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## Colloquium, General Meeting & Friendship Party

*By Mr. Takashi Yamashita, Head of IISEE Administration Division*

The third colloquium, which is a seminar consists of presentations by the training participants, took place in IISEE for two days on Thursday, May 27 and on Friday, May 31. On the first day the participants of the Earthquake Engineering Course presented the outline of their individual study reports, and on the next day the participants of Seismology Course and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Course followed suit.

From June 1, the participants started their individual studies to write their master's theses. On Friday, May 31 after the colloquium, we had the general meeting. In the general meeting, they expressed their impressions and remarks on the lectures, everyday lives, etc.

Following the meeting, we held the Friendship Party, which was organized by IISEE for the participants to get over the tough individual studies. Dr. Hayashida acted as a master of ceremonies and Dr. Yokoi, IISEE director, gave words of cheer to the participants. This year, one third of the participants study outside of BRI under their supervisors in Hokkaido, Sendai, Tokyo, Chiba, Toyohashi and Kyoto. With a good meal and a comfortable atmosphere the party was closed with "Ippon-Jime" (Japanese style closing of the ceremony with one-time clap altogether).

## Latin American Earthquake Engineering Course - Reports on Kansai Study Trip

*(1) Mr. ALVAREZ REYES Ronald Stephan (Chile)*



This has been an unforgettable experience from its beginning. Visiting and being part of this city with a long history of more than 1000 years, fills me with good energy and desire to continue to grow as a professional and a person.

The recent study trip to Japan showed me the evidences, through videos, museums, photographs and an endless number of reported experiences, the severe way nature has treated you. That is why, it is admirable and of great recognition, their ability to overcome such disasters. I could not help but feel affected by such records, but seeing its resurrection feel increasingly better and more eager to learn

about their culture.

It is visible the quality of professionals and people who make these innumerable teachings, materialized in structural design, analysis and seismic



## Call for Papers

IISEE Bulletin is now accepting submissions of papers for the seismology, earthquake engineering, and tsunami. Developing countries are targeted, but are not limited.

Your original papers will be reviewed by the editorial members and some experts.

NO submission fee is need.

Try to challenge!!

retrofit. Because of this, I feel fortunate to acquire such knowledge and experience which leads us to a better future.

Even with everything I lived, I feel that it is a short time to process the amount of information and it is for this reason that I hope we meet again, to strengthen our bond further.

### *(2) Ms. RODRIGUEZ RODRIGUEZ Lizeth (El Salvador)*

We have visited four cities, Nagoya, Kobe, Kyoto and Tokyo for seven days. Our trip was filled with many emotions and adrenaline, especially when we were on the upper surface of the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge in Kobe. We also enjoyed the conference of an emphasis on the importance of retrofitting buildings in the Research Center for Disaster Mitigation in Nagoya. On the other hand, Visiting Kyoto was retrospect of history and Japanese culture. We visited to the World Heritage temples called Ninnaji and Kinkakuji.



We have seen the construction technique and the installed capacity for research and constant improvement in the construction sector by visiting Obayashi and Taisei corporations.

The trip was very organized and we have made our activities very synchrony and punctuality.

The places selected for the visit were strategic places because we have seen resources, results, and dissemination to the entire population of research, equipment for laboratory tests on scale models, and methods of reinforcement. The most exciting experience was to visit the seismic isolated building which is inducted seismic acceleration.

The trip was a great experience.

### *(3) Mr. RUGAMA IDIAQUEZ Maycol Christopher (Nicaragua)*

Firstly, I would like to thank Japanese brothers especially the staff of Building Research Institute BRI for giving the great opportunity to us.



The study tour started from May 30, 2016. We visited beautiful historical temples. We also visited different cities of great important as Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto and Kobe. The great earthquake devastated Kobe in 1995. In Kobe we shared not only the experience of the earthquake victims during the earthquake, but also the reconstruction and the recovering the city after the earthquake. We experienced the city streets realistically reproduced like an earthquake's aftermath. In addition, we had an opportunity to feel the magnitude of Kobe earthquake through a shaking

table.

Out of all the places we visited, what struck me most was the great Akashi Kaikyo Bridge that is best known as the world's largest suspension bridge and National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Resilience that has 3D full-scale earthquake test facility called E-Defense. In my country, Nicaragua, the great poet Ruben Dario said "if the country is small, have a big dream." In the case of Japan they don't sleep until their dream come ture. It is great.

The majestic civil structure bridge connect two islands of Japan, we had an opportunity to climb to the top of its main towers. Observation from the highest



Enjoy, Now

## Contact Us

The IISEE Newsletter is intended to act as a go-between for IISEE and ex-participants.

We encourage you to contribute a report and an article to this newsletter. Please let us know your current activities in your countries.

We also welcome your co-workers and friends to register our mailing list.

[iiseenews@kenken.go.jp](mailto:iiseenews@kenken.go.jp)  
<http://iisee.kenken.go.jp>

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

place was wonderful.

This experience in Japan is unparalleled and I thank the brotherly Japanese people with my sincere appreciations.

### *(4) Ms. CORNIEL ZARRAMERA Yoxela Del Valle (Venezuela)*

When I was called by JICA's office in my country Venezuela. I thought that it was unreal, even on the first week of my stay in Japan, I could not believe it. After the study trip, I could see closely the technology that this country have, the culture and even more, its gastronomy, and I understood that my dream has come true, I was here, living this wonderful experience of study and beautiful things.

The way which teachers and people express themselves showed a great love for their land, culture and education, it was admirable. The determination, dedication and planning have resurrected the cities at a record time what have been devastated by earthquakes, as I could see in Kobe. Each place and city has a different history, but also links to the other by nature, which is usually so kind but it rages sometime.

If I could correspond with the future fellows, I would tell them a word: HUMILITY. Because it is not worth having so much knowledge if not use correctly at the suitable time. Each person (in this course) has been chosen because everyone possess something special that deserves to be improvement and power through new knowledge as those obtained in this course. The study trip taught me that dedication and commitment can do great thing, well beyond the limits of intelligence. Simply grateful to life.



In front of Kinkakuji



Akashi Kaikyo Bridge

## Year Book 2016

As you know, the IISEE publishes "YEAR BOOK" every two years. Now we are proceeding with a new YEAR BOOK. We will send you Response sheet in July. Please send back us the Response sheet. (To: [iisee@kenken.go.jp](mailto:iisee@kenken.go.jp)) It will be highly appreciated if we receive your feedbacks by August 31, 2016. Thank you very much for your kind cooperation.