

## News

Prof. Kawaguchi organized the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures 2016 Annual International Symposium as a chair of organizing committee at Ito hall and Sanjo hall, the University of Tokyo, on Sep. 26-30, 2016. More than 550 delegates, from all over the world, participated in the symposium and all events finished in great success.

Prof. Kawaguchi was given a title as honorary professor of Tianjin University for his research achievements regarding spatial structures and he gave a lecture “Spatial Structures, Challenge and Safety” at Tianjin University, on Apr. 4, 2016.

Prof. Kawaguchi was invited the 16th spatial structures symposium and gave a lecture “Sustainability of Spatial Structures” at Zhejiang University, China, on Apr. 12, 2016.

Prof. Kawaguchi and Dr. Nakaso visited Kumamoto prefecture in May 2016, to investigate large span structures damaged by the “2016 Kumamoto earthquake”.

Mr. T. Zhang, a doctoral student of Kawaguchi lab., was awarded the 14th Hangai Prize of the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures on Sep. 26, 2016. The paper is entitled “Deployment Study on a Single-Layer Deployable Truss Structure Driven by Elastic Components”.

Mr. T. Hiraki, a graduate student advised by Prof. Kawaguchi, was awarded the Best Presentation Prize of Shell and Spatial Structure Session at the Annual Meeting of AIJ in Fukuoka, Japan, on Aug. 24-26, 2016. The paper is entitled “Preliminary Study of Mechanism of Safety Net as Prevention for the Failure of Non-structural Components Part3: Energy Evaluation of Installation of Shock Absorbers”.

Professor R. Kuwano visited Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, in Thailand, on 17-20 May 2016 to give a lecture on road cave-in.

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 5-11 June and 28 November - 3 December 2016.

Professor R. Kuwano attended the 8th International Conference on Scour and Erosion held in Oxford, UK, in 12 - 15 September 2016.

Professor R. Kuwano, together with graduate students of Kuwano laboratory, conducted field investigation in Kumamoto, in 4-5 November 2016.

Professor R. Kuwano, together with graduate students of Kuwano laboratory, conducted field investigation around the sinkhole occurred in Miyakonojo, Miyazaki, on 21 October 2016, in 12-15 December 2016 and 22-24 February 2017.

Professor Yoshiaki Nakano visited Kumamoto prefecture, Japan and surveyed areas affected by the Kumamoto earthquake on April 14 and 16, 2016, during the period of April 15 through 17. He also visited the areas together with his staffs during the period of June 5 through 9 to investigate buildings damaged by the earthquake.

The third and fourth SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development) on project for “Technical Development to Upgrade Structural Integrity of Buildings in Densely Populated Urban Areas and its Strategic Implementation towards Resilient Cities” were organized by Professor Yoshiaki Nakano and Mr. Mohammad Abu Sadeque (Director of Housing and Building Research Institute, Bangladesh) in cooperation with the JICA BSPP project and held at Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo on August 2 and 3, and November 5 and 6, respectively.

Professor Yoshiaki Nakano visited Christchurch and Wellington, New Zealand to participate in the J-Rapid workshop on the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake held at the University of Canterbury, during the period of November 16 through 24. He also investigated buildings and areas under recovering after the 2011 Christchurch earthquake and those in Wellington after the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota and his colleagues conducted damage surveys in Kumamoto Prefecture after the Kumamoto Earthquake, 16-17 and 21-24 April, 1-3 May, 5-6 and 18-22 September 2016.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the sixth Japan-Korea Geotechnical Workshop, Okayama University, 12 September 2016.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the U.S.-New Zealand-Japan International Workshop on Liquefaction-Induced Ground Movements Effects, UC Berkeley, the U.S., 2-4 November 2016.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota attended the 16<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Santiago, Chile, 9-13 January 2017.

Associate Professor T. Kiyota and his colleagues made geological survey trips to Pokhara in Nepal affected by sinkhole damage, 5-11 June and 28 November-3 December 2016.