

# EVENT REPORT

## Report on the 14th Japan Earthquake Engineering Symposium: Successful Knowledge Sharing with Trans-disciplinary and Cross-border Participants

**Masayuki Kohiyama (Keio University)**

**Chairman of Information and Communication Committee of JAEE, Member of International Committee of JAEE**

The 14th Japan Earthquake Engineering Symposium (14JEES) was held at the Makuhari Messe International Convention Complex in Chiba, Japan from December 4–6, 2014. The Japan Earthquake Engineering Symposium is held once every four years, two years after one World Conference on Earthquake Engineering and two years before the next, on an alternating schedule. The 14JEES was organized by ten Japanese academic societies specializing in earthquake engineering, seismology, and disaster science, while the JAEE served as its host association.

After the opening speech by Chairman of the 14JEES Organizing Committee, Prof. Fumio Yamazaki (Chiba University), participants delivered oral and poster presentations to share information about their recent research achievements; these generated much interest and discussion. Exhibitors from many research institutions and private sector companies set up technical exhibition booths near the oral session rooms and many participants asked questions about the advanced technology on display.

To attract international participants, the 14JEES offered three Special Sessions and three International Sessions; the latter took the place of the usual, annual JAEE international symposium. Each of these sessions attracted 50 to 80 participants and generated a lively discussion.

As speakers, the special sessions featured distinguished researchers from Chile, Indonesia, New Zealand, Peru, Taiwan, Thailand, the US, and Japan (Photos 1, 2, and 3). Special Session SS1-Thu, Tsunami disaster mitigation—lessons learned from the events in the past 10 years, was chaired by Prof. Shunichi Koshimura (Tohoku University). Four of the presentations shared lessons and findings from the response, recovery, and restoration processes of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster and 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster. SS2-Fri, New technology for disaster mitigation against future earthquakes and tsunamis was chaired by Prof. Yoshihisa Maruyama (Chiba University), and featured presentations about the development and application of new technology to reduce the impact of gigantic earthquake and tsunami disasters. SS3-Fri, How were the lessons used for earthquake disaster mitigation? was chaired by Prof. Norio Maki (Kyoto University), and focused on the development of disaster resilient cities and communities.

The other International Sessions (Photo 4) were organized by Prof. Junji Kiyono (Kyoto University) and Prof. Masayuki Kohiyama (Keio University). The session chairs were Dr. Ho Choi (University of Tokyo), Prof. Hitomi Murakami (Yamaguchi University), and the two organizers mentioned above. The presentation themes ranged very widely, from engineering seismology, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, to disaster science, such as experiment reports, analysis method proposals, numerical simulations, tsunami disaster reports, and advanced technology for early warning systems. It was fascinating to learn about multilateral projects making use of disaster experience and lessons.

The symposium was very successful in gathering together many Japanese and international participants (720 participants in total). All who attended had an opportunity to learn about state-of-the-art earthquake engineering projects, to share ideas and technology for reducing earthquake and tsunami disasters, and to extend their human network for future collaboration.

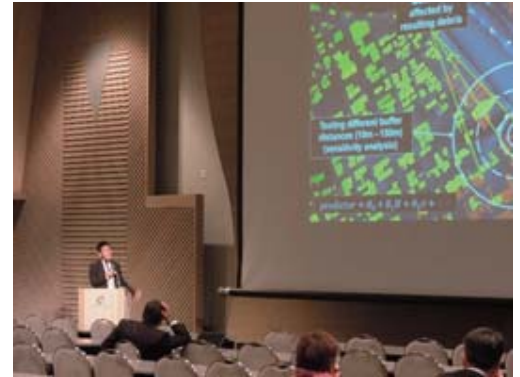


Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4