On Tuesday, March 12 and Wednesday, March 13, the “Data Workshop Osaka–Groningen” was held at Osaka University together with the University of Groningen, one of OU’s Global Knowledge Partners. Ten individuals were in attendance from Osaka University, including Executive Vice President YAGI Yasushi, Executive Vice President KAWAHARA Genta, and Cybermedia Center Director SHIMOJO Shinji, while 8 individuals were in attendance from the University of Groningen, including Director of the Center for Information Technology Ronald Stolk and Dean of Faculty Campus Fryslân Andrej Zwitter.

The focus of this workshop was the information sector. On day 1 of the event, a plenary session was held to introduce the education and research trends at each of the two university: Initiative for Life Design Innovation at OU and an interdisciplinary school and graduate schools on the University of Groningen’s Campus Fryslân, which were newly established to coop with global issues.

Day 1 also saw 3 more sessions (Infrastructure, Legal, and Smart Campus) for planning specific collaborative research projects and for intensive research presentations and discussions. On day 2, programs in the field of information science were introduced and concrete discussions were held concerning further invigoration of interaction between students.

This workshop further deepened the friendship between the two schools and served as an important foundation for the strengthening of substantial collaboration. Further academic exchange between these two schools is anticipated in the future.