

2024 UNTA Annual Assembly Notes

1. UNTA Annual Report

Professor Dr. Vincent Shih presented the current membership status and updates.

2. Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The representatives from Universitas Brawijaya (Indonesia), Universiti Putra Malaysia, Chiang Mai University (Thailand), Kasetsart University (Thailand), Maejo University (Thailand), Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry (Vietnam), and the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi (Vietnam) renewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among UNTA member universities to continue fostering collaborations in various academic domains and student exchange programs.

Meanwhile, IPB University (Indonesia) and Nakhon Phanom University (Thailand) will complete the MoU renewal process via postal correspondence owing to the responsibilities tied to their official duties.

3. Host for the 2025 UNTA Annual Assembly

The Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry is set to host the 2025 UNTA Annual Assembly on November 6–7, 2025. Concurrently, the university will hold the 6th National Conference on Animal and Veterinary Sciences (AVS 2025), themed *"For One Health and Food Safety."*

Dr. Nguyen Thi Giang, Deputy Head of the Department of Science, Technology, and International Cooperation, outlined a preliminary schedule for the 2025 UNTA Annual Assembly and AVS 2025.

4. Host for the 2026 UNTA Annual Assembly

Dr. Damrong Sripraram, President of Kasetsart University (KU), proposed hosting the 2026 UNTA Annual Assembly. The proposal was unanimously approved by the attendees, with enthusiastic applause.

5. Panel Discussions and Proposals

The following key proposals and discussions were held:

- **Appeal for International Research Funding:** Universitas Brawijaya (UB) proposed launching an appeal fund to support international research initiatives and other collaborative opportunities.
- **Promoting Joint Research:** UB also emphasized encouraging professors from member universities to establish connections for collaborative research projects.

- **Fostering Innovation and Interdisciplinarity:** IPB University proposed initiatives to stimulate research in innovative and interdisciplinary fields.
- **Revitalizing the UNTA Website:** Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) recommended reactivating the UNTA website to provide up-to-date information on student events and research invitations for professors to form joint research teams.
- **Encouraging Postgraduate Research through T.E.E.P.:** The National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST) introduced the Taiwan Experience Education Program (T.E.E.P.) launched by the Ministry of Education to encourage postgraduate students from member universities to pursue research in Taiwan.
- **Joint Online Courses:** NPUST also proposed organizing joint online courses with credit recognition for students across member universities.
- **Engaging Activities for Delegates:** UB suggested organizing activities that actively engage delegates from member universities in interactive sessions to explore networking opportunities and foster further collaborations.
- **Conducting a survey:** NPUST will conduct a survey among the member universities on the proposals discussed during the panel session to advance to the next practical steps.