



# IISEE Newsletter



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International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering BRI Japan

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## In This Issue

- Congratulations on Graduation
- Courtesy Call on the MLIT Minister
- GRIPS Graduation Ceremony
- The 2nd GRIPS Student Conference
- Message of Condolences
- Address in Reply on Behalf of All the Participants

## IISEE Net and Training

IISEENET

IISEE-UNESCO Lecture Note

IISEE E-learning

Synopsis Database

Bulletin Database

## Earthquakes

The 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake

Reports of Recent Earthquakes

Utsu Catalog

Earthquake Catalog

## Dear Friends, Congratulations on Graduation and See You Again

The IISEE Closing Ceremony for the 2012-2013 Training Courses on Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Disaster-Recovery Management Policy, and on Tsunami Disaster Mitigation was held at the BRI Hall, from 11:00 to 11:45, on Friday, September 13. This is the 53rd closing ceremony for the training course which started from 1960.



Dr. Sakamoto, BRI Chief Executive

More than 50 people including the course participants came together and celebrate the ceremony. As it was the joint ceremony between JICA and BRI/IISEE, Ms. Rika UEMURA, Deputy Director General of JICA Tsukuba International

Center and Dr. Yuzo SAKAMOTO, BRI Chief Executive made their congratulatory remarks first. After them, Dr. Shoichi ANDO, Professor of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) extended his congratulations to the participants. The GRIPS is the joint partner of the master degree program.

Following the speeches, participants received the graduation certificates and diplomas. Additionally three of them were



BRI/IISEE Certificate to Mr. Xie



Participants

bestowed the Best Research Awards by GRIPS and IISEE in celebration of their high research capability and scientific level in their master theses. They are Mr. Chiko Bhakti Mulia Wiradikarta from Indonesia, Ms. Rocio Cecilia Rivera Rojas from Chile and Mr. Julius Mandigma Galdiano from Philippines.

Finally, Mr. Armando Israel Sifuentes Jimenez from Peru represented the entire participants and made a speech in response. (See P4)

## 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!!



## Courtesy Call on the MLIT Minister

On September 3, 2012-2013 training participants paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Akihiro Ohta, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.



Minister Ohta and 2012-2013 Participants

Minister Ohta specialized in civil engineering in Kyoto University. He is learned in earthquake engineering. He introduced a speech with his research theme in his university days and presented the countermeasures against earthquake disasters in Japan. He encouraged the participants to make efforts so as to play an important role in the field of disaster prevention in their respective countries.

Mr. Way Phyo Linn from Myanmar expressed his gratitude to the Minister and made a short speech on behalf of the participants. Mr. Chiko Bhakti Mulia Wiradikart from Indonesia, Mr. Mauricio Esteban Reyes Gallardo from Chile, Ms. Pinar Inci Kocak from Turkey, and Mr. Gilbert Kapi from Papua New Guinea introduced their studies.

By courtesy of the Minister Ohta, participants spent almost an hour in his office and lastly he shook hands with the participants one by one.

## GRIPS Graduation Ceremony

With the collaboration of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), IISEE participants are awarded the degrees of Master of Disaster Management when they successfully complete one-year training course.

Fortunately, all the 2012-2013 training course participants passed the GRIPS' evaluation criteria and assessment. On September 17, the Graduation



Mr. Mauricio Reyes, the second from the left, won the Dean Award



Enjoy, Now

Ceremony was held in GRIPS Sokairou Hall. 190 doctoral and master program graduates received their diplomas. The number of the graduates of the Disaster Management Policy Program was 33. Mr. Xie Quancai from China was awarded his diploma at first and his colleagues were followed. In the ceremony, 7 graduates are bestowed Dean's Awards due to their excellent performance. Mr. Mauricio Esteban Reyes Gallardo from Chile of Tsunami Disaster Mitigation course won glory.

After the ceremony, graduates and people concerned came together to the reception. Every participant looked to be happy to have their diplomas on master degree. It was surely the happy day and the last day for IISEE participants. On behalf of the IISEE, we extend your great appreciation to the people who support us. Thank you very much.

## 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.

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

## Back Numbers

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

## The 2nd GRIPS Student Conference

The Second Annual GRIPS (National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies) Student Conference took place on Thursday, September 5. The Student Conference is an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary conference. This year's conference theme was: "Learning from the Past, Looking towards the Future." In the conference, there are some special sessions for Invited Student Papers. The idea is to recognize students who were judged by their program directors and professors as having written the best MA papers.



Ms. Galstyan Nazeli at GRIPS

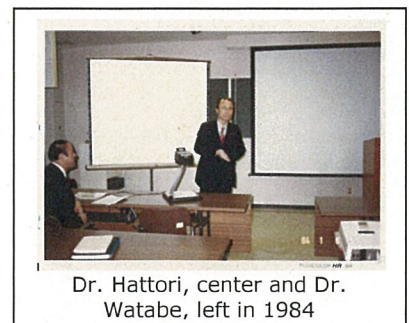
After the IISEE final individual study paper presentation, Ms. Galstyan Nazeli from the Republic of Armenia was chosen as the representative of the IISEE participants by her excellent presentation.

Though she didn't have much time to prepare, she carried off the presentation very well. Her subject was "Seismic Isolation and Rehabilitation Technologies for Improving Seismic Performance of RC Buildings in Armenia. Mr. Gilbert Kapi from PNG and Mr. Armando Israel Sifuentes Jimenez from Peru also joined the session.

## Dr. Hattori passed away on September 7

*By Ms. Yoriko Iiba, Head of Administration Division, IISEE*

It is with great sorrow that we have received the sad news of the sudden and untimely passing of our former director, Dr. Sadaiku Hattori on the 7th of September, 2013. He has served IISEE director from 1984 to 1987. We know how much he meant to IISEE. His last word to us was "Gracias," thank you in Spanish. We convey our deepest sympathy to his family.



Dr. Hattori, center and Dr. Watabe, left in 1984

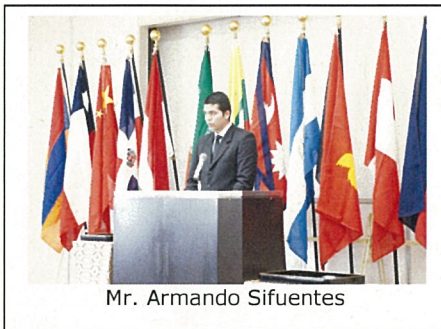
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## 😊 Address in Reply on Behalf of All the Participants

*By Mr. Armando Israel Sifuentes Jimenez from Peru*

Dr. SAKAMOTO, Chief Executive of Building research Institute, Dr. YOKOI, Director of IISEE, Dr. ANDO, Professor of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and former Director of IISEE, Ms. UEMURA, Deputy Director General, Tsukuba International Center, JICA, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

It is a pleasure and an honor for me to give this speech on behalf of my friends, participants of the Training Courses on "Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Disaster Management Policy" and "Tsunami Disaster Mitigation". A speech made of simple words and simple thoughts. It is simple as the desire of becoming better person day by day. It is simple as the desire of a better and peaceful world. Different countries we find in the world, different people we find in those countries. People make countries and countries make the world. Now, it is simpler. The world changes if we change.



Mr. Armando Sifuentes

However, the simplicity of our thoughts and desires is replaced by the complexity of our actions to make them true. Our actions are defined by our objectives. Our desires lead those objectives. Do we know what we are leading and the role we are playing? Disaster Risk Reduction is recognized as an instrument for achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals. We know what we are responsible for. It is bigger than one country, it involves everybody.

Here we are, one year after we decided to take actions and achieve our objectives through our effort and determination. We have faced difficulties, tiredness and stress. We were homesick. We felt lonely.

Today, we prove we are capable and have the energy to overcome all difficult situations and to deal with circumstances we never imagined.

Now, we realized we have learnt many different things about our fields and we have improved our skills. We have heard in this year many times seismic resistant design, P wave and tsunami inundation height but I would like to use just a word to describe them, knowledge. Knowledge that we can take to our contexts for creating better societies in accordance with our needs. Moreover, I would like to use a word to describe why we came for, something that cannot be replaced by anything, experience. Experience from a country that long time ago decided to make changes based on the utilization of the most precious resource, its people.

To conclude, I would like to thank people in the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Building Research Institute, the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering, the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and every single person that contributed to this training course.

To my friends, we will be in different countries far away from each other but, remember, we are still in the same planet.

