

## News

Prof. K. Kawaguchi visited Shanghai, China, attended the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures (IASS) Symposium held on Nov. 8-12, 2010, and delivered a lecture entitled “Experimental Study on Safety of Suspended Ceilings in Large Rooms”.

Mr. T. Uchida, a graduate student advised by Prof. K. Kawaguchi, was awarded the Best Presentation Prize of Shell and Spatial Structure Session at the Annual Meeting of AIJ in Toyama, Japan, on Sep. 9-11, 2010. The paper is entitled “Fundamental Research on the Safety Criteria of Nonstructural Components in Large Enclosures Using Human Tolerance Index Part 3: Results of the Experiments 2”.

Associate Professors T. Kiyota, R. Kuwano and Professor J. Koseki received Best Paper Award from Japanese Geotechnical Society for the paper “Aging effects on small strain shear moduli and liquefaction properties of in-situ frozen and reconstituted sandy soils” co-authored with Sato, T. in May 2010.

Professor Konagai and Associate Professor T. Kiyota made survey trip to Hattian Ballah landslide area in Pakistan affected by the 2005 Pakistan Kashmir Earthquake, 9 – 17 April 2010.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota made damage survey trip to Christchurch in New Zealand, affected by the 2010 Darfield Earthquake, 11 – 16 September 2010.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai was on a reconnaissance trip to Chile (March 28 to April 5) for the 500km long stretch of the area affected by the M8.8 Maule Earthquake of Feb. 27, 2011, Chile.

Professor Kazuo Konagai attended the 5th International Conference on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics, San Diego, USA, organized by the China Civil Engineering Society. He provided a lecture “Use of New Technologies” in the Special GEER Sessions on recent Earthquake Activity, on May 27th.

Professor Kazuo Konagai and his laboratory members were on a reconnaissance trip (June 4th to 15th) to Muzaffarabad and Gilgit, Pakistan to survey a landslide mass at Hattian Bala breached on Feb 9th and a landslide dam at Atabad that was formed on 4th January 2010 at 80km upstream of Gilgit city, creating a 20-kilometer-long lake that inundated several villages and submerged 5

kilometers of the Karakoram Highway.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai was a key organizer and a moderator of the international panel discussion "What happened after large earthquakes in Asia? -What earthquake engineers should do?-, in the 13th Japan Earthquake Engineering Symposium, Tsukuba International Congress Center (EPOCHAL TSUKUBA), Nov. 17th, 2010. Invited panelists are: Dr. WANG Zifa, Senior Vice President/Senior Data Architect, Validus Group, and Research Professor, Institute of Engineering Mechanics (IEM), China Earthquake Administration, Dr. M. Hasan Boduroglu, Director, Earthquake Engineering and Disaster Management Institute of Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, Mr. Zahid AMIN, Pakistan, Chairman of the Development Authority of Muzaffarabad, Pakistan, Mr. Tadayoshi NAGASHIMA, Lower House Member, the former Mayor of Yamakoshi Mountain Village, Japan, Dr. Ismail FEBRIN, Head of KOGAMI Foundation Board, Director of Disaster Research Center of Andalas University, Indonesia, and Dr. Benito M. PACHECO, Professor & Director, Institute of Civil Engineering, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezson City, Philippines.

Prof. Kazuo Konagai was on a reconnaissance trip to Christchurch, New Zealand, as a member of JSCE Reconnaissance Team for the M6.3 Christchurch Earthquake of Feb. 21st 2011. He had jointly surveyed soil subsidence caused by liquefaction with Prof. Misko Cubrinovski, University of Canterbury.

Professor Kazuo Konagai his laboratory members were on a reconnaissance trip (March 20th to 21th) to Morioka, Hananomaki, Kitakami and Ichinoseki which were affected by the Great East-Japan Earthquake of March 11th, 2011. Including this trip, laboratory members made 5 surveys in Urayasu, one survey in Shirakawa, 3 surveys in Iwaki, 2 surveys along the southern indented coast line of Sanriku.

Associate Professors T. Kiyota, R. Kuwano and Professor J. Koseki received Best Paper Award from Japanese Geotechnical Society for the paper "Aging effects on small strain shear moduli and liquefaction properties of in-situ frozen and reconstituted sandy soils" co-authored with Sato, T. in May 2010.

Associate Professor R. Kuwano and Professor J. Koseki attended 4th Japan-China Geotechnical Symposium held in Okinawa, Japan, 12 - 14 April 2010.

Associate Professor R. Kuwano and Professor J. Koseki attended 3rd Korea-Japan Geotechnical Workshop held in Seoul, Korea, 9 - 10 September 2010.

Professor J. Koseki attended 9th International Conference on Geosynthetics held in Guarujá, Brazil, 23 - 27 May 2010.

Professor J. Koseki made Mercer Lecture at 6th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics held in New Delhi, India, 8 - 12 November 2010.

Associate Professor R. Kuwano, together with graduate students of Kuwano laboratory, attended the 9th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia held in Kobe, 13 - 15 October 2010.

Prof. K. Meguro and Dr. M. Numada visited Lhasa, China, to introduce PP-band retrofit method to earthquake prone areas from April 14 to 21.

With the goals of enhancing academic exchanges between Tsinghua University and the University of Tokyo, and exchanging information about research and other activities conducted at the both universities, Tsinghua Week at Todai was held from May 12 to May 14, 2010. Following the Opening Ceremony held at Tetsumon Memorial Hall on May 12, two Keynote Speeches were given from Tsinghua University and the University of Tokyo. From Tsinghua University, Prof. Weicheng FAN, Director of Center for Public Safety Research (CPSR), Tsinghua University, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, gave lecture, "Emergency Management and Public Safety Science and Technology in China" and from the University of Tokyo, Prof. Kimiro MEGURO, Director of International Center for Urban Safety Engineering (ICUS), Institute of Industrial Science (IIS), gave a lecture, "Integrated Information System for Total Disaster Management."

Prof. K. Meguro visited Jakarta, Yogyakarta and Banda Aceh, Indonesia with Mr. K. Watanabe from 25 September to 4 October 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. He gave two lectures on Implementation of earthquake safer non-engineered masonry houses through technological and social approaches at University of Gadjah Mada (UGM) and University of Syiah Kuala.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Kobe city, Japan to hold the 9th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia, USMCA2010 from October 12 to 15. From his research group, totally 8 research papers were presented.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Bangkok, Thailand to attend the seminar, 'Geospatial seminar 2010: Forefront and Challenges of Geospatial Technologies for Environmental and Disaster Management in Southeast Asia' held by ICUS and RNUS from 26 to 29 November. He gave a lecture, "Development of Tsunami disaster mitigation system considering the characteristics of the Indian Ocean region" as one of invited speakers.

Dr. Numada won the best presentation award by young researchers in the 8th International Conference on Urban Earthquake Engineering, Tokyo, Japan, 2011.3.

Dr. Sathiparan participated in the reconnaissance survey to understand the effect of earthquake affected area (Great Sichuan Earthquake 2008) and give the on-site instruction on how to apply PP-bands technique to strengthen constructions for the local people.

Professor K. Meguro has published 55 technical papers including conference papers in 2010. 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 20 times in academic year of 2010. He has given special lectures as an invited lecturer 26 times by Japanese organizations and 9 times by overseas and international organizations.

Dr. N. Takahashi visited L'Aquila, Central Italy and surveyed areas affected by the 2009 April 6 L'Aquila Earthquake, during the period of May 6 to 12. He inspected damaged buildings suffered by the earthquake and planned to measure the structural characteristics of damaged historic structures using micro-tremor measurement.

Dr. N. Takahashi attended the 9th U.S. National and 10th Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, during the period of July 27 to 31. He made a presentation on "Experimental Study on Damage Quantification of R/C Members under Earthquakes".

Dr. N. Takahashi visited L'Aquila, Central Italy and surveyed areas affected by the 2009 April 6 L'Aquila Earthquake, during the period of September 19 to 26. He set up the monitoring system to measure the structural characteristics of damaged historic structures.

Dr. H. Choi visited Pusan National University, Pusan, Korea and joined the experimental shaking table tests for multi-story masonry buildings, during the period of November 30 to December 2.

Dr. Ohara attended the 8th International Conference on Urban Earthquake Engineering held in Tokyo Institute of Technology on March 7-8.

Dr. Ohara Visited surveyed damaged area due to The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake from March 31 to April 1.

