

The 162nd International Senior Seminar
“Multi-agency Cooperation in Community-based Treatment of Offenders”

1. Duration and Participants

- From 13 January to 12 February 2016
- Fifteen overseas participants from ten countries (including one course counsellor)
- Six domestic participants

2. Programme Overview

The aim of this seminar was to share information and experiences of multi-agency cooperation in the field of community-based offender rehabilitation. In particular, multi-agency cooperation was considered in the context of core rehabilitative measures, emphasizing employment and housing assistance for released offenders.

Reintegration is important because many criminals face the problem of isolation from their families and communities. Recent studies explain that factors such as unemployment and homelessness invite recidivism. Therefore, securing jobs and homes are crucial to enhancing each offender’s self-reliance, as well as to reducing recidivism.

Offenders require not only supervision by probation officers but also pre-release treatment and support for their rehabilitation during incarceration. Moreover, the understanding of the community members is also important to reintegrate offenders into society. Thus, to prevent recidivism effectively, agencies and organizations related to offender rehabilitation should supervise and support offenders seamlessly and collaboratively until offenders reintegrate into the community.

To maintain effective multi-agency cooperation for offender rehabilitation, each agency must engage in well-organized partnership on a consistent basis. However, while there can be no doubt that multi-agency cooperation is important in the prevention of recidivism, there remain several problems in practice. For example, these problems include locus of responsibility, leadership struggles, and lack of information sharing as a result of sectionalism.

3. Lectures

The following visiting experts from overseas and ad hoc lecturers from Japan, as well as professors of UNAFEI, gave lectures:

- Visiting Experts
 - Mr. Robert Canton

Professor in Community and Criminal Justice

De Montfort University, England

- Ms. Diane Williams
President Emeritus
The Safer Foundation
United States of America

○ Ad hoc Lecturers

- Mr. Tetsuya Fujimoto
Professor
Department of Victimology, Tokiwa University
Professor Emeritus, Chuo University
- Ms. Chizuko Takizawa
Rehabilitation Coordinator
Rehabilitation Bureau, the Ministry of Justice
- Mr. Tadashi Moriyama
Professor
Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Takushoku University
- Ms. Kayo Konagai
Professor
Department of Social Development, Rikkyo University
- Mr. Takeshi Izumaru
Director, Nagasaki Prefecture Community Settlement Support Centre