

MIC-AP NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of MIC-AP

School Year 2018 (March, 2019)

CONTENTS

- 2018 Project Summary
- Symposium
- AP Activities
- 2018 Highlight : Student Participation in the AP Project

Issued by the AP Office
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2018 Project Summary

Our Acceleration Program for University Education Rebuilding (AP) project completed its 5th year, with now only 1 year remaining. Since our founding, "Development of Critical Thinking through Active Learning" has been the core of our education, and this year, in advancement of this we have created a compilation of AL examples, implemented Critical Thinking tests, and promoted e-portfolio use. We conducted self-assessment of students on the basis of 40 subcategories of our Diploma Policy (DP) and designated items addressed in each course, thereby enabling students to approach coursework with DP achievement in mind. Furthermore, we established an "AP Student Group", incorporating student perspectives in our AP project to yield better educational results. This group works with us toward improvement in AL to further increase learning outcomes in the final year.

MIC-AP Goals

Theme I : Active Learning (AL)

1. To identify/categorize AL teaching strategies in use at MIC, and determine effective AL teaching practices
2. To create an AL program to improve English skills

Theme II : Visualization of Learning Outcomes

1. To develop a critical thinking assessment tool
2. To establish a PDCA learning cycle through rubric-based syllabi
3. To visualize learning outcomes through an e-Portfolio

AP Joint Symposium

On February 16, 2019 we hosted a Joint AP Symposium with Kansai University of International Studies, which is also engaged in an AP project based on Themes I and II. Commencing with opening remarks by Mr. Hiroki Hirano from MEXT, the theme of the symposium was "how to develop and visualize the abilities required by society". Reiko Kosugi from the Japan Institute for Labor Policy and Training gave the keynote speech under the title of "Assessing Companies and Universities--Considering the Common Points". 108 people, including the participants from host colleges, were in attendance.



Naoki Nishimura, Assistant to the President of MIC, introduced our AP project and participated in the panel discussion. He introduced the MIC educational system, which has focused on global education since its inception, and explained how the AP project further advances this. The symposium was closed with a greeting from President Keiko Yamashita of MIC.

Snapshots of Our Activities

FD for All Faculty

Recent efforts in the AP project were explained in an all-faculty FD session. This opportunity promoted understanding of our previous results and future plans. Faculty were called on to continue to contribute to successful completion of the project



The English skills page

Various pages, such as 1st year and 2nd year pages, have been incorporated into our e-Portfolio repertoire. This year we added an English skills page. By referring to this page to assess their own English skills and setting goals, students can be encouraged to study independently.

Conference & AP Symposium

As in past years, we continue to actively externally publicize our results in this project, presenting our efforts toward the AP project at conferences and an AP Symposium and promoting interaction with researchers and educators, gaining valuable wisdom.





Introducing the AP Student Group for AL Improvement

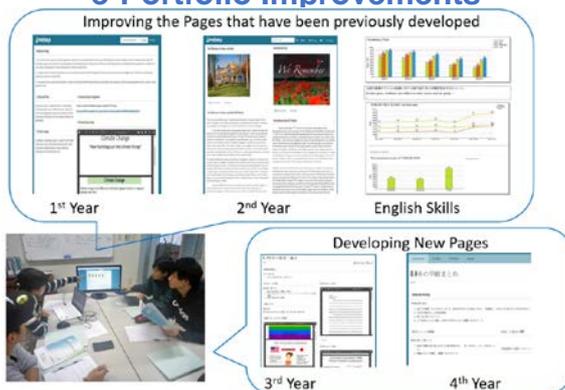
Our AP project aims to "promote effective autonomous student learning through new efforts such as visualizing learning outcomes via an e-portfolio promoting further development of AL in courses". However, no matter how much we improve our educational contents and systems, we cannot achieve significant educational outcomes unless our students properly understand these goals and utilize the education we provide. To this end, we established an "AP Student Group" which considers measures to effectively make students receptive to the efforts in this project. The student group investigates means of promoting autonomous student learning and created a booklet explaining effective methods for taking active learning courses. Furthermore, they investigated e-portfolio usage from student perspectives and presented ideas for improvements. They also provided support for an e-portfolio orientation of underclassmen and presented a poster at the Joint AP Symposium. In this way, student participation in educational reform will become more active going forward. The student group will make further efforts in the future to increase educational outcomes, making students more successful as working members of society.

Poster Presentation @ Joint Symposium



The student group presented a poster on how to realize autonomous learning from student perspectives.

e-Portfolio Improvements



The student group discussed and presented ideas for e-Portfolio improvements and developed 3rd year and 4th year pages.

Support for Freshmen

@ ePortfolio Orientation for Freshmen



The student group provided support to freshmen during an e-Portfolio orientation.

Support for Freshmen



Booklet on How to Engage in AL courses



- Contents
- AL teaching activities
 - Target English skills
 - Learning Outcomes
 - AL procedures & Strategies



The student group compiled a booklet of effective methods of engagement in AL courses. New and existing students can refer to this booklet in their efforts toward autonomous learning.

2018 AP Major Activities

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| April | DP Rubric Self-Assessment for Freshmen |
| April | FD session for all faculty |
| April | E-portfolio Orientation |
| April | Critical Thinking Test Implementation |
| June | FD session on how to develop CT through AL |
| July | FD session on DP rubric |
| September | Participation in AP Training Camp |
| October | Presentation at the Asian Conference on Education |
| December | Poster Presentation at the Kōchi University AP symposium |
| February | Hosting Joint AP Symposium with Kansai University of International Studies |
| March | 2018 External Evaluation Committee |

2019 AP Plan

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|---------------|---|
| April | DP Rubric Self-Assessment for Freshmen |
| April - March | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Thinking Test • E-portfolio Orientation • Presentations at AP symposiums hosted by other institutions and conferences relating to AP project |
| July | FD Session on AL |
| August | Adjustment of evaluation system from the results of the DP-Rubric |
| August | Collecting AL Activity Examples from Faculty |
| December | FD debriefing session to announce overall AP efforts and outcomes up to this point |
| January | Creating Compilation of AL Activities |
| February | AP Joint Symposium |
| March | Creation of the Final AP Project Report |