

## News

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the sixth Japan-Taiwan joint workshop on Geotechnical Hazards from large earthquakes and heavy rainfalls, Kita-Kyushu, Japan, 12-15 July 2014.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota and his colleagues made geological survey trip to Pokhara in Nepal affected by sinkhole damage, 17-19 November, 2014.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the International Symposium on Geohazards, Kathmandu, Nepal, 20-21 November, 2014.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota is visiting University of Bristol, the UK, as a visiting fellow since 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

Professor J. Koseki visited Columbia from 17 to 21 February 2014 to conduct geotechnical survey in and around Bogota area.

Professor J. Koseki attended the Wave Propagation and Soil Stiffness: Particle-Continuum Duality Workshop held in Bristol, UK, 20-21 March 2014.

Professor J. Koseki moved from Institute of Industrial Science to the Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Tokyo, as of 16 September 2014.

Professor R. Kuwano and Associate Professor Kiyota, together with graduate students and staffs of Kiyota laboratory, conducted field investigation for sinkholes occurred in Pokhara, Nepal, in 10-11 June and 18-19 November 2014.

Professor R. Kuwano, together with a graduate student of Kuwano laboratory, attended the 13th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia held in Yangon, Myanmar, in 3 - 6 November 2014.

Professor R. Kuwano attended the 13th International Symposium on Geohazards held in Kathmandu, Nepal, in 20 - 21 November 2014.

Professor R. Kuwano visited Konkuk University, Seoul, on 28 January 2015 to give a lecture on road

cave-in.

Professor K. Meguro with ICUS colleagues visited Yangon, Myanmar from 12 to 15 June, 2014 to discuss the JICA-JST SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development) project with Myanmar counterparts. SATREPS is a Japanese government program that promotes international joint research. The program is structured as a collaboration between the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), which provides competitive research funds for science and technology projects, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which provides development assistance (ODA). Based on the needs of developing countries, the program aims to address global issues and lead to research outcomes of practical benefit to both local and global society. (after SATREPS web site)

Dr. M. Numada visited Istanbul, Turkey from 16 to 18 June, to present his research “Development of the disaster management system for municipalities based on the experience of the 2011 Tohoku disaster in Japan” for the 2014 SRA (Society for Risk Analysis) Europe Annual Meeting.

Professor K. Meguro with ICUS colleagues visited Yangon and Naypyidaw, Myanmar from 23 to 28 July, 2014 to discuss the JICA-JST SATREPS project with Myanmar counterparts.

Dr. M. Numada was invited by Society for Risk Analysis-Asia Conference at National Taiwan University, Taiwan from 20 to 23 August. He gave the presentation for “Development of Disaster Process Mapping” with the long poster described disaster processes.

Professor K. Meguro with ICUS colleagues visited Yangon and Naypyidaw, Myanmar from 14 to 21 September, 2014 to discuss the JICA-JST SATREPS project with Myanmar counterparts.

Dr. M. Numada visited Boulder, Colorado from 28 September to 1 October to participate to 3rd International Conference on Urban Disaster Reduction Supported by Social Safety Science.

Professor K. Meguro with ICUS colleagues visited Bangkok, Thailand from 31 October to 2 November to attend seminar and hold IIS alumnae, Thai chapter party in Bangkok.

Dr. M. Numada, Research Associate of ICUS, was promoted to Lecturer of ICUS on October 16, 2014.

Prof. K. Meguro, Dr. M. Numada and their student visited Yangon, Myanmar from 2 to 7 November, 2014 with ICUS members to hold and attend the 13th International Symposium on New Technologies for Urban Safety of Mega Cities in Asia (13USMCA). From his research group, two papers were presented.

Prof. K. Meguro visited Kathmandu, Nepal from 3 to 7 January, 2015 to supervise his JSPS RONPAKU (PhD dissertation) fellow. He was also invited several disaster-related organizations to give lectures. Lectures that he gave in Kathmandu were “PP-Band Mesh Retrofitting Technique and Possible Use in Retrofitting of Schools in Nepal” at Earthquake Safety National Symposium, Nepal and “Promoting Earthquake Safety in Developing Countries” at Japanese Ambassador’s residence in Nepal as a special lecture on disaster management at. Special lecture on disaster management at Japanese ambassador’s residence in Nepal.

Dr. M. Numada visited Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 3 to 8 March, 2015 to introduce PP-band retrofit method to earthquake prone areas in Indonesia as a part of research project, Kusanone (grass roots) technology cooperation program by JICA. He gave lectures on Implementation of earthquake safer non-engineered masonry houses for local engineers.

Prof. K. Meguro has published 15 technical papers including conference papers in academic year of 2014. Among them, 11 papers were written in English and are listed in this volume. Newspapers and TV have introduced and reported his various research topics and outputs 10 times in the year. He has given special lectures as an invited lecturer 37 times by Japanese organizations and 5 times by overseas and international organizations.

Professor Y. Nakano, Dr. H. Choi, and Dr. K. Matsukawa visited Wakayama prefecture, Japan during the period of February 8 through 9 to investigate the existing tsunami evacuation facilities along its coastal area.

Professor Y. Nakano attended the 1st ACI-JCI Joint Seminar on Disaster Prevention/Mitigation Works held in Hawaii, USA, during the period of July 16 through 18, and presented "Structural Design Requirements for Tsunami Evacuation Buildings in Japan".

Dr. H. Choi and Dr. K. Matsukawa attended the 10th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering held in Anchorage, Alaska, USA, during the period of July 21 through 25. Dr. H. Choi presented "Feasibility Study on Seismic Response Estimation of Damaged R/C Buildings Based on Observation Data and Numerical Analysis". Dr. K. Matsukawa presented "Practical

Collapse Assessment for Reinforced Concrete Structures based on Seismic Response Spectrum", respectively.

Dr. H. Choi attended the 2nd European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology held in Istanbul, Turkey, during the period of August 25 through 29, and presented "Evaluation of Equivalent Diagonal Strut Mechanism and Shear Strength of URM Wall Infilled R/C Frame".

Dr. H. Choi attended the 6th International Conference of Asian Concrete Federation held in Seoul, Korea, during the period of September 21 through 24, and presented "Response Characteristics of Typical Tsunami Evacuation Buildings for Tsunami Load and Impulsive Force of Tsunami Drifting Objects".

Professor Y. Nakano, Dr. H. Choi, Dr. K. Matsukawa, Mr. CR. Quan, Mr. Y. Yang, and Mr. JK. Song visited Miyagi, Iwate, and Aomori prefectures, Japan affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, during the period of October 10 through 14 to investigate their recovery from damage.