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10th Joint Meeting of UJNR Panel on Earthquake Research - Sendai, Miyagi, Japan-

By Dr. Takumi Hayashida & Dr. Bunichiro Shibazaki of IISEE

We attended the 10th Joint Meeting of UJNR (The United States/Japan Cooperative Program in Natural Resources) Panel on Earthquake Research, which was held in Sendai on 14th-16th October. The meeting is held every two years in Japan and the U.S., alternately. Lively discussions were conducted on current topics in seismology, seismic and tsunami hazard assessment, and



Field Trip (the site of Nakahama Elementary School)

ongoing research projects for the first two days of scientific sessions (48 presentations in seven sessions).

Dr. Shibazaki gave a presentation entitled "Rheological structure of the northeastern Japan arc and its viscoelastic deformation after the 2011 Tohoku-oki earthquake" and Dr. Hayashida gave a presentation entitled "Investigation of seismic velocity structure model beneath bay area using continuous short-period microtremor data."

At the end of the sessions, the meeting adopted a resolution calling for further scientific cooperation between Japan and the U.S. On the third day we had a field trip along the Sendai Bay coastline to observe tsunami damage and landform deformation caused by the 2011 Tohoku-oki earthquake.

Reports on Tohoku Study Trip

(1) Ms. Baigalimaa GANBAT (Mongolia, Seismology Course)

We visited the Tohoku region, and the purpose of the study trip was to know and acquire the lessons learned from the 2011 Great Tohoku, and 2004 Chuetsu Earthquakes. I heard before from lectures, news and video about 2011 Great Tohoku Earthquake. Nevertheless, through study trip to Onagawa and



Natori regions, I realized more how much damage caused from tsunami, earthquake and terrible force of the tsunami, when looked by real eyes. In the Miyagi Reconstruction Agency, they presented us with how the reconstruction and recovery process ongoing.

In the Earthquake Disaster Archive Center and Yamakoshi Memorial Hall of Nagaoka city, we learned about disaster using the map iPad, modeled in the form of earthquake and movie of 2004 Chuestsu Earthquake.

Earthquakes

The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake

Reports of Recent Earthquakes

Utsu Catalog

Earthquake Catalog

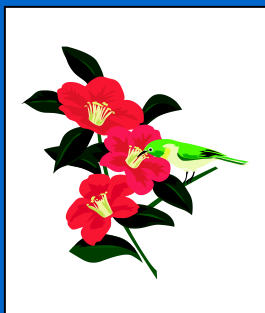
Call for Papers

IISEE Bulletin is now accepting submissions of papers for the seismology, earthquake engineering, and tsunami. Developing countries are targeted, but are not limited.

Your original papers will be reviewed by the editorial members and some experts.

NO submission fee is need.

Try to challenge!!



Yamakoshi village was heavy damaged by the heavy snow and landslides after the earthquake. Landslide blocked the river and flooded houses caused by blockage of river. It is very important for each country that such wise people and future generations are educated about the disaster.

Through study trip I learned about experience from earthquake and tsunami disaster, reconstruction and recovery, also gained knowledge about quick response, well cooperation between Japan's governments and new technology of base isolated building in high seismic activity region.

**Tohoku study trip was from November 3rd (Mon) to 7th (Fri).*

(2) Mr. Johnlery Pino DEXIMO (Philippines, Seismology Course)

On November 3-7, 2014, two study sites with different situations, in Miyagi and Niigata prefectures, were visited by Seismology and Earthquake Engineering courses. We visited the areas around Onagawa Town, Natori City, Tohoku University (Miyagi) including Nagaoka City and Yamakoshi District (Niigata).

The objective was to learn about their great effort towards rehabilitation and reconstruction on the damaged effects of 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake that made the buildings and houses swept away and overturned by huge tsunami. On the other hand, the 2004 Great Chuetsu Earthquake happened in a mountainous area of Niigata Prefecture where most of the damaged residential houses and infrastructures were due to landslides and debris flow.



It was very informative and remarkable experience for us to understand how to manage and mitigate such natural disaster. It is important that proper land use

planning, strengthening of buildings, and recovery techniques should take into consideration to revitalize the devastated area.

With this great experience, I learned that the concept of sustainability is essential to develop communities safe from earthquakes, tsunamis and other related hazards. I also learned that, when making disaster mitigation plans and decisions, it should depend not only on scientific theory but also on our real experiences.

(3) Mr. Nelson Alejandro QUINTANILLA PINTO (El Salvador, Earthquake Engineering Course)

The Study Trip to Niigata and Miyagi Prefectures was very interesting. We learned how the current status of the reconstruction is and how they manage to act fast after the earthquake and tsunami of 2011 in Miyagi Prefecture; we



learned about the importance of having a regional plan to manage the emergency response, recovery and restoration. I learned the importance of highways in this kind of disasters, because they are a very important means of communication between the cities affected; if the flows of the highways are interrupted, it is a priority to rehabilitate them to send the necessary assistance to the affected areas.

We also learned from the people in Nagaoka City, which is affected by the Chuetsu Earthquake of 2004, I was very impressed by the courage of the people to rebuild the city and return back to their normal life, they are an example to follow!

I'm very grateful with all the people that share this knowledge with us.



Enjoy, Now

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We encourage you to contribute a report and an article to this newsletter. Please let us know your current activities in your countries.

We also welcome your co-workers and friends to register our mailing list.

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(4) Mr. Harish Chandra LAMICHHANE (Nepal, Earthquake Engineering Course)

First of all, I would like to thank IISEE/BRI management for arranging visit in appropriate area.

We visited Miyagi and Niigata Prefectures. There were all students of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology groups. In Miyagi we visited the area devastated by the Great East Japan Earthquake 2011 in Onagawa town and Natori city. We also visited Miyagi Reconstruction Agency and Tohoku Regional Development Bureau. I learnt a lot there from the lecture about disaster management. Our journey by bullet train (Sinkansen) was memorable.



In Niigata I observed damages created by Chuetsu Earthquake 2004. There I visited the land slide site which occurred due to that earthquake. The unity of community of Yamakoshi village which is shown during and after the earthquake is also a lesson to be learnt. I got a good chance to know the tradition and culture of Japanese society. Quick restoration of housing is an example for all countries. I saw Carp farm and Alpaca farm in Yamakoshi district. I was really impressed by this observation visit, and we can replicate this type of activities in our country.

(5) Mr. Urip Setiyono (Indonesia, Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Course)

No one hopes that disaster comes to them, including people in Japan. Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami on 11 March 2011 was a nightmare especially for people who lived in the Eastern coast of Japan. Mega tsunami destroyed what Japan had built to protect the people from tsunami, such as green belt Pine Tree Forest at Takata-matsubara, seawalls at Taro area, Kamaishi Port and other regions. But, Japan never gives up on facing those kinds of problems.



We could see a reconstruction process in the affected area showing significant results since being launched almost 3 years ago. Three kilometers of conveyor to speed up the reconstruction process in Rikuzen-takata City was one of successful examples of Japan converting the sadness to great positive energy to be more innovative and stronger for the future challenge.

We hope those will become lessons to be learned for all. Never stop to learn because disasters never sleep.

**Tohoku study trip was from November 4th (Tue) to 8th (Sat).*

In Memoriam: Dr. Hideaki Kishida (Japan)

It was with profound sorrow that we received the sad news of the passing away of Dr. Hideaki Kishida, Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Institute of Technology on November 16, 2014.

He was a renowned expert in geotechnical engineering and once a research engineer of IISEE from 1964 to 1965. Dr. Kishida had been a member of the IISEE Curriculum Committee from 1970s to 1990s and supported us. We would like to extend the sincerest sympathy from all of us at IISEE to his family.

Snapshots of Tohoku Study Trip

