

Contract of Exchange Agreement with Institut Seni Indonesia Denpasar (ISI Denpasar)

On April 14, 2016, the president of Okinawa Prefectural University of the Arts (OPUA), Mr. Yasuharu Higa, along with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Crafts Mr. Hideki Hirayama, and Professor Okishige Maeshiro of the Department of Arts and Crafts dyeing and weaving section, went to ISI Denpasar in Bali, Indonesia to sign an exchange agreement between the two universities. They signed on the following:

1. Memorandum of Agreement between ISI Denpasar and OPUA
2. Memorandum of Agreement between the Faculty of Visual Arts and Design at ISI Denpasar and the Faculty of Arts and Crafts at OPUA
3. Memorandum of Agreement between the Faculty of Performing Arts at ISI Denpasar and the Faculty of Music at OPUA
4. Student Exchange Memorandum of Understanding between OPUA and ISI Denpasar.

Background of the Exchange Relationship

The arts and academic exchange relationship between ISI Denpasar and OPUA first started in March 2012. The relationship progressed further in October 2015 when ISI Denpasar's president, faculty, and 20 students visited OPUA. During their visit to OPUA, musical exchanges such as Bali's traditional Gamelan performance, as well as traditional Indonesian Arts and Crafts exhibits were held. In doing so, both universities were able to deepen and broaden their artistic, musical, academic, and other various exchanges. With many months of preparation, this visit to ISI Denpasar became a reality.

Comments from President Higa

"I am very proud of this sister-school exchange agreement with ISI Denpasar, and I believe that it will produce many educational outcomes. ISI Denpasar has willingly accepted our students who wished to study at ISI Denpasar even since before our exchange relationship started in 2012. Those students who went to ISI Denpasar from OPUA have since become instructors and researchers at OPUA, and have played an important part as a bridge between Okinawa and Bali as gamelan performers and researchers. They have also become the leaders for our university's gamelan club.

I hope that this exchange agreement will help to deepen our relationship with ISI Denpasar through understanding our common points in culture and uniqueness. Furthermore I hope it will connect to creating educational developments in arts education for both of our universities. I would like to show my appreciation to President Sugiarta, and to the faculty and students who warmly welcomed us on our visit to Denpasar. "

Pictures (provided by ISI Denpasar)

1. President Sugiarta and President Higa upon signing the agreement. On the day of signing, President Sugiarta and President Higa performed in a gamelan-sanshin session.



2. Dean Ni Made Rinu of the Faculty of Visual Arts and Design and Dean Hirayama of the Faculty of Arts and Crafts



3. Dean I Wayan Suharta of the Faculty of Performing Arts and Professor Maeshiro.



4. Banner at ISI Denpasar welcoming the OPUA delegation.



5. The contract signing ceremony was broadcasted on local television in Bali.



List of OPUA Sister-Exchange Universities Overseas

• China Conservatory (CHINA)	November 29, 1994
• Fujian Normal University (CHINA)	September 20, 1995
• Academy of Fine Arts Munich (GERMANY)	April 1, 1995
• University of the Arts Bremen (GERMANY)	May 1, 1995
• “Claudio Monteverdi” Conservatory (ITALY)	December 25, 2008
• University of Milano-Bicocca (ITALY)	March 22, 2011
• Faculty of Fine Arts Chiang Mai University (THAILAND)	November 25, 2011
• Taipei National University of the Arts (TAIWAN)	May 6, 2011
• Institut Seni Indonesia Denpasar (INDONESIA)	March 13, 2012