
JHA Ashmi (APU Student Future Visionary Vice President)
ARAMAKI Junko (Domestic Student Supporters' Association)

Presidential Candidate Selection Control Board :

- Chairperson: KIKKAWA Takuro
- Members: ACKARADEJRUANGSRI Pajaree
MIYAHARA Kumi

Secretariat : INOUE Chikako, FUJIWARA Masato, KOZURU Kyoko (Office of Institutional Planning)

* Underline: Absentees

(Members: 18, members in attendance: 16, quorum established)

(The signatories of the minutes: YOO Bosul, FUKUYAMA Kimihiro)

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Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previously held first meeting of the Presidential Candidate Selection Committee were approved.

2. Application Guidelines for Presidential Candidates of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

Chairperson ASANO explained the draft application guidelines for the presidential candidates prepared by the secretariat.

PARK: Should the Ritsumeikan Charter be included among the responsibilities expected of the President?

ASANO: If the Ritsumeikan Charter, which is currently under review, is finalized before the call for applications, it can be included as a reference document.

Pajaree,
Member of the
Presidential
Candidate
Selection Control
Board:

There are discrepancies between the Japanese and English versions.

ASANO: Due to time constraints, a simplified English translation was prepared this time.
In future recruitments, a native checked English translation will be prepared.

VYAS: Regarding the qualifications, concerning the item stating 'Promotion of experiences with interculturality and diversity'...
This should be revised to “required” or “strongly requested,” rather than “desirable.”
How about amending the wording accordingly? “Desirable” is too weak.

JHA: Information outlining the university’s future direction is necessary to confirm whether the university’s strategic direction aligns with the content of the public recruitment for the President position.

ASANO: As I mentioned earlier, the APU2030 second-half operational plan will be completed soon. I will attach it as soon as it is completed. By reviewing that, we can ascertain the direction APU will take going forward and confirm the candidate's own thinking.

TSURUHARA: Are we seeking languages other than the candidate's native language to verify something during the selection process?

ASANO: In the final selection, it is anticipated that candidates will be asked to respond or explain, possibly in a foreign language, what they aim to achieve as President—similar to the mock lectures used when hiring faculty. However, even if a candidate can speak languages other than their native language, we currently do not require qualifications that would serve as formal proof of such ability.

UWINEZA: Could an item be added to the expected roles of presidential candidates that calls for a commitment to supporting alumni association activities? Considering the alumni network that spans the globe, it may not be a mandatory requirement, but we would like to include it.

ASANO: We also intend to include points concerning the building of relations with the alumni association in some form.

ASANO: I would like to consult about the handling of academic degrees, such as doctoral and master’s degrees, which became a topic of debate during the previous selection of presidential candidates. When considering a candidate from the business community as a presidential candidate, the treatment of academic degrees has a very significant impact. Therefore, in the previous instance we stipulated that candidate with certain work histories, such as positions at international organizations or corporations, should have a master's degree or higher, while those from academia should hold a doctoral degree or higher. However, we concluded that candidates who possess abilities and qualities that outweigh the presence or absence of a degree should be evaluated comprehensively. I would like to ask the Committee members for their opinions on this matter.

FUKUYAMA: I consider if this wording regarding degree requirements is appropriate. We would

accept someone with achievements comparable to President Deguchi. Basically, a certain level of track record and achievements as are required as President, so I believe the current wording is appropriate.

ASANO: I would also like to discuss the application procedures. Last time we accepted applications by mail and email without specifying a particular method. On that occasion, many submissions lacked the minimum information required by the university and were received in various formats, which made organizing the information time-consuming. On the other hand, I understand that applicants from abroad and those employed by educational or research institutions often already have their own CVs on hand. Therefore, for this recruitment we intend to have the university specify the minimum requirements for submission, while allowing applicants to freely attach documents such as pre-prepared resumes or any additional materials the candidate wishes to submit.

FUKUYAMA: I have no objection to this application method. If requesting only the essential information and leaving the rest optional will reduce the administrative burden and make selection easier, I see no problem with that.

Pajaree, member of the Presidential Candidate Selection Control Board: The statement of purpose and letters of recommendation are extremely important information that will greatly assist the selection process. Therefore, please tell us if there is any reason you will not obtain a letter of recommendation this time. Also, how about using Forms?

Secretariat: Because Forms does not allow external parties to upload documents, we plan to create an application form using Rising-FDC, a system used across the entire corporation.

HINO: It would be better to indicate that the deadline time is in Japan Standard Time.

Secretariat: We will specify that it is Japan Standard Time.

YAMANE: It would be better to clarify what is meant by "contact information." Also, consider asking for LinkedIn, Google Scholar, or other social media accounts as references.

ASANO: In principle, communications from the University are conducted by e-mail, but I had assumed a contact address rather than a telephone number. Also, with respect to social media, I would like to consult with the Secretariat and present a revised proposal at the next meeting.

JHA: How about specifying an age range for eligible candidates? Also, when prioritizing candidates with high proficiency in both Japanese and English, requesting submission of a short video can be an effective selection method.

ASANO: Although no age limit is explicitly imposed, we require applicants to provide their date of birth on this occasion because having no age information at all makes selection decisions difficult. Moreover, it is anticipated that certain age groups may find it difficult to submit videos. At the same time, nothing prevents candidates from posting an introductory video of themselves.

JHA: Is it possible to state explicitly that letters of recommendation will be accepted in either Japanese or English?

ASANO: We will clarify that all documents submitted, not only letters of recommendation, may be provided in either Japanese or English. Additionally, as a supplementary note, it is stated that submission of authored works is voluntary. Since it is difficult to send copies to all selection committee members, as described in the draft of the public call

guidelines, the Secretariat will receive approximately three copies and make them available for viewing.

UWINEZA: What is the deadline for the public call?

ASANO: In the end the committee will discuss and finalize this, but at present we are assuming a period from late February to late May.

UWINEZA: Will a public hearing be conducted for applicants?

ASANO: Public hearings are sessions aimed at soliciting opinions from APU's constituent members — faculty, staff, alumni, students, and parents — on the draft application guidelines.

3. Regarding Public Hearings

Chairperson ASANO provided an explanation concerning the public hearings.

ARAMAKI: Is attendance required for public hearings in all categories?

ASANO: We request that you participate in the hearing for the category in which you were elected.

YAMANE: The same as last time, we as the selection committee and the university will recommend candidates as members of the selection committee, but the Ritsumeikan Trust will decide the President. Was the person recommended by the committee selected last time?

ASANO: We will recommend multiple candidates to the Ritsumeikan Trust. The Presidential Candidate Selection Committee will vote and provide a recommendation to the Board of Trustees in order of highest number of votes.

4. Regarding the 4th meeting of the Presidential Candidate Selection Committee (discussion)

Regarding the decision on the date of the next committee meeting by Chairperson ASANO, it was reported that details will be provided at a later date by the secretariat.