

Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the Circulation of Talented Researchers
Japan-ASEAN Collaboration Research Program on Innovative Humanosphere in Southeast Asia:
In search of Wisdom toward Compatibility Growth and Community in the World

Report

Period of inviting: 11 September 2016

Place of accepted: Kyoto University

Name: Jacqueline TAO Yujia

Institute/University: National University of Singapore

Research title: Energy Issues in ASEAN: Current Issues and Future Developments

(blank)

Under the kind invitation from Professor Ishihara and the generous support from the Brain Circulation Program, I was able to visit the Graduate School of Energy Science at Kyoto University. As part of the programme, I was tasked to contribute a book chapter on Energy Issues in ASEAN, which I was able to complete during my stay. In addition, my discussions with Ms Nibulon from the Department of Energy in Thailand was able to open me to new perspectives on the process of energy policy strategy formulation, implementation and evaluation in her country, which I was able to extend into my area of research.

Throughout the one month here, I was not only able to have various fruitful discussions in the area of energy policy and economics, but was also given the opportunity to interact with enthusiastic young researchers in the field of Material Science. I was amazed at the potential synergies in such cross-disciplinary fields and particularly enjoyed the interactions I had with Mr. Machida whose research focus on improving the efficiencies of thin-film solar cells aligns with my experience in the promotion of solar technology in Singapore.

During my stay here, I was also fortunate to be able to participate in a laboratory trip organized by Professor Ishihara and Professor Okumura to visit Hidakako Shin Energy Park and the Sakaiko Power Station. The experience was truly informative as I was able to gain first hand insights into the operations of a natural gas plant in Japan. I am impressed by the efficiency of their combined cycle gas turbines which is definitely world-class.

To wrap up my research in Kyoto University, I attended the 2nd International Symposium on Engineering and Society in Energy Science 2016. During the symposium, I was glad to be able to share my research results and findings with many of the people who have contributed to this piece of research in the past month.

My experience in Kyoto University is not only academically rewarding but also highly memorable due to the relationships that were forged during the short one month here. The hospitality that I received here was tremendous. I enjoyed the many discussions I had with Professor Ishihara on the current energy developments in Japan and am grateful for all the kindness that the staff and students here at Kyoto University have shown towards me.

