

PREFACE

The University of the Air and National Institute of Multimedia Education jointly sponsored the second international symposium on university distance education from October 19th through 20th, 1989, at the auditorium of the Institute. In view of the fact that university distance education has been making a great progress in past two decades, coupled with tremendous innovation in telecommunication, the exchange of ideas among administrators, educators, and researchers representing various organizations and nations was most appropriate and productive. In Asia and the Pacific region in particular, many countries are now making extraordinary efforts to inaugurate new open universities utilizing, more or less, telecommunication technologies. In order to make university instructions accessible to the masses of people, new educational policy with deliberate funding are necessary. But at the same time, inventiveness and enthusiasm of media practitioners and educators are essential. In this respect, this symposium reminded all the participants that international dialogue and cooperation were urgently needed. On behalf of host institution, we must send my deepest gratitude to all the participants who contributed such wonderful presentations and a series of discussions. We believe that this was another step forward to encourage university distance education throughout the world and to promote closer and better international network so that we can achieve promising future in this new venture.

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