

Newsletter

A Newsletter of the Graduate Program for Foreign Students
at Civil & Environmental Engineering of Saitama University

ISSUE No. 3 1998

1st ADB-JSP Scholars Graduated

Two years hence the signing of the memorandum of agreement between the Asian Development Bank and Saitama University, a first group of three ADB-JSP scholars successfully completed their studies and were awarded the Master's degree last March 25. Mr. Abdul Rahman of Bangladesh, Mr. Maheshwar Narsingh KC of Nepal and Mr. Jaime Hernandez Jr. of the Philippines completed two years of studies and successfully defended their Master's theses. All three, armed with newly acquired knowledge and instilled with the noble ideals of contributing to the socio-economic development, are now back in their home countries.

ADB-JSP Officials visited

Undaunted by strong wind blowing that day, Mr. Yasuhiko Wake, JSF Coordinator, and Ms. Lina Garduque, ADB-JSP assistant, of the ADB Headquarters based in Manila visited Saitama University on May 8, 1997. The mission was introduced to the Special Graduate Program by FSO staff in which 10 ADB-JSP scholars are undergoing research and studies. In addition, a meeting with the scholars followed in which the scholarship sponsor and the scholars exchanged views.

WB Scholars admitted

Two scholars have been awarded the World Bank Graduate Scholarship to enter the Special Graduate Program last October. Ms. Ima Fatima of Indonesia will specialize in Infrastructure Management and Ms. Hoa Thi Viet Le of Vietnam will specialize in Environmental Engineering. The Special Program supports very well the aims of ideals of the JJ/WBGSP in helping to create an international community of highly trained professionals working in the field of economic and social development. In a related matter, Mr. Md. Ahsanul Hakim, the first WB scholar at Saitama University, graduated in 1997. At present he is working for a Consulting company in Bangladesh.



Welcome party in May

Message from Head of Foreign Student Office

How are you doing? I hope that you are working actively and in good health. I am glad to send you the third issue of Newsletter. The seven doctor and nine master students obtained the degrees from our program in Sep. 1997 and March 1998 and we welcomed the 15 new students in Oct. 1997 and in April 1998. We have made the academic agreement between Thammasat University and SIIT (Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology) in Thailand and Saitama University in the field of engineering. The program on the exchange of students started last year. Recently, Asian countries have been faced with the terrible economic crisis. I am sure that we will overcome it and recover soon. Looking forward to hearing good news from you.



Best wishes,

Hiroshi Mutsuyoshi
Professor and Head of FSO

Graduation Time Congratulations

Mr. M. R. Ghayamghamain from Iran was awarded the PhD degree in September 1997. His doctoral thesis was on the "Non-linear and Linear Response of the Site with Evaluation of Actual Dynamic Soil Properties" supervised by Prof. Kawakami. At present he is working for International Institute of Earthquake Engineering & Seismology, Iran.

Mr. Md. Monzur Alam Imteaz from Bangladesh was awarded the DEng degree in September 1997. His doctoral thesis was on the "Modeling of Lake Eutrophication Including Artificial Mixing & Destratification Characteristics on Algal Bloom" under the guidance of Prof. Fujita. He is currently working for Surface Water Modelling Centre.

Mr. Bal Krishna Maheshwari from India was awarded the PhD degree in September 1997. His doctoral thesis was on the "Soil-Structure-Interaction on the Structures with Pile Foundation Three Dimensional Non-linear Dynamic Analysis of Pile Foundation" supervised by Prof. H. Watanabe. He is currently working for Katsujima Co., Japan.

Mr. Tran Tan Van from Vietnam was awarded the DEng degree in September 1997. His doctoral thesis was on the "Changes in the mechanical properties of soft rocks due to unloading processes & their application to rock engineering" supervised by Prof. Yoshinaka. At present he is working at the Mineral & Geological Institute, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Mr. Hongwei Chu from China was awarded the DEng degree in September 1997. His doctoral thesis was on the "Investigations on Properties of Fresh Concrete by Distinct Element Method" under the guidance of Prof. Machida. He is currently working in Japan.

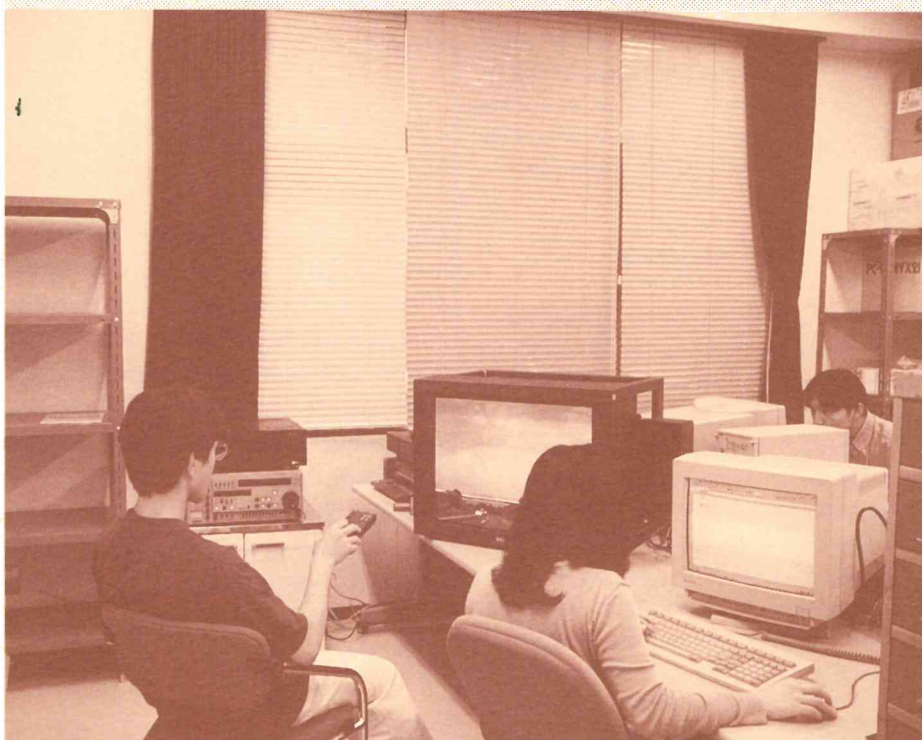
Mr. Md. Ahsanul Hakim from Bangladesh was awarded MEng degree in September 1997. His master's thesis was on the "Experimental Study on Solute Dispersion in Non-Homogeneous Porus Media" under the guidance of Prof. Sato. At present he is working for Team Consultants & Associates, Dhaka.

Ms. Yao Qi from China was awarded MEng degree in September 1997. Her master's

Research Profile Series (2)

URBAN & ENVIRON. ENGG. LABORATORY

Urban & Environmental Engineering Laboratory was established in 1996 under the supervision of Prof. Yasushi Sasaki and Prof. Yoichi Kubota. Dr. Kiyotaka Fukahori joined the laboratory from April 1997 as a research associate. Mr. Kobayashi is handling all the technical matters since 1996. The themes studied in the laboratory are related to Ecology, Botany and natural Environment studies, supervised by Prof. Sasaki. Studies of Landscape Engineering, City Planning & history of Civil Engineering in Japan are supervised by Prof. Kubota. The laboratory is equipped with image processing system (scanner, color printers, frame editing system, frame control system, video cameras...) in order to improve the research quality and to provide the students with the advanced materials needed in executing researches for both laboratory and field studies. The Urban & Environmental Engineering Laboratory is also carrying some collaborative studies with consultant companies concerning the development of support system for road planning and the landscape planning in residential areas. From April 1998, eight undergraduate students joined the laboratory. Also eight graduate students are conducting their researches, from which three are foreign students: 1 doctoral degree student and 2 master degree students.



Continued on page 3

thesis was "Simulation Method of Emergency Response in Cities after Earthquake Using Prolog". Her supervisor was Prof. Kawakami. She is presently working for Nihon Denpa Kogyo in Japan.

Ms. M. Nisa Zainudeen, a Sri Lankan, was awarded MEng degree in September 1997. Her master's thesis was on the "Financing Infrastructure Projects Through concession contracts" under the guidance of Prof. Akatsuka. She is currently employed as a Lecturer at Univ. of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

Ms. Qun Zhao from China was awarded the PhD degree in March 1998. Her doctoral thesis was on the "Wave kinematics on a submerged reef with a steep seaward face" under the guidance of Prof. Tanimoto. At present she is working as a JSPS postdoctoral fellow at Saitama University.

Mr. Truong Van Bon from Vietnam was awarded the PhD degree in March 1998. His doctoral thesis was on the "Role of Submerged Macrophytes in Shallow Eutrophic Lakes" under the guidance of Dr. Asaeda.

He is currently working for Marine Hydrometeorological Center, Vietnam.

Mr. Md. Abdur Rahman from Bangladesh joined the Environ. Sc. & Human Engg. Lab and was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. His master's thesis was on the "Removal of Manganese by Microfilter Membrane in Drinking Water Treatment" under the guidance of Prof. Fujita. He is currently working in Bangladesh.

Mr. Maheshwar. Narsingh. KC from Nepal joined the Structural Mechanics Lab and was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. His master's thesis was on the "An Experimental Study on Application of a Sandwich Slab to Composite Beams" under the guidance of Dr. Okui. He is currently working as a Civil Engineer, Dept. of Irrigation HMG, Nepal.

Mr. Jaime Y. Hernandez Jr. from Philippines was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. His master's thesis was on the "Modeling of Highly-Deformable Polymeric Damping Materials for Use in Seismic Protective

Devices" under the guidance of Dr. Tanzo. At present he is working for a consultancy firm.

Ms. Shiromi Karunaratne from Sri Lanka was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. Her master's thesis was on the "Growth Dynamics of Phragmites, the Common Reed; A Modeling Approach" under the guidance of Dr. Asaeda. She is continuing her Doctoral course at Saitama University.

Ms. Sherin Ahamed, also a Sri Lankan, was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. Her master's thesis was on the "Modeling the characteristics of plant Micro Climate with an Emphasis on water potential". She is currently working as a teaching assistant at Saitama University.

Ms. Pang Ya Qiong from China was awarded MEng degree in March 1998. Her master's thesis was on the "Modeling the sliding of the vertical section of the composite breakwater" supervised by Prof. Tanimoto. She is currently working in China.

Welcome New Students



Witchukreangkrai Eakarut
Thailand
Master, 1998. 4



Jha Kaushal Kumar
Nepal
Master, 1998. 4



Ei Chaw Khim
Myanmar
Master, 1998. 4



M. Oyuchimeg
Mongolia
Master, 1998. 4



Do Tho Duc
Vietnam
Master, 1998. 4



Mishraq-Ul-Quraish
Pakistan
Master, 1998. 4



Ho Wen Yue
Indonesia
Doctor, 1998. 4



T. M. Nguyen
Vietnam
Doctor, 1997. 10



Ashraf M. EL-ABD
Egypt
Doctor, 1997. 10



Bimal Babu Adhikary
Nepal
Doctor, 1997. 10



Mahesh Raj Gautam
Nepal
Doctor, 1997. 10



L. H. Rajapakse
Sri Lanka
Master, 1997. 10



Ima Fatima
Indonesia
Master, 1997. 10



Hoa Thi Viet Le
Vietnam
Master, 1997. 10



K. M. K. Dodampe G.
Sri Lanka
Master, 1997. 10

News

New Appointments

Prof. Koji Tsunokawa has been appointed by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as the professor of the Design and Planning Laboratory from June, 1998. Prof. Tsunokawa earned his Bachelor's Degree at Tokyo University, 1971. He finished the Master program at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA by 1982 and obtained his PhD degree at NorthWestern University, USA by 1986. His research field is transportation planning and infrastructure management. He has broad working experience at various institutions including the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) and the World Bank.

Faculty on Move

Prof. Katsutoshi Tanimoto has come back from Thammasat University, Thailand, where he served as the JICA expert from September 1996 to September 1997.

Prof. Kunio Watanabe has been dispatched to Thammasat University, Thailand for a period of one year from October 1997 where he is serving as the JICA expert for the project "Enhancement of Engineering School at Thammasat University", for which the department of civil engineering of Thammasat University is fully supported by Saitama University.

Faculty Upswing

Dr. Kuniaki Sato has been promoted to Professor from January, 1997. Prof. Sato's major fields of study are fluid dynamics in porous media and groundwater hydrology, underground space technology, and water resources application.

Dr. Kunio Watanabe has been promoted to Professor from October,

1997. Prof. Watanabe's major fields of study are hydrogeology, nuclear waste disposal technology, run-off analysis for mountainous watershed, and hydraulics in fractured rock mass.

UNESCO Chair Established

A UNESCO Chair on "Environmental Management and Infrastructure Development Engineering" has been established at Saitama University to lend the Special Graduate Program the prestige and more international dimension embodied by UNESCO needed to cultivate greater awareness of the human resource needs of developing countries in the field of civil & environmental engineering. Mr. Shinichiro Horie, executive secretary of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, graced the occasion to mark the establishment of the chair and the office last April 16. Among its first activities was the presentation of a paper entitled "Internationalization of Graduate Program on Civil Engineering at Saitama Uni-

versity - Our Experiences -" authored by Prof. H. Watanabe (UNESCO Chairholder) and Prof. H. Yamaguchi (Dept. Chairman) at the Regional Conference on Higher Education: National Strategies and Regional Cooperation for the 21st Century, Tokyo, Japan, 8-10 July 1997. Prof. H. Watanabe and Prof. H. Yamaguchi also participated in the roundtable discussions held during the conference.

Awards

Prof. Mutsuyoshi, H., Dr. Songkiat, M. and Mr. Yamaguchi, T. have been awarded the Japan Society of Civil engineers Prize (Yoshida Prize), which is the highest prize in concrete Engineering in JSCE, for the paper entitled "Flexural Behavior and Improvement of Ductility of Precast Segmental PC Beams with External Tendons". The paper is published in Journal of Materials Concrete Structures and Pavements, No. 544/V-32, pp.155-156, 1996.

Messages from the Foreign Student Office

Dear All,



This is our present office.

Regard,

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