

The Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW),
Shukutoku University

Welcoming a Delegation from the National University of Mongolia.

An eight-member delegation from the National University of Mongolia (NUM) visited Shukutoku University on the 15th of June. Based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the NUM and the ARIISW in September 2018, for the purpose of promoting research cooperation and exchange, we explored further cooperation at the university level.

We welcomed the NUM delegation at the Daigan-ji temple (Photo), with a welcome speech from Ven Masatoshi Hasegawa, Head Advisor of the ARIISW and greetings from President Koji Yamaguchi and Vice-President Mina Yonemura of Shukutoku University. In the morning, the Graduate School of Integrated Human and Social Welfare Studies organised an observation tour of the Shukutoku Centre for Clinical Psychology (Assoc. Prof Mieko Ikehata) and a lecture on welfare for the aged (Vice-President Akio Shimoyama).

Then, a lecture on the emergence and development of social work education in Mongolia was given by Dr Chultemsuren Tamir, Vice-Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, who headed the delegation. Graduate students from Shukutoku University also attended the lecture and showed great interest.

In the afternoon, the ARIISW and NUM held a meeting. After a welcome speech by Prof Noriko Totsuka, ARIISW's Director, researchers introduced an overview of the ARIISW and its activities, including studies on Buddhist social work and international social work. In addition, the ARIISW introduced 'A Profile of the Japanese Association for Social Work Education (JASWE)' prepared by the association's secretariat.

Moreover, the NUM delegation introduced us to "Open Mind Mongolia 2023"¹ (theme: exploring innovative solutions for contemporary social challenges), which will be held on 28 September in Ulaanbaatar. Some other agenda, such as the invitation to the above event for a delegation from Shukutoku and a joint session, were proposed and discussed.

Finally, the NUM delegation expressed their thanks, saying that the visit had been extremely fruitful, and reassuring as to the possibility of developing future exchanges based on our firm relationship. We are excited about being able to have a joint session in September in the short-term, and the further development of joint initiatives in the future. Finally, we would like to thank everybody for their help and cooperation, in particular the JASWE's secretariat, in hosting the delegation.



◆ News from the ARIISW can be found on the following website.

<https://www.shukutoku.ac.jp/en/about/facilities/asiancenter.html>

¹ <https://dep.num.edu.mn/sna/conference/?fbclid=IwAR1eDQ-jE2rx9JxVRzYVGrImeluethi7cwY08cO3VIWHFaXMivzllRAG6I>