

## News

Final report of the investigation project for the May 12th 2008, Wenchuan Earthquake, China, Grant-in-Aid for Special Purposes of 2008, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan, No. 20900002, (Leader: Kazuo Konagai) was completed in June, 2009. The works included in the report are all available on the following website:

<http://shake.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/wenchuan/>

Delegation of the Dalian University of Technology (DUT hereafter) visited the Institute of Industrial Science (IIS hereafter), University of Tokyo, for enhancing the academic exchange activities based upon the mutual agreement between IIS and DUT. This agreement was first made in 1987, and has been extended at every five years interval without interruption. Prof. Lee, Hongnan., Director of the School of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering provided a lecture about ongoing projects in DUT, while Professor Kazuo Konagai gave a talk about the investigation project for the May 12th 2008, Wenchuan Earthquake, China.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai, Dr. Sven Teodori, Nippon Coei Co., Ltd. and Dr. Peter Rangelow, HochTief, Germany, made a survey trip (April 18-23) to L'Aquila, Italy, whose downtown area was seriously devastated by the April 6th 2009, L'Aquila Earthquake.

Professor Kazuo Konagai attended the National Convention for the Earthquake Disaster Mitigation, Fuzhou, China, organized by the China Civil Engineering Society. He provided a keynote lecture "Realities of long-lasting problems caused by recent destructive earthquakes and remedial measures" on May 13th.

The 8th October 2005 Kashmir earthquake triggered a huge landslide mass at Hattian Bala district of Pakistan and this landslide mass became one of the major post earthquake problems of people of Jhelum valley. The 85 million m<sup>3</sup> blockage impounded a Karli lake of 41 million m<sup>3</sup> and Tang lake of 3.7 million m<sup>3</sup>. The Body of dynamically placed unconsolidated debris mass went through gradual changes Prof. Kazuo Konagai and his laboratory members made survey trips twice to both Muzaffarabad and Hattian Ballah landslide area, the first and second trips for June 8th to 16th, and Nov. 20th to 28th, respectively. They have measured displacements of marked points on the landslide mass to check if the landslide mass would go through further changes. They have discussed with Pakistani experts from State Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority, Geological Survey of Pakistan, and Development Authority of Muzaffarabad regarding possible measures to deal with the long-lasting issues.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai attended the 60th anniversary celebration of the Dalian University of Technology, on June 20th and 21st.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai and his laboratory members made reconnaissance trips, the first one on July 11th, the second on August 11th and then September 11th to 12th, to the areas affected by the August 11th 2009, Off-the-Coast of Suruga Bay Earthquake. Their findings have been summarized as a quick report in this volume of the ERS Bulletin.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai attended the 1st International Symposium on Rockfill Dams, Chengdu, China, Oct. 18th-20th, as an International Advisory Committee member for the project (No. CPR/09/211) jointly organized by the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (CICETE) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He has offered a recommendation for strengthening hydropower safety.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota made survey trips twice to both Muzaffarabad and Hattian Ballah landslide area affected by the 2005 Pakistan Kashmir Earthquake. The first and second trips were from June 8 to 16 and from Nov. 20 to 28, respectively.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the TC 4 Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering Conference, Egypt, 2- 3 Oct. 2009.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the 17th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Egypt, 5- 9 Oct. 2009.

Dr. H. Choi and Mr. C. Quan visited Chongqing, China and investigated the vulnerability of building structures against earthquakes, during the period of March 1 to 5. They inspected several typical school buildings and investigated seismic design provisions in Chongqing.

Professor Y. Nakano attended the 2nd China-Japan Science Forum, held at the Lake View Hotel, Beijing, China, during the period of March 9 and 10. He presented "Building Damage due to the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake and Cooperative Activities on Damage Restoration by Japanese Experts".

Dr. N. Takahashi visited L'Aquila, Central Italy and surveyed areas affected by the 2009 April 6 L'Aquila Earthquake, during the period of April 17 to 23. He inspected damaged buildings

suffered by the earthquake.

Dr. H. Choi visited Indonesia and surveyed areas affected by the 2009 September 2 Western Java Earthquake, during the period of September 26 to October 2. He inspected damaged buildings suffered by the earthquake.

Professor Y. Nakano, Dr. N. Takahashi, Dr. H. Choi, Ms. R. Kuwahara, and Mr. K. W. Jin attended the 8th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia, Incheon, Korea, during the period of October 15 and 16. Dr. H. Choi presented "Estimation of Seismic Capacity of Korean Typical School Buildings under Design Response Spectrum". Ms. R. Kuwahara presented "Residual Displacement Prediction of RC Building Structures Using Earthquake Response Spectra". Mr. K. W. Jin presented "Failure Mechanism and Seismic Capacity of RC Frames with URM Wall Considering Beam Deformation". Dr. N. Takahashi presented "A Study on Seismic Repair Cost of R/C Building Structures Using a Geometrical Damage Estimation Model of R/C Members", respectively.

Dr. N. Takahashi, and Dr. H. Choi attended the 1st International Conference on Computational Design in Engineering, Seoul, Korea, during the period of November 4 and 5. Dr. H. Choi made a presentation on "Damage Class of Korean School Building under Design Response Spectrum Level". Dr. N. Takahashi made a presentation on "Seismic Repair Cost of R/C Structures Using a Geometrical Damage Estimation Model".

Dr. H. Choi visited Indonesia and surveyed areas affected by the 2009 September 30 Southern Sumatra Earthquake, during the period of December 13 to 20. He inspected damaged buildings suffered by the earthquake.

Prof. Kawaguchi visited Denmark and Poland on 19-29 April 2009. At Wroclaw in Poland he attended at the International Conference and Workshop on Interaction of Architectural and Structural Form-Finding, and delivered an invited lecture on "Architects and Engineers, from 20th to 21st Centuries" at the Technical University of Wroclaw. On the way to Wroclaw, Prof. Kawaguchi has dropped at Copenhagen and visited late Prof. Ture Vester's grave, who were the EC member of IASS.

From 16th to 21st June, 2009, Prof. Alberto Domingo and Ms Juliane Petri from Technical University of Valencia, Spain visited the University of Tokyo and Prof. Kawaguchi attended them. They delivered lectures at Hongo campus for the GCOE seminar.

Prof. Kawaguchi, Dr. Ogi, Mr. Oba, and Mr. Uchida visited Shizuoka Prefecture on 18 August 2009, to investigate large roof buildings damaged by an earthquake occurred in Suruga-Bay on 11 August 2009.

Prof. Kawaguchi chaired a honored advisory committee of the “JSSI (Japan Society of Seismic Isolation) 15th Anniversary International Symposium on Seismic Response Controlled Buildings for Sustainable Society” on 16-17 September 2009.

From 25th Sept. to 8th Oct., 2009, Prof. Kawaguchi visited Valencia, Spain and attended the 50th Anniversary Symposium of the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures and delivered a Keynote Lecture on “Monitoring of Full Scale Tensegrity Skeletons under Temperature Change”.

From 2nd to 5th Nov., 2009, Prof. Kawaguchi was invited to the ANSAN Dome Seminar at Seoul, Korea, and delivered an invited lecture on “The review of baseball stadia covered with dome roof in Japan” on 3rd, Nov.

From 19th to 20th Dec., 2009, Prof. Kawaguchi visited Seoul, with Profs. Ohsaki and Tatemichi and Mr. K. Ito, to see Profs. S.D.Kim, Sun W Park and others for the K-J joint research meeting.

Prof. Kawaguchi visited Shanghai to see the construction of membrane structures for EXPO2010 on 22-23 Dec. 2009.

From 12th to 19th, Jan., 2010, Profs. Alberto Domingo and Calros Lazaro, Mr. David Bakraz, the chairman of parliament of Georgia, and Levan Varshalomidze, the president of a city in Georgia, visited Prof. Kawaguchi. Prof. Lazaro delivered a lecture on the Structures and Tourism for GCOE seminar at Hongo Campus.

From 11th to 13th March, 2010, Prof. Kawaguchi visited Shanghai to meet Profs. Yiyi Chen, Zhang Qilin, and Wu Minger, and discussed the progress of the preparation and also visited Tongji University and delivered a lecture on “Dynatecture” for the graduate students of the university on 12th.

Associate Prof. Koshihara and Ms. Tsuwa have visited Sagara area in Shizuoka prefecture, for damage investigation of timber houses and temples damaged by Suruga bay Earthquake 9th in

September.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Chengdu City, China from April 7 to 9, 2009 to attend International Symposium and give lecture on implementation of safer houses of non-engineered masonry houses by combination of technological and social approaches as an invited speaker. On the way back to Japan, Prof. Meguro visited Seoul, Korea to discuss preparation of USMCA 2009 with Korean partners from April 10 to 12, 2009.

Prof. K. Meguro traveled to Cau Lac and Phuket, Thailand with Dr. M. Takashima, Fuji Tokoha University and Mr. H. Hanatani during September 19 to 24, 2009 to have interview with potential users of his newly proposed Tsunami disaster mitigation system.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Incheon, Korea to hold the 8th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia, USMCA2009 from October 13 to 17. From his research group, totally 9 research papers were presented. Mr. K. Sakurai, Master student of Meguro Laboratory won the best presentation award by young researchers under 35 years old.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Indonesia from April 12 to 16 with Mr. K. Watanabe and Dr. Rahman, Hidayat both of them are Researcher of Meguro Lab. to introduce PP-band retrofit method to earthquake prone areas in Indonesia as a part of research project, multi-disciplinary hazard reduction from earthquake and volcanoes in Indonesia by JST-JICA.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, BUET, Dhaka, Bangladesh with Profs. K. Uomoto, H. Sawada and Y. Ichihashi to participate in the ground breaking ceremony of BUET–Japan Institute of Disaster Prevention and Urban Safety (BUET-JIDPUS), which was held March 20, 2010 at BUET. Besides ICUS professors, major participants at the ceremony were Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dr. A.M.M. Safiullah and Prof. Mehedi Ahmed Ansary, Project Director of BNUS (Bangladesh Network Office of Urban Safety, ICUS) from BUET, from Japanese embassy, Mr. Tamotsu Shinotsuka, Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, Mr. Harumitsu Hida, Deputy Chief of Mission and Minister, Ms. Akemi Yoshida, First Secretary, Mr. Yoshihiro Sakakibara, First Secretary, and from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), Mr. Takao Toda, Chief Representative, Mr. Shigeki Furuta, Senior Representative, Ms. Mayumi Endo, Senior Representative, Mr. Tatsuhiko Sunouchi, Representative, Mr. Tamaoki Watanabe, Project Formulation Advisor, and Mr. Toyooki Ito, JICA Expert. The idea of this new research institute, BUET-JIDPUS was generated by the discussion

among BUET, ICUS and Japanese embassy. We strongly hope that this center will contribute a lot for disaster mitigation and urban safety in Bangladesh.

Professor K. Meguro has published 48 technical papers including conference papers in 2008. Among them, 18 papers were written in English and are listed in this volume. Newspapers and TV have introduced and reported his various research topics and outputs 14 times in 2009. He has given special lectures as an invited lecturer 28 times by Japanese organizations and 5 times by overseas and international organizations.

Research associate Muneyoshi Numada attended the joint student seminar at AIT: Bangkok, Thailand, 2009 Jul. 7.

Research associate Muneyoshi Numada made survey trip at Padang, Indonesia (Oct 16 - 18) with the JSCE survey team.

Prof. Kimiro Meguro, Research associate Muneyoshi Numada, Kotaro Sakurai (M1) Taiki Kou and Mariko Abe attended the 8th International Symposium on NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR URBAN SAFETY OF MEGA CITIES IN ASIA (USMCA), Incheon, Korea.

Prof. Kimiro Meguro and Research associate Muneyoshi Numada attended the 15th anniversary forum for the Great Hanshin earthquake.

Research associate Muneyoshi Numada visited to survey the damage by the earthquake at Suruga-bay in Shizuoka prefecture, 2009 Sep, 11. and to have a meeting with Mr. Hikoyama, the crisis-management bureau of Shizuoka prefecture

Kotaro Sakurai (M1) made a presentation at the 30th JSCE Earthquake Engineering Symposium, Tokyo, Japan.

Dr. Ohara visited Kuwana, Mie Prefecture to attend the conference by Institute of Social Safety Science and memorial symposium commemorating 50 years from the Isewan typhoon from June 5 to 6.

Dr. Ohara attended the annual conference by Japan Association for Earthquake Engineering from November 12 to 13 in Tokyo, Japan.

Professor J. Koseki received Excellent Paper Award from Taiwan Geotechnical Society for the paper “Study on resistant mechanism of a seismic countermeasure for geosynthetic-reinforced wall and leaning type retaining wall” co-authored with Nakajima, S. et al. in March 2009.

Professor J. Koseki received Best Paper Award from Japanese Geotechnical Society for the paper “Evaluation of tensile strength of cement-treated sand based on several types of laboratory tests” co-authored with Namikawa, T. in May 2009.

Professor J. Koseki attended International Symposium on Prediction and Simulation Methods for Geohazard Mitigation held in Kyoto, Japan, 25 - 27 May 2009.

Professor J. Koseki attended 2nd International Symposium on Geotechnical Safety and Risk held in Gifu, Japan, 11 - 12 June 2009.

Professor J. Koseki made a theme lecture at International Conference on Performance-Based Design in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering held in Tsukuba, Japan, 15 - 18 June 2009.

Professor J. Koseki and Ms. Y. Tsutsumi attended the 17th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering held in Alexandria, Egypt, 5 - 9 October 2009.

Professor J. Koseki attended International Symposium on Ground Improvement held in Singapore, 9 - 11 December 2009 and acted as a session chair.

Ms. Y. Tsutsumi received Excellent Paper Award for Young Members from Japanese Geotechnical Society for the paper “Comparison of strain localization properties of dense clean sand and well-graded gravel in plane strain compression tests” co-authored with S. Maqbool in May 2009.

Associate Professor R. Kuwano, together with a graduate student of Kuwano laboratory, attended the 17th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering held in Alexandria, Egypt, 5 - 9 October 2009.

Associate Professor R. Kuwano, together with a graduate student of Kuwano laboratory, attended the 8th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia held in Incheon, Koera, 15 - 16 October 2009.