First Japanese-Chinese Doctoral Degree in Medicine from Osaka University

INTER-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROJECT

Summary

The first Japanese-Chinese doctoral student in the field of medicine in a double degree program was born. WANG Xiaowen, a graduate student at Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, completed the Doctoral Double Degree Program (DDP) on September 22nd, 2022. She was awarded a doctoral degree in medicine from Osaka University and Peking University. It is part of the Osaka University's "Program for raising research leaders in medicine and public health to solve global health problems" which selected as one of the INTER-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROJECT by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in 2016. Currently, six graduate students enrolled in this program at Japanese, Chinese, and Korean universities.

Program Overview

Osaka University's "Program for Developing Global Leaders in Medical Research for Solving Global Health Issues" selected by MEXT as part of the INTER-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROJECT in 2016. It is an exchange program in the field of medicine and public health among the three countries of Japan, China, and Korea to foster globally active researchers who will contribute to the prevention and treatment of lifestyle-related diseases, dementia, and aging-



related diseases, which are global health issues, and to the solution of these issues. We are implementing this program in collaboration with Peking University, Tsinghua University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in China, and Yonsei University in Korea. Furthermore, from FY2021, the consortium is expanding to the ASEAN region with the participation of Mahidol University in Thailand, Guangdong Pharmaceutical University in China, Osaka University Research Institute for Microbial Diseases, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, Department of Health Sciences, and the National Center for Global Health and Medicine to enhance education and research programs in infectious disease-related fields.

About Double Degree (DD)

Osaka University has concluded DDP agreements with Peking University, Shanghai Jiao Tong

University, Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Yonsei University to establish a system for obtaining DD and student support from admission to graduation. D. candidates spend about two years in overseas universities during their four-year course of study. Doctal degree at the respective universities upon completion of credit acquisition and evaluation of research results (original thesis) at both universities. Osaka University has accepted two students from Peking University and one from Yonsei University, sent one to Peking University and two to Yonsei University, for a total of six DDP students.

Formation of a Framework for Inter-University Exchange

The three graduate medical school laboratories in charge of substantive education and research guidance for international students were Public Health, Nuclear Medicine, and Bio-systems Pharmacology, when the program first began in FY2016. In the next five years, 20 core courses (genetics, medical ethics and public policy, integrative physiology, radiation therapy, endocrinology and metabolic-internal medicine, environmental medicine, anesthesiology and intensive care medicine, molecular neuroscience, pathophysiology, immunoregulation, sports medicine, plastic surgery, respiratory and immunological internal medicine, immunocyte biology, medical statistics, psychiatry, neurology), two endowed chairs (Obesity and Lipodynamics and Exercise Biomaterials) and the Graduate School of Medicine's Center for Education joined.

With the new addition of the Graduate School of Medicine, Department of Health Sciences, and the Research Institute of Microbial Diseases, and with the cooperation of the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, the program is expanding to provide international students with opportunities for education and research in medicine and public health and a full range of guidance systems, covering a wide range of basic, clinical, and social medical fields.

• Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology - Japan INTER-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROJECT

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