

BRIDGE CLUB INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

BCIO

BRIDGE CLUB INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

**29th APCC
PA Program Report**

July 14- 26, 2017



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Message from BCIO Head Office



I would like to express my best gratitude to all the 2017 PAs. Thanks to the initiatives of all of you, the 2017 PA program was successfully ended. In particular, I would like to thank the Head Office Members for organizing the program. Also I was glad to find that most of you were satisfied with the program according to your feedback although there still remains to be improved.

We had the Global BRIDGE Leader Training for 2 days with 50 Japanese High School Students, which gave them a meaningful opportunity to touch various values. A variety of issues were discussed in PA program and I am sure we are going forward to the next stage. We already have a global network that enable us to have leadership minds. Our next challenge is to raise and deepen them.

We are going to celebrate the 30th anniversary of APCC next year. The discussion about the celebration of the 30th anniversary during PA camp was quite important and productive. We are planning to have a big reunion of former participants on the 30th anniversary. Please be with us and let's work together to make this grand event an outstanding one.

I hope you enjoyed the stay in Fukuoka and want to ask your continuous support to BC activities. Also we hope you will connect with us and share the changes in your lives, as well.

Best regards
Shigeyasu Masuda
BCIO Managing Director

Message from BCIO Development Managers



Preparing for the 30th anniversary of APCC

The above is the unofficial main theme of the PA Program 2017. 2018, which also means the 20th anniversary of BRIDGE CLUB declaration, and the 10th anniversary of BCIO, will be a very special momentum for APCC and BCIO to step into further stage of development. Strategic direction and plans had been discussed under the theme “NEXT APCC” since the 25th anniversary in 2013. Thus, it is just a year to go to implement those plans.

Concerning the BCIO, the focus of development, made since 2013, was to improve the leadership quality, and to gather BCIO potentials in order to strengthen the organization. It has been initially implemented through establishment of BCIO Managers position in the structure, whose responsibilities are concerning strategic development. In the following year, improvement in the PA selection procedure, were implemented, resulting in the improvement of PA comprehensive understanding about their BC, year by year. In the 2nd BC Presidents Meeting in 2015, BRIDGE CLUB Professional Network was established to provide alternative channel for former JA to contribute to BCIO, as well as to gain opportunity and benefit from it.

This year, the development focused on the improvement of communication and coordination. Therefore, the sessions in the PA Camp were emphasized on the way of communication, especially between BCIO and BC. Communication platform, named Doors+, was introduced. Uniform presidential term and coordination system were agreed.

Above all of those, I am very grateful that all 2017 Peace Ambassadors showed promising quality to improve BC. There was no gap between PAs from different region, and they contributed amazing inputs to the discussions. Head Office Members, and APCC Volunteers did their job excellently. These made outcome of the PA Program were fruitful.

Finally, my highest appreciation is addressed to the APCC Directors and Coordinators, as well as to the BCIO Directors and Senior Advisor, for their sincere willing to listen to the proposed BCIO strategic plans. Moreover, they made instant decision to approve and to support the plan. Hope it will bring us to see BCIO significant growth in the near future.

We are the BRIDGE!

Arief Adinoto, BCIO Development Manager



You only get out what you put in!

Each year, an impressive group of staff and volunteers work tirelessly to deliver an amazing APCC and PA Program. We are all now lucky enough to have been a part of this, and I assure you it will be one of the best experiences of your life. The friendships you make, and the confidence you build from being a participant of this program will help you develop into global citizens who share the OMOIYARI Spirit.

After being a JA in 1990 and a PA in 2007, I helped the APCC develop by holding a range of positions. Unfortunately this year, I was unable to attend the event but I assure you I was watching from Australia and I hear that you were one of the most productive and proactive groups that have ever attended a PA program.

We have high expectations of you all and really hope you will go on to help develop this wonderful program both in your home BRIDGE CLUBs and alone on your journey as young global citizens. This program will only continue if you help to develop it.

Remember, the good times you had in Japan this year, work hard on your Common Activity, and encourage past APCC participants to join you at your BRIDGE CLUB events.

I have been back to Fukuoka 9 times now, and I look forward to celebrating the 30th APCC in Fukuoka with you on my 10th trip back next year.

Kindest regards,

Erin Maitland

BRIDGE CLUB Development Manager

Message from BCIO Head Office Members



Since I was a PA in 2014 I have been wanting to return to Fukuoka to give something back APCC and BCIO, and I am so glad I did. Someone told me at the end of PA camp that I should come back as a Head Office Member. I didn't believe I could, being a quiet and not very active member of my own BC, but I worked hard within my BC and now I've done it! I know everyone says it, but APCC has definitely changed my life. From JA to HOM, I have become more confident and grown as person and I cannot thank APCC enough for the continued opportunities.

Being a Head Office Member is an amazing experience, and to have the opportunity to meet all of this year's PAs was just fantastic. They were such a great group of people to work with, with great discussions and generation of ideas in all the sessions. It is fantastic to watch a group of people from so many countries meet each other for the first time and over the course of the week build such strong friendships. I know you will all want to meet each other again, and it is possible as this world is getting smaller, with more opportunity to communicate and travel. This bond is such an important aspect of BCIO and why, I believe, the PA camp is vital in maintaining active members across BCIO. I know you will all go back and be great leaders in your BCs and I would love to see some of you return as HOMs soon too. Don't forget you are Global BRIDGE Leaders now.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all BCIO Head Office Members, BCIO Administrations, and all the volunteers for making this PA camp possible. Let's continue to make APCC an amazing experience, increase and strength the network of BCIO and spread the OMOYARI spirit even wider.

We are the BRIDGE!

Sophie McCracken-Evans,
BCIO Head Office Member, 2017




PA program of this year was remarkable. This time PAs were very active and responsive. The GBL Training Camp was fantastic. PAs and Japanese students enjoyed the sessions together. Traditional Dance and Traditional Game sessions were very interesting. Group wise demonstrations of happiness and peace session was excellent. Race around the Arena was most enjoyable part of the PA camp.

PA program sessions completed successfully. Sessions were conducted by BCIO Head Office Members. All the sessions had group discussion and question answering part. PAs participated very actively in all the sessions. Group wise cultural performances and fashion show were amazing. It helped to know each other and make friendship. Overall the PA program was meaningful and successful.

Mohammed Abdullah Al Zahid
BCIO Head Office Member, 2017

2017 Peace Ambassadors

	<p>Name: Leonardo Nicholas Koomen</p> <p>Country/Region: Atlanta</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2010</p>
	<p>Name: Grace Erica Mulcahy</p> <p>Country: Australia</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2010</p>
	<p>Name: Rana Projjal Sarkar</p> <p>Country: Bangladesh</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2012</p>
	<p>Name: Dawa Penjor</p> <p>Country: Bhutan</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2001</p>
	<p>Name: Vetheasas You</p> <p>Country: Cambodia</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2011</p>
	<p>Name: Guan Zhuxin</p> <p>Country: China</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2002</p>
	<p>Name: Ava Leilani Williams</p> <p>Country: Hawaii</p> <p>Year as a JA : 2012</p>
	<p>Name: Pui Yi Antonia Heng</p> <p>Country: Hong Kong</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2009</p>
	<p>Name: Ritu Bhatia</p> <p>Country: India</p> <p>Year as a JA: 1989</p>



	<p>Name: Satwika Ary Saputra</p> <p>Country: Indonesia</p> <p>Year as a JA: 1998</p>
	<p>Name: Lee Jie Min</p> <p>Country: Ipoh</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2011</p>
	<p>Name: Momoka Fujita</p> <p>Country: Japan</p>
	<p>Name: Susuki Ikumi</p> <p>Country: Japan</p>
	<p>Name: Niuma Ahmed</p> <p>Country: Maldives</p> <p>Year as a JA: 1999</p>
	<p>Name: Shwe Yee Saung</p> <p>Country: Myanmar</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2005</p>
	<p>Name: Ruth Tholman Alik</p> <p>Country: Micronesia</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2011</p>
	<p>Name: Rubina Karki</p> <p>Country: Nepal</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2008</p>
	<p>Name: Fatima Tuz Zehra</p> <p>Country: Pakistan</p> <p>Year as a JA: 2008</p>

	Name: Raia Alexis Gallardo Country: Philippines Year as a JA: 2010
	Name: Uliana Prib Country: Russia Year as a JA: 2011
	Name: Sanuja Kalhan Edirisinghe Country: Sri Lanka Year as a JA: 2011
	Name: Mihimana Heimiri Chrissie Country: Tahiti Year as a JA: 2012
	Name: Tong Hsieh Country: Taiwan Year as a JA: 2005
	Name: Napong Leevutinun Country: Thailand Year as a JA: 2008
	Name: Meleane Lita Kaauvaha He`Ofa Hafoka Country: Tonga Year as a JA: 2002
	Name: Nguyen Thu Trang Country: Vietnam Year as a JA: 2009








2017 BCIO HO Member

	Name: Sophie Elizabeth McCracken-Evans Country: Australia Year as a JA: 2005
	Name: Mohammed Abdullah Al Zahid Country: Bangladesh Year as a JA: 1992


BCIO Development Manager

	Name: Arief Adinoto Country: Indonesia Year as a JA: 1989
	Name: Erin Kate Maitland Country: Australia Year as a JA: 1990

2017 BCIO Head Office Staff

	Name: Shigeyasu Masuda Managing Director, BCIO
	Name: Yoshiyuki Matsumura Asst. Managing Director, BCIO
	Name: Kosuke Takahashi Asst. Managing Director, BCIO
	Name: Kanae Kimoto BCIO/APCC Secretariat
	Name: Ai Kaijo BCIO/APCC Secretariat
	Name: Karuna Shrestha BCIO/APCC Secretariat
	Name: Kae Asari BCIO/APCC Secretariat

BCIO Senior Advisor

	Name: Hitoshi Iwamoto Senior Advisor, BCIO
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29th APCC Invitation Schedule

July	Day	JA & Chaperon	PA
14	Fri	Arrival → Marine House Camp	Arrival → Marine House Camp
15	Sat	Arrival → Marine House Camp	Arrival → Marine House Camp
16	Sun	Marine House Camp	Move to Global Arena → GBL Training Camp
17	Mon	Marine House Camp	GBL Training Camp Munakata Field Trip
18	Tue	Marine House Camp / <u>One day</u> School Visit* → PM / Meet Host Families	PA Camp
19	Wed	Homestay / Attend school	PA Camp
20	Thu	Homestay / Attend school	AM / PA Camp → PM / Meet Host Families → Homestay
21	Fri	Homestay / Attend school	Homestay
22	Sat	Homestay	Homestay
23	Sun	Performance Event (We are the BRIDGE Festival 2017)	
24	Mon	Homestay / Departure	Homestay / Departure
25	Tue	Homestay / Departure	Homestay / Departure
26	Wed	Homestay / Departure	Homestay / Departure

PA Program Schedule

Exchange Camp

Date	Time	Program	Venue
July 14, Friday		Arrival	MH
July 15, Saturday		Arrival	MH
	14:10-15:30	Orientation & rehearsal of PA JA exchange program	Common room 5
	15:30-17:00	Session on How to establish BC	Common room 5
	19:10-20:00	PAs-JAs exchange program	Play hall
July 16, Sunday	9:00	Move to Global Arena	MH

PA Camp

Date	Time	Program	Venue
July 16, Sunday	10:00	Arrive at Global Arena	Global arena
	10:30- 11:45	Orientation 'PA program'	Conference room
		BCIO management introduction session	
	12:00-12:45	Lunch	No side
	13:00 -17:00	GBL training camp, Day 1	Conference room
	17:00- 17:40	Room Check In	
	17:45	Gather at Lodge meeting room	Lodge G meeting
	18:00-18:45	Dinner	No side
	19:00-19:50	GBL training camp, Day 1 contd..	Conference room
19:50 ~	Free time		
July 17, Monday	8:00- 8:45	Breakfast	No side
	9:00 - 11:30	GBL training camp, Day 2	Gymnasium hall
	11:45-12:30	Lunch	No side
	12:45-15:00	GBL training camp, Day 2 closing	Gymnasium hall
	15:00-16:00	Free time	
	16:00 ~	Munakata field trip	
	18:00-18:45	Dinner	No side
	19:00 ~	Reflection of Munakata field trip	Gymnasium hall
20:30~	Free time		
July 18, Tuesday	8:00- 8:45	Breakfast	No side
	9:00- 11:45	Session on Maintain Strong BC by Sourav	Medium board room
	12:00- 12:45	Lunch	No side
	13:00-14:00	Session on 'Concept of PA development program' by Arief	Medium board room
	14:00-14:15	Break time	
	14:15-15:45	Session on Public Relation by Sophie	Medium board room
	15:45-17:15	Fashion show rehearsal	Medium board room
	17:15-18:45	Race around Arena	Medium board room
	19:00- 19:45	Dinner	No side
19:45 ~	Free time		

July 19, Wed	7:00- 7:45	Breakfast	No side
	9:00- 11:45	Common Activity Discussion session by Sophie	Medium board room
	12:00-12:45	Lunch	No side
	13:00- 14:30	Session on Funding by Sourav	Medium board room
	14:30- 15:00	Break	
	15:00 -16:00	Share information about Doors+	Medium board room
	16:00- 17:00	Share information about BC Professional Network by Arief	Medium board room
	17:00-17:45	Share information on the 30th APCC	Medium board room
	18:00-18:45	Dinner	No side
	19:00- 20:30	Activity time	Medium board room
	20:30 ~	Free time	
July 20, Thurs	8:00-8:45	Breakfast	
	8:45-10:00	Room clean and check out	
	10:30- 11:45	Common Activity Announcement by Sophie	Medium board room
	12:00-12:45	Lunch	No side
	13:00-15:00	PA program Summary, Closing by Sourav & Sophie	Medium board room
	15:30	Leave Global Arena	

	Time	Program	Venue
July 20, Thurs	16:30	Arrive at HF-Meeting Place	Airef
	17:00-17:30	Meeting with HF	Airef, 10th floor
		Homestay	
July 21, Fri		Homestay	
July 22, Sat	10:30- 14:00	BCJ program *Optional	Airef , 9th floor
July 23, Sun		We are the BRIDGE Festival 2017	Fukuoka Kyudenkinen Gyamnadium
July 24, Mon		Homestay	
July 25, Tue		Homestay/Departure	
July 26, Wed		Departure	

Session on How to establish BRIDGE CLUB

This year, we have a PA from a non-established BRIDGE CLUB country, Micronesia. To help her understand what to do to establish BRIDGE CLUB, we arrange a session in the Marine House on July 14th 2017.

Arief, the BCIO Development Manager, delivered the session. He replaced Mohamad Al Zahid Sourav, the BCIO Head Office Member in charge of establishment and maintaining BC, who had not arrived to Fukuoka yet..

Though the session was designed especially for Micronesia, all PAs were involved. First, Arief explained about BC mission, and why it is important to establish BC in every APCC participating country. The session was followed by technical guideline to establish BC in Micronesia.

In the final part of the session, the Micronesian PA, Ruth Alik shared information about the situation and challenges of establishing a BC in Micronesia. Every PA then shared stories about how their BC was established, giving alternative solutions to help motivate her. The session was closed by Ruth's statement about how she was dedicated to establish a BC Micronesia.

We hope we will soon welcome the BC Micronesia.

PAs-JAs Exchange Program

The PA-JA exchange program was a great chance for both JAs and PAs to interact with each other. The program started with a self-introduction by the PAs. The program became more excited after a warm up dance on "Hokie pokie" where PAs joined with JAs and made a big circle to dance together. After that there was an activity to familiarize JAs with other country's language/culture. JAs were given colorful marker pens and papers to write down greetings by using own language to learn other countries greetings/language. The program ended with a group photo.



Orientation of PA program

The PAs orientation session was held before the PA camp started. BCIO Director warmly welcomed all the participants. After that PAs & BCIO HO members introduced themselves. The PA program schedule was then discussed.

Global BRIDGE Leaders Training Camp

A Global BRIDGE Leader is defined as a global human resources fostered by APCC, following the BRIDGE Leader nurturing guideline. There are 3 core qualities a Global BRIDGE Leader must develop: Communication, Action, and Respect, abbreviated as CARE.

GBL Training has been held every year since the 25th Anniversary of APCC in 2013. It has always been challenging to design a 2-day training for a wide range of participants' background. Averagely 30 Peace Ambassadors from different country, and 50 Japanese high school students, participates every year. Ranging from 16 years old up to 40 years old participant, with lack of English skill for some students, is the greatest challenge to deliver the training and to achieve the objectives.

However, the wide variety of participants' cultural background is a great advantage to understand global citizenship. Therefore, the training was designed to use minimum verbal communication, and to utilize the variety of background to understand the differences, as well as their commonalities at a time.

The current design of the training has been used since 2015.
Please also read about this GBL Training at:

[27th APCC PA Program Report](#)

[28th APCC PA Program Report](#)

There are 2 parts which are divided into 5 activities, as follows:

Part 1: Differences and Commonalities Among Culture

The objective of Part 1 is to let participants see and experience the differences of culture from one to another, however, they are guided to feel and understand the things in common among those differences.



Activity 1: Traditional Games

In this activity, every PA taught one of their traditional games to the group and played it together.

Activity 2: Traditional Dances

In this activity, every PA taught their traditional dance to their group. The group then had to perform one of traditional dance in front of all participants.

Activity 3: Common Game

The game was played during and after dinner. The objective of the game was to find unique things in common, within the group.



Conclusion of Part 1:

It was the first time for most of participants to try other culture's traditional games and dances. However, in those differences, they felt and concluded some things in common as follows:

1. It does not matter how different their backgrounds are, they could communicate without much spoken language, and they all felt happy to do the activities.
2. No matter who or where they were from, they had to work as a team to do the activities, and they all had the will to do so.
3. All traditional games and dances reflected some values, and those values are upheld in every culture.
4. It is not the language which connects them, but the heart.

Part 2: Human Universalities

Objective: After participants learnt about others cultures they could understand more about what they had in common with each other. Therefore it is not common, it is universal.

Activity 4: What You Want Most in Life

Each participant was initially asked to write down one thing they want most in their life, and then share it to their group. After watching the reference video, they were asked to think about it once more, and to write it down again if it were changed. Then they shared to the group why they changed it. After the video and little explanation from the trainer, most of participants changed the thing they want most to "happiness".



Activity 5: Role Play

Participants were put into groups and role played how they could achieve "the thing they want most in life" by implementing GBL core qualities, "Communication, Action, Respect". Their role play performances were the final activity of the training.

Conclusion of Part 2:

1. Every human has a universal hope in their life, it is "happiness".
2. Despite any differences, every person can communicate with others without the barrier of language, because, by understanding the common hope, we understand the most important tool to communicate is an open heart.
3. Every person with an open heart will have instinct to take action to make their life meaningful to others, by bringing others happiness.
4. Every person whose heart open, and who take action to bring happiness to others, must have respect for others, and those qualities builds others' respect towards him/her.
5. Anybody can start to take action to achieve happiness in life, by starting to bring happiness to others now, no matter in what position, situation, and condition, they are now in.



Field trip with Munakata city students

PAs had a fantastic time at Munakata Shrine, with the guidance of local students. It was a great experience for both PAs and local students to share time together, comparing cultures and learning about Japanese history. PAs were shown how to wash their hands before entering the shrine, how to pray in Japanese style and were taught about lucky charms from the shrine. We were excited to learn that Munakata Shrine had recently been made a UNESCO world heritage site, making the visit that bit more special. While enjoying the history and beautiful scenery of the shrine, it was a great opportunity to make friends with Japanese locals.



Session on Maintain Strong BRIDGE CLUB

The session started with a presentation from Head Office member. This informed participants of ideas on how we can maintain strong BC. After that PAs from Myanmar and Pakistan shared their short presentations which included how they run their BC, what activities they do every year and how they motivate members to keep their BCs strong. PAs were then divided into groups and had a discussion on how to motivate their members and the problems they had in running their own BC, with the assistance of the HOMs. Finally PAs were agreed to follow these activities:

1. Sharing experience of 29th APCC: Participants of 29th APCC will share their experiences to BC members and encourage them. Start planning for Next APCC and inspire PA candidates for this special occasion.
2. Focus on communication: BC executive committee members will focus on communication with BC members, both active and inactive. They will inform them about the present situation and grand celebration of APCC next year.
3. Activity plan: Activity plan for next one year will be planned by EC members of BC and inform about year plan to all the members.
4. Carry out Common Activity: Organize a meeting to carry out common activity.
5. Annual General Meeting: Holding the AGM in a place that all the members can participate. It will help a lot to maintain the clubs. This will be held with the participation of all the members, the liaison officer and other officials (such as chaperons, government officials etc.).



6. JA, PA Orientation and Training Program: Orientation and Training Program should be conducted jointly by Liaison Office and BC.
7. Reunion or Get-together: It will help to maintain strong relationship.
8. Publish Newsletter or Magazine.
9. Monthly regular meeting.

Session on Concept of PA Development Program

In this session this year, the focus was broadened not only developing the quality of PA, but developing the BRIDGE CLUB. There were 2 main topics discussed, they are:

1. Improving communication between BCIO and BC

The BCIO Development Managers had created PA Work Groups in the 27th APCC in 2015, and BRIDGE CLUB Work Groups (BCWG) during the 2nd BRIDGE CLUB Presidents Meeting in Indonesia, in 2015. The purpose of PAWG and BCWG are to encourage inter-BC communication and collaboration. (Please read The 27th APCC PA Program Report at http://www.bcio.org/official_documents/ for details)

Further in the BC Presidents Meeting 2015, new position in the BCIO Structure was established. The position is called Mentor, with responsibility to lead and supervise the BCWG. There are 5 Mentors, each of them leads a BCWG, who were appointed from former BCIO Head Office Members.



To improve communication between BCIO and BC the name of position of Mentor was proposed to change into Coordinator. The difference of Coordinator from Mentor was that Coordinator will be selected from former Head Office Members and/or former and current BC Presidents who apply for the position.

The 2017 PAs were then divided into 5 groups to have group discussion about other ideas to improve communication between BCIO and BC. Some brilliant ideas came up, like implementing reward and punishment for BC President who had not responded to BCIO communication. Other suggested to have regular online meeting, and to use mobile application as a support for meeting tools and reminder. All of those ideas were recorded, and they would be valuable inputs to improve communication within the network.

2. Getting feedback about uniform BC Presidential Term to 2 years

Welcoming the 30th Anniversary of APCC, during which, the 3rd BC Presidents Meeting will also be held, the BCIO Development Managers proposed to uniform the Presidential Term for all BC into 2 years. The new BC Presidents will then be inaugurated by BCIO in every BC Presidents Meeting.

In their group, PAs discussed about how their BC could adopt the policy. Some BCs have rule to let PA become BC President after returning from APCC. Therefore they have to change their rule to follow BCIO policy. Whilst, other PAs concerned about their BC situation which will likely have some difficulties to have new President every 2 years, due to lacking of active members.

In the conclusion, all PAs are positive about the uniform Presidential Term with some flexibility to follow the policy, like no limitation for a President to be re-elected, or to resign and to be replaced in the middle of the term, if he/she had more priority to do, like studying abroad, etc.

Session on Public Relation

We were so impressed by the ideas generated in this discussion and the presentations given by PAs. With a unanimous agreement, we decided it was time to update the graphics for individual BCs and BCIO/APCC. With the 30th anniversary coming up next year it is important to show we are a modern organization. This should also help with expanding our audience for spreading OMOYARI spirit and the purpose of APCC. We also decided there is a need to expand our use of social media platforms; still using Facebook as our main communication tool, but expanding to Instagram and other messaging tools.



Another idea, generated from the action plan, was to share the PR jobs between more members. This is hoped to provide members with active roles and keep them motivated to do their job, while sharing the responsibility between many people so there is a fair spread of work.

Peace Ambassadors were reminded how to upload activity reports on the BCIO website and agreed on this year's action plan. It was a very successful session thanks to the PAs' great ideas and discussions.

Race around Arena

Race around the arena is a fun activity held every year at PA camp to strengthen friendships and give the PAs a break from workshops. This year there were 5 activities to complete within a time frame; Categories (listing words starting with each letter of the alphabet, within a given category), charades, filling a bucket with as much water as possible using only a tiny sponge, making the longest paper chain and a fashion relay using a collection of clothing from all around the world. The PAs all came back laughing and talking excitedly, making fun memories together to help build their relationships.

Session on Common Activity

The sessions started with a brief history and background on what the common activity is all about. Most PAs already understood this so we moved quickly onto ideas for this year's CA, settling on an environmental themed activity early in the discussion. PAs discussed ideas in small groups which were then shared with everyone. We then watched an example video, HOMs idea for this year's activity, and this idea was readily considered as well. With so many ideas we had to shorten the list and agree on the top three ideas, however even this was difficult. In the end, we agreed on a mixture of a few of these ideas and came up with, what I believe, will be a very successful CA. Due to the enormous number of ideas, we would like to propose a few more activities, which are optional for BCs, but can be used as activity ideas within and between BCs. These will be organized by groups of PAs throughout the year. This was such a great session, with so many questions asked about small details which really helped to settle the final idea for the 2017 CA.



Session on Funding

It was very important session. Through a power point presentation BCIO HOM tried to discuss about funding. Two PAs shared their presentations also. We discussed about why we need fund, some ways for raising fund, Action plan for raising fund etc. There was a group wise discussion for half an hour on BC funding. We had a question and answering part. We have decided to take following action: Finalize activity timeline and subsequently estimate expenditure (using budget plan), collect membership fees, organize some fundraising events, approach potential sponsors and prepare financial report.



Session on BRIDGE CLUB Professional Network

BRIDGE CLUB Professional Network (BCPN) is a subsidiary group of BCIO, aimed to be a network for senior former JAs to strengthen the friendship and the network. It is established during the 2nd BRIDGE CLUB President Meeting in Indonesia, 2015. Since the establishment, BCPN is promoting their program to all BRIDGE CLUBs, especially to the PAs, in the PA Camp.



In the PA Camp last year, BCPN was introduced to the PAs. This year, BCPN is introducing its program, the BCPN Internship; and all PAs were involved to share their opinion and ideas about the program.

BCPN Internship Program

The concept of BCPN Internship Program is simply inviting BCPN members to provide internship opportunity in the company they own or work at, to the higher education students of BC members.

Basic Rules for the internship program are:

1. Both the interns and the employers must be BC members (former JA).
2. Internship can be organized for BC member from the same country or for BC member of other countries.
3. The employer does not need to pay salary to the intern, but they have to provide accommodation during the internship (home stay or other accommodation).
4. The term of internship is flexible according to the length of the visa the intern could attain.
5. The intern must have completed or be enrolled in higher education (university/college).
6. All the employer and the intern must register to the BCPN first.
7. Both the employer and the intern are required to report their experience to BCPN Management the internship.

Internship Program Management

Every BC will involve in running the internship program. They will be given the responsibility to do the promotion of the program to seek for intern applicants and employers from their BC members, as well as to do the screening. Afterwards, BC sends the candidates to the BCPN Internship Management to do the matching. There will be 2 periods of matching every year, and all application must be submitted before a certain date in every period.



PA Discussion

PAs had group discussion about how their BRIDGE CLUB would run the program, and about the obstacles and challenges they might face.

In summary, most PAs were eager to get the chance to experience the internship. They also thought it is not too hard to run the program.

Information sharing on the 30th APCC

Information on the 30th APCC was shared with PAs by BCIO managing director. PAs were very much interested to hear the plans of 30th anniversary celebration.

Summary of Action Plans

PAs discussed and finalized Action Plans for the year 2017-2018. They promised to implement mentioned activities in their BCs and help to develop their BCs using the BCIO network.

[Action Plans for 2017-2018](#)

PAs meeting with Host Families

Homestay is one of the most awaited programs for all the PAs. After completing PA camp all the PAs met with their host families and had home stay from July 20 till their departure day. They seemed very happy to see their host families. Most of them stayed with the same family when they came as JAs.



BCIO Booth

PAs took the stage at the APCC Festival this year and showed off their traditional dress while striking a pose or two during the PA Fashion Show. Loud applause from the audience welcomed each PA as they walked on stage and then they individually walked to the front of the stage and presented their traditional clothes. The diversity of dresses on stage really encapsulated the spirit of APCC as the world literally came together and the smiles of the PAs and the audience were heartwarming.



Another exciting aspect of the APCC Festival was the BCIO booth where PAs taught their country's traditional game to the visitors and played with them. PAs also gave a souvenir they brought from their countries, to the visitors who played game with them. PAs were responsible for taking care of the BCIO booth and invited kids and adults to come and play while also helping them with the games and giving prizes to them.

