



# Positive Deviance approach to global health

DATE: December 10, 2014

VENUE:

The main conference room  
(124) at NEKKEN

LECTURER:

Dr. Arvind Singhal,  
Professor of Communication at  
the University of Texas

PARTICIPANTS:

Total of 25 participants  
NEKKEN staffs and students of  
PhD, MPH, and MTM



The Leading Program Student Committee organized a special seminar entitled, “Positive Deviance (PD) Approach to Global Health” on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014. The seminar attracted several graduate students and teachers from both Nagasaki University and Kumamoto University. Prof. Arvind Singhal, a Professor of Communication and Director of the Social Justice Initiative, University of Texas facilitated the seminar. He explained that positive deviants are ordinary people or institutions who have found better (or even extra-ordinary) solutions to existing problems without access to any extra resources as exemplified by among others Mother Teresa, Mahatma Gandhi and Tales of Nassedrin. The participants learnt how PD has been successfully applied in the improvement of malnutrition status among Vietnamese Children, an asset-based approach to improve malaria outcomes and reduction of nosocomial infection rate in USA. Currently, PD is being applied in the control of Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa. Hence, leading program students can apply the knowledge gained from this workshop in helping in the development of workable strategies for the prevention and control of tropical and emerging communicable diseases.