Lesson video shooting in junior high school processed and NHK came for news coverage

The video-shooting at Tokyo Gakugei affiliated junior high school started in June, and all of the lessons including: art, social studies, physical education, music, moral education, Japanese language, health education, technology, science, and home economics (in the recorded order) have been filmed until this October. The recorded classroom practices are going to be analyzed, edited, and shared with the OECD so that they can be utilized for lesson planning and teaching correspond to the new era.

On September 29, NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyoukai; Japan Broadcasting Corporation) came for news coverage on classroom practices at a Tokyo Gakugei affiliated school and video shooting by NGE. A science class about “many materials and their properties” of 1st graders at Setagaya junior high school (by Mr. Taiki Takada) was covered. A professor of TGU was also interviewed.

Department 2’s progress of the development of the self-evaluation system

Department 2 of NGE, the research group that is developing the way of fostering and evaluating competencies through “the period for integrated studies,” is creating the question items to measure pupils’ self-evaluating abilities, as well as rubrics for teachers to improve their classroom practices.

First, 22 teachers of Oizumi affiliated elementary school answered five aspects that they thought were important when making pupils reflect on their learning. Three university teachers and two researchers grouped the answers using KJ methods. As the result of the analysis, what teachers thought were important when pupils reflect what they have learned, were arranged into the framework of the following four perspectives: (re-)arrangement of the goal (plan), confirmation of the understandings (do), comparison between ones’ ideas with others’ (check), change into thought (action); and the three parts of the grades: lower, middle, and upper grades. Subsequently, the self-evaluation rubrics based on the fundamental principle of pupils’ reflection in the PYP framework were created. These outcomes were relayed back at the workshop in Oizumi elementary school and reported at various academic conferences.
Translation by NGE members published

On September 20, a book entitled “Four-Dimensional Education: The Competencies Learners Need to Succeed (Japanese translation: Four-Dimensions of Learners and Education in 21st Century: Knowledge, Skills, Humanity and Meta-learning)” was published by Kitaohji Shobo Publishing (ISBN: 978-4-7628-2944-4). The book was translated by NGE members (edited and translated by Associate Professor Takahiro Sekiguchi [Educational Psychology] and Associate Professor Taisuke Hosokawa (Japanese Language Education)). The original authors are Charles Fadel, Maya Bialik and Bernie Trilling. Mr. Fadel is a researcher who is taking the leading part in constructing and proposing 21st century skills, and is the external evaluator of this project. This book precisely explains the concepts of four dimensions: knowledge, skills, character, and meta-learning. It is best-suited to understand the ideas of OECD’s next competencies, the direction of the new Course of Study by MEXT, and the attempts of this project.

Gave a report about the research by NGE at the symposium in JASEA

On August 27, the 25th convention of Japanese Association for the Study of Extraclass Activities (JASEA) was held at Tokyo Gakugei University (Executive Committee Chairperson: Associate Professor Masami Hayashi [School Education], a member of this organization). The theme of the convention was “Creating Lessons for Special Activities that Provide a Basis for Fostering 21st Century Competency.” At the symposium, the project leader Manabu Kishi gave a report on the subject of “The attempts to foster the 21st century competencies.” In the report, the collected data related to special activities, the attempts of the organization, and current outcomes were introduced. There were several questions about the possibilities of fostering skills and attitudes/values through the lessons and so forth.

Gave a presentation about NGE’s endeavor at the briefing session of ISN

From August 11 to 12, the fourth conference on teacher training sponsored by Japan Innovative Schools Network (ISN) was held at National Olympics Memorial Youth Center. Lecturer Kentaro Tsukamoto, Research Associate Yoshimitsu Miyazawa and Research Associate Guixin Zhang participated from NGE, and reported the attempts of our project. For example, the 21st century teaching model (currently under development), and the movie distribution system for pre-/in-service teacher training. Through the participation in the sessions, making activity reports, sharing dialogues on advanced cases, panel discussion with participants from the OECD, and the research conference in the seminar, we were able to promote our research and deepen our cooperation with many participants including ISN official clusters.

NGE symposium will be held in next March

“Research Organization for Next-Generation Education (NGE) Symposium” will be held from 13:00 to 17:00 on March 11, 2017, at Tokyo International Forum (Yurakucho). Lectures by the Special Adviser to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Kan Suzuki (a Professor at Tokyo University, the chairperson of ISN; estimated) will be given. An OECD party in charge of Education 2030 will join the adviser, and the meantime report about the outcome of the activities at the organization will be presented. A discussion about the reported contents by a designated debater is also scheduled. The admission to the symposium is free. You will be able to apply to the symposium on our website (which is currently under construction). We look forward to your participation.

The Convention of Japan Association of Universities of Education

Date: October 15 (Sat.) Host: Toyama University
NGE gave three presentations.

OECD Informal Working Group Meeting

Date: November 9 (Sat.), 10(Sun.) Venue: Beijing
Host: OECD
The presentation about NGE attempts is going to be given.

CRET/Benesse Symposium 2016: The henceforth way of Japanese education: In anticipation of post 2030

Date: December 15 (Thurs.)
Venue: Fukutake Hall (In Hongo Campus, Tokyo University)
Host: Benesse
The results of the PISA 2015 and the perspective of the PISA 2018 will be discussed.
The project leader Manabu Kishi is going to introduce the relationship with NGE.

Research Organization for Next-Generation Education (NGE) Symposium

Date: March 11 (Sat.)
Venue: Tokyo International Forum (Yurakucho)