
IISEE Newsletter No.59 Aug. 20, 2010

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[1] From New Director of IISEE



Shoichi Ando (Dr. Eng.)

It is my great pleasure to participate in the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering (IISEE) and to have an opportunity to make contact with many stakeholders in the world. Since my last task was coordinator of the Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), I'm deeply impressed that global earthquake safety became a pressing need under rapid development in many regions/cities.

Looking back on the history of international training course, it was established in 1960 based on a discussion and common recognition to provide training for young researchers of developing countries at the 2nd World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (WCEE) held in Tokyo. The University of Tokyo hosted the first training and the Japanese Government established IISEE at the Building Research Institute (BRI) to carry out the training from January 1962. Almost 1,500 trainees from 96 countries /regions have studied in IISEE training courses.

The role of IISEE has been expanding in line with the intention of the founders. The

International Platforms for Reducing Earthquake Disaster (IPRED) through buildings and housing was currently created with UNESCO as a global network of research and training as well as an international back-up system to cooperate each other in case of a huge disaster. (In total 8 countries join as of April 2010.) In addition, the cooperative efforts of GRIPS and JICA make possible to provide master degree to the graduate students in the 1 year training course since 2006.

I very much appreciate efforts and understanding of all stakeholders so far and I would like to ask your continuous supports and considerations to the participants from all over the world as well as new activities of IISEE that aim at providing broader opportunities to many countries /regions for sustainable society through knowledge on seismology and earthquake resistant buildings and constructions.

Lastly I would like to introduce an effort by Yuji Ishiyama, Anand Arya and Teddy Boen who created an IAEE guideline for non-engineered construction in 1986. They are trying to revise the guideline and asking your opinion as indicated in the bottom right of the IISEE web-site. (see IISEE web <http://iisee.kenken.go.jp/>)

Shoichi ANDO,
Director of IISEE, BRI

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[2]Dr. Hurukawa was transferred from Director of IISEE

As of August 1, I was transferred from Director of the IISEE to Research Coordinator of the BRI after four years and four months' service. Since I had joined the IISEE on Oct. 1984, I worked at the IISEE more than a quarter of a century, which exceeds a half of history of the IISEE established on Jan. 1962. During last 26 years, I met about 940 IISEE participants including about 540 Regular-Course participants. I could meet many of you again at international meetings and other opportunities. I appreciate their hospitality during them. They treated me as a VIP. Although I left the IISEE, I'm still in the BRI as a Research Coordinator for Building Technology. Since one of my duties is to give advise to the IISEE, I'm still involved in the IISEE training programs. I'm looking forward to seeing you again in near future.

Nobuo HURUKAWA,
Former Director of IISEE, BRI

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We send this IISEE Newsletter to ex-participants whose e-mail addresses are known. The IISEE send you new information actively and accept your contribution at any time. In order to enlarge our IISEE network, we'd like to ask you to invite your fellow ex-participants whose e-mail addresses are unknown to us to join us. We welcome your comments about the IISEE Newsletter. Please feel free to send us your comments and opinions.

Email: iiseenews@kenken.go.jp

website: <http://iisee.kenken.go.jp>

Newsletter Back Numbers: <http://iisee.kenken.go.jp/nldb/>
