



CIC NEWSLETTER

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Center for *International Cooperation*
Ocean Research Institute
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Opening Ceremony of IOC/WESTPAC 7th International Scientific Symposium
in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia (See page 4)

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Expansion of International Academic Exchange Activities at ORI in FY2008

Mitsuo UEMATSU

Professor and Director, Center for International Cooperation

As the director of the Center for International Cooperation (CIC), I would like to report our accomplishments in the fiscal year of 2008 (FY2008) and to project our capabilities in developing future international activity in ocean sciences.

In the year 2008, there were several important activities organized by the CIC members. The 8th Coordinators' Meeting on "Coastal Marine Science," was held as part of the Multilateral Core University Program supported by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) at Melaka, Malaysia during May 19–20, 2008. Most of the participants also took part in the 7th IOC/WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium, including workshops organized by the CIC faculty members and other Japanese colleagues, in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, during May 21–25. The 7th Session of IOC/WESTPAC was followed by a scientific symposium held at the same place during 26–29 May. The 41st Session of the IOC Executive Committee was held in Paris, from 24 June–1 July. Details of the above activities are provided in several articles in the current issue of the newsletter.

The 17th Meeting of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) was held in Dalian, China. Several faculty members from ORI contributed to this meeting by participating in many of the sessions and workshops. At the presentation ceremony, the training ship T/S Oshoro-maru of Hokkaido University was the very first winner of the PICES Ocean Monitoring Service Award (POMA). The CIC also supported several other activities such as the exhibition of ORI at the OTO '08 (OCEANS TECHNO-OCEAN '08) in Kobe, the activity of Malaysian scientists who joined the WESTPAC symposium, the publication of scientific journals in Indonesia, the activities of the SCOR national committee, etc.

ORI has developed formal agreements on scientific cooperation with ten research and educational institutions around the world. Further agreements and renewals are underway with the Australian National University, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (France), Universiti Putra Malaysia, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, the Earth Institute at Columbia



Professor Uematsu at the opening ceremony of the IOC/WESTPAC 7th International Scientific Symposium

University, the University of Hawaii, and the University of Southampton. These agreements are based on intimate relationships and strong scientific cooperative programs between the faculty members of ORI and the counterpart organizations.

Delegations from Chosun University, Korea; the Graduate School at Shenzhen, Tsinghua University; and Fisheries College, Ocean University of China visited ORI and engaged in discussions with the ORI faculty members exploring the possibility of future collaboration.

Since 2007, the rule for acceptance of the ORI Foreign Researchers have changed. In 2008, the CIC was able to invite three distinguished scientists from the United Kingdom and India without the enforcement of the rule requiring a three-month stay. In FY2009, the CIC will accept four of the seven visiting scientists to ORI from Australia, India, Italy, and the US. It is critical to invite active scientists to ORI for stimulating interactions with the faculty members and graduate students. The Director's old office has been refurbished and now functions as a CIC meeting room and a room for visiting researchers with the objective of enhancing the quality of the interactions taking place herein, and one vacant CIC office has been kept aside for visiting professors. As a domestic visiting associate professor at the CIC, Dr. Michio Kawamiya, Japan

Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, conducted scientific activities and stimulating discussions with us over a period of one year. We are grateful to him for his contributions and many constructive suggestions to ORI.

Scientists representing a wide spectrum of marine sciences work together in the CIC, and the Center leads

international research endeavors through planning, coordinating, and promoting international cooperative studies and research programs. The CIC strives to play a unique role in enhancing the quality of ocean sciences disseminated from the ORI to Asia and the world beyond.

JSPS National Coordinators' Meeting at Melaka, Malaysia

Nobuyuki MIYAZAKI

Professor, Center for International Cooperation

The 8th JSPS National Coordinators' Meeting was held at Renaissance Melaka Hotel, Malaysia, from 19–20 May, 2008. Prof. Mohd Ibrahim Bin Seenii Mohd, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, organized this meeting in the capacity of national coordinator of Malaysia. A group of 30 distinguished scientists, consisting of national coordinators, project and group leaders, local members of Malaysia, and ORI members, participated in this meeting. The agenda of this meeting was indicated as follows: (1) improvement in the relationship between the National Coordinators and JSPS Project Leaders and the individual members in member countries, (2) development of linkages among JSPS projects, (3) development of linkages with international programs, and (4) the sourcing of funds to enhance program activities. It was observed that JSPS members built a suitable linkage among the four projects ((1) water circulation and the process of material transport, (2) harmful marine microalgae, (3) biodiversity, and (4) marine pollution) and/or four groups in project 3 ((1) Benthos, (2) Seagrasses, (3) Plankton, and (4) Fishes), and some members of this JSPS program successfully obtained the research fund from their own countries and improved their scientific activities by using the funds. Additionally, we had a substantial amount of time to conduct meaningful discussions on the future plan of action for the JSPS program by considering the linkages between the various JSPS projects and other international programs as well as by the devising of a new approach to marine science using advanced technology in the coming years. Since the national



Opening remark by Professor Miyazaki



Opening session of the National Coordinators' Meeting

coordinators' meeting only lasted two days, we did not have enough time to construct a detailed plan; and hence, we carried the agenda forward to the 7th IOC/WESTOPAC held at Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, over May 21–25, 2008, where we resumed discussion on the future research plan.



Group photo of participants in the National Coordinators' Meeting of the JSPS program "Coastal Marine Science".

The 7th IOC/WESTPAC Scientific Symposium and the 7th Session of IOC/WESTPAC in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

Yutaka MICHIDA

Professor, International Coastal Research Center

The 7th IOC/WESTPAC Scientific Symposium was held in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, from May 21–25, 2008, followed by the 7th Intergovernmental Session of the IOC/WESTPAC held at the same place as the Symposium, May 26-29, 2008.

More than 300 marine scientists, mainly from the Member States of WESTPAC, participated in the Symposium and presented more than 200 papers. Prof. Uematsu organized a workshop on SOLAS program in conjunction with the Symposium. About 70 oceanographers from 5 countries were provided support by the JSPS multi-lateral Core University Program "Coastal Marine Science" to participate in this important scientific event in the WESTPAC region. This effort was given due acknowledgement by the members of the WESTPAC community of oceanographers; the JSPS was also commended for their efforts at this point, in the concluding discussion near the end of the Symposium.

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific



A session of The 7th IOC/WESTPAC Scientific Symposium

(WESTPAC) held its 7th Intergovernmental Session following the scientific symposium. Prof. Uematsu of CIC and Prof. Michida of ICRC were members of the Japanese delegation to the Session. There were intensive discussions on the reform of WESTPAC program, including a discussion on the ways in which to revitalize its research activities in the next inter-sessional period and on the establishment of the WESTPAC advisory board. The Session elected Dr. Zhang Zhanhai of China as the new Chairman of the Sub-Commission and Prof. Fukuyo, the head of delegation of Japan to the Session, and Prof. Nor Aieni of Malaysia as the 1st and 2nd Vice-Chairpersons, respectively.

The CIC will further contribute to the WESTPAC through its coordinating function of international cooperation in oceanography, under close collaboration with the national oceanographic community of Japan.



The 7th Intergovernmental Session of IOC/WESTPAC

Participation in the IOC Executive Council

Yutaka MICHIDA

Professor, International Coastal Research Center

As one of the important missions of the Center, staff members of the Center have regularly participated in some of the meetings of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The 41st Session of IOC Executive Council (IOC-EC41) was held at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, June 24–July 1, 2008; in this session, Prof. Uematsu of CIC and Prof. Michida of ICRC (International Coastal Research Center of ORI) participated as members of the Japanese delegation headed by Prof. Yamagata of the University of Tokyo. Since its establishment in 1961, the IOC has been fulfilling a leading role in the promotion of international cooperation and coordination of oceanographic activities. One of the major issues discussed at the IOC-EC41 was “the future of IOC” based on the recognition of the emerging importance of the IOC in the UN system with respect to the scientific studies of global climate change and integrated coastal zone management. The Executive Council also conducted an intensive discussion regarding the 50th anniversary of the IOC. On the basis of the decisions



The IOC Executive Council was held in Paris

made at IOC-EC41, the Japanese National Committee for IOC has started preparatory discussions regarding Japan's commitment to the anniversary and scientific activities to be conducted at the national and international levels. Prof. Uematsu, the Director of CIC,

is fully involved in these events. The Center will continue to contribute to such an important international event in the field of oceanography by coordinating with the national community of marine sciences.

Visiting Professors' Reports

Manmohan SARIN

Visiting Professor

Senior Professor, Physical Research Laboratory, India



As a part of my sabbatical leave, I spent a very productive and enjoyable time of three months (1st Oct to 27th Dec'08) at the Ocean Research Institute (Tokyo). This was my second visit to Japan, an earlier one was way back in Jan 2001 in

connection with the APN sponsored workshop held in Kobe.

I and my wife (Rajni) arrived in Tokyo on 30th September 2008. Perhaps this was the best time to visit Tokyo with the onset of autumn weather, when the tree leaves start turning into beautiful colours. Our visit to ORI was made more special due to the personal care taken by Prof Mitsuo UEMATSU and his secretarial staff (Ms Ayano Koga) who took extra care in making necessary logistic arrangements for our comfortable stay in Tokyo. Initially, we stayed for three weeks at a "weekly mansion" in Nakano-ku, close to ORI campus with a nice 10 min walk. Subsequently, we moved to International Lodge in Shirokanedai, a very nice neighbourhood and perhaps one of the best areas to live in Tokyo. This also gave a unique experience of commuting to ORI daily by the Tokyo subway train system, a 40 minutes ride each way from Shirokanedai housing and followed by a 14 min walk.

On scientific account, I had very useful time in having frequent interactions with Prof Uematsu's group

(two graduate students and one PDF). The colloquium on every Wednesday (morning hrs), followed by the group meeting and scientific discussion were very rewarding. Discussion with other faculty members of ORI was equally useful, in particular with Prof Obata. Also, I was very closely associated in helping a graduate student (Ms Yoko Iwamoto), initially with the preparation for Ph D thesis defense and later on for correcting the thesis chapters. In this context, visit to the main campus of Tokyo University was a unique experience. Over a period of three months, I gave two lectures at ORI and an invited talk at the annual meeting on Atmospheric Chemistry (held at JAMSTEC, 29-31 Oct '08). A significant amount of useful time was also spent in writing research papers with my graduate students (back in India). In all, I was able to finalize six papers that were submitted to respective journals. Another



Professor Sarin (third from the left) and members of Uematsu Lab at Kamakura

significant benefit was derived based on my interaction with Prof Yutaka Kondo's research group located at the Research Centre for Advanced Science & Technology (RCAST, Tokyo).

Life over weekends was equally exciting in making pleasure trips to tourist places (Meji Shrine, Imperial Palace, Asakusa Temple and Hakone). A high-point of the weekend trips was visit to Kamakura organized by Prof Uematsu and his colleagues. Although, the weather

was not very favourable to make a trip to Mt Fuji, I could take some nice pictures during visit to "Observation Tower" in Yokohama. Overall, we spent a quality time in Tokyo and returned to India on 27th Dec'08. I am very thankful to Prof Uematsu and all the ORI secretarial staff for making our Japan trip a most memorable one and fascinating, something to look forward again.

Sourendra Kumar BHATTACHARYA

Visiting Professor

Professor, Physical Research Laboratory, India



I came to Tokyo on 4th January this year for a three month stay in ORI as a Visiting Professor in the field of Isotope Geosciences especially dealing with atmospheric trace gases like ozone and carbon dioxide. Prof.

Toshitaka Gamo kindly hosted me and encouraged me to carry out the experiments. Several scientists from his Laboratory like Noriko-san and Tsutsumi-san helped me set up the glass vacuum line to do what I planned.

This is probably my seventh visit to Japan and Tokyo is a city close to my heart. I first came to Tokyo on a winter evening of 29 February in the year 1976 as a Mombusho scholar to study radioisotopes in meteorites. Since then I have made many visits to do research (as JSPS Fellow in 1982) or attend conferences. The change in life style and affluence of people over this 34 year period is remarkable. A typical scene in a train today is so different; ubiquitous use of cell phones has replaced reading of books or news paper/magazine at that time. I now rarely see kimono clad women who were not so uncommon before especially in holidays. I went to see my Alma Mater Bussei-ken which was located in Roppongi with my old Professor Honda-Sensei but both

of us came back disappointed and with a sense of loss since the whole building has disappeared to give place to a huge Art Gallery made of glass and steel.

But despite these external changes people have remained the same at heart. My old friends are still so pleased to see me and invite me for long chats over beer or sake. I had a pleasant trip to Tohoku University to discuss about isotopes of trace gases and build up a future collaboration with my laboratory in India. My host Nakazawa-Sensei kindly arranged a trip to Matsushima Bay which is an area full of islands with enchanting shapes. The Sendai museum reminded me of by-gone ages of Japanese life and its slow evolution to the modern era.

Scientifically, this visit has been very productive for me. I could not only set up the line but could work on five manuscripts two of them with colleagues in Japan which were pending. I still have one pending work where Gamo-san is a coauthor. I gave two talks in ORI, one describing my recent work on ozone and CO2 isotopes and the other discussing Trace gas analysis in an Indian coastal station. I also gave a talk in Tokyo Institute of Technology where my old friend Yoshida-san is now Head of the Centre for Environmental Studies.

I must thank the Tokyo University and especially the Centre for International Cooperation for inviting me to ORI for a very effective interaction with scientists and students paving the way for a future collaboration.

The report by Dr. Lukas Ruber of The Natural History Museum, UK, will appear in the next issue.

Michio KAWAMIYA

Visiting Associate Professor

Group Leader, Frontier Research Center for Global Change, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology



I usually work as a project manager for model development for global warming projection at Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC). With my professional background in physical oceanography, I am of the opinion that oceanography is

not making its presence felt in the field of global warming projections. Because of this, I was very pleased when Prof. Uematsu of CIC asked me to join ORI as a visiting associate professor for FY2008. I believe that this would present an excellent opportunity to advocate global warming simulation researches, including the modeling of biogeochemical cycle at the prestigious Institute of Oceanography, Japan. Mr. Fukuda, a student supervised by Prof. Komatsu of the Marine Bioscience Department of ORI, responded to my advocacy. We, Mr. Fukuda and I, started to work together on the impact assessment of global warming on the distribution of sargassoes around Japan, using datasets of Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, phase 5 (which greatly contributed to the IPCC 4th Assessment Report). It was not an easy task for him, since he was not used to dealing with huge datasets. After one year of hard work, his enthusiasm bore fruit;

Prof. Komatsu presented our preliminary result at the 40th Hokuyo-kenkyu (Northern Ocean Research) symposium of the Japanese Society of Fisheries Oceanography. Prof. Uematsu also provided me with the opportunity to conduct a seminar over July and March, where I mainly presented the works that were being carried out by my group at JAMSTEC. The main task of our group is to incorporate biogeochemical modules, including the ocean carbon cycle component, into the “core” climate model. I found the discussions with ORI scientists very stimulating since many of them are involved in observational researches on biogeochemical cycling in the ocean. Although there are many observational scientists at JAMSTEC as well, it is unfortunately somewhat rare for me to engage in any scientific discussions with them, largely due to my lack of initiative and partly because the scientists involved with observation and modeling, work at different JAMSTEC branches. Collaborating with Mr. Fukuda and the seminars and the subsequent discussions at ORI greatly inspired me to ponder on the linking of observation and modeling, and on the development of a constructive relationship between ORI and JAMSTEC. I would also like to mention that I had a wonderful time during the “Flat Hour” events over beers and Japanese sakes with many other ORI staff members, including Dr. Oka, Ms. Koga, and the cheerful students of Uematsu-lab. Playing football under the glare of August sunshine was almost lethal for someone who is touching forty (“Around Forty”), but it was a fun, too. I am grateful to Prof. Uematsu who made all of this possible.

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