

**Abstract**

The EU has placed a high priority on regional double degree programs, and European alliances like T.I.M.E.<sup>1</sup> and CEMS<sup>2</sup> are creating strategic multilateral double degree networks that provide students at member institutions with a staggering selection of international opportunities in many fields. What are the implications for the Pacific Rim region and for APRU?

In 2005, Keio's Graduate School of Science and Technology and the French Intergruppe des Ecoles Centrale (EC) established the Keio-EC Double Degree Master's Program to foster top international engineers. The graduation of its first class in September of 2007 provides a good opportunity to explore why the program has been so successful and whether this approach might serve as a model for double degree schemes among APRU members. Professor Shinnosuke Obi, Director of Keio's International Center and a professor of mechanical engineering, will outline the structure and process for designing the program and suggest that while formidable obstacles can exist, such as differing educational systems, language and quality assurance, a well thought out plan, a committed team, and institutional endorsement can overcome them.

*By Keio University*

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<sup>1</sup> Top Industrial Managers for Europe (<https://www.time-association.org/>)

<sup>2</sup> Community of European Management Schools and International Companies (<http://www.cems.org>)