



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

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2. Websites of the Events and Activities

International Symposium on East Asia and the new Potential of Media



Overview

Date	Sunday, 25 September, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Center for East Asian Media Studies
Co-host	Research Faculty of Media and Communication
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese / Chinese / Korean (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	As part of efforts to achieve sustainable growth, the role of the media is currently under close scrutiny. In particular, the news of the Great East Japan Earthquake had a great impact and spread immediately across the globe via TV images. In this symposium, new possibilities for East Asia and its media will be discussed in collaboration with a group of TV producers from Japan, Korea and China (the 11th TV Producers' Forum of Japan, Korea and China) in terms of Japanese TV's coverage of the Great East Japan Earthquake and how the news was shown on TV in Korea and China.
Registration	Not-required
Fees	Free
Contact	Research Faculty of Media and Communication (Contact: Kitami) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-6940 E-mail: ceamsinfo@imc.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

News of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the unprecedented damage it caused spread around the world instantaneously through media coverage. The information had a profound impact not only on Japan but also on its neighbors in South Korea and China. This symposium involved discussions of how the disaster was communicated to the world by the media and the way it was reported in South Korea and China.

Yoshinori Imai, former Executive Vice-President of NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.) and currently a Visiting Professor at Ritsumeikan University, delivered a keynote speech entitled In Anticipation of an East Asia Media Network, which focused on topics including disaster reporting by NHK and the mutually cooperative relationships enjoyed by media organizations in East Asia. After the speech, a panel discussion was held under the title of Major Disasters and the Media: Challenges and Prospects for East Asia. Prior to the discussion, three panelists reported on the Great East Japan Earthquake and on the media in East Asia. The first speaker was Prof. Kim Chun-sik of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in South Korea, who gave a presentation with the title Comparative Analysis of News Reports on the Great East Japan Earthquake between Japan and South Korea – Focus on Public Broadcasters KBS and NHK. Next, China Central Television (CCTV) director Zeng Jun-hui spoke on the theme of Positioning of the Chinese Media and Viewpoints in Disaster News Reporting. Lastly, Hokkaido University Associate Professor Koichi Kitami spoke on the theme of A Media and Information Environment Survey in Japan and East Asia on the Great East Japan Earthquake. After these deliveries, the panelists and Mr. Imai discussed mutual understanding in East Asia and new possibilities for the media.

The symposium was held in conjunction with the 11th TV Producers' Forum of Japan, Korea and China. The event attracted individuals involved in broadcasting from these three countries for exchanges of opinion beyond national boundaries and helped to foster deeper levels of mutual understanding. Many members of the general public also attended the event.

The symposium offered a valuable opportunity to begin in-depth consideration of the roles of the media in East Asia. The participation of many people from Japan, South Korea and China and the enhanced exchanges that took place are expected to help boost related studies in the future.



Advanced Technology and Management System for Health



Overview

Date	Sunday, 16 October, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Faculty of Health Sciences, Hokkaido University
Co-host	Sapporo Bio Cluster "Bio-S" (NOASTEC FOUNDATION)
Sponsorship	Sapporo Electronics and Industries Cultivation Foundation
Venue	Faculty of Health Sciences, Hokkaido University
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	The time has come for us to reclaim responsibility for our own wellbeing. To achieve this, there is a need for cutting-edge measurement technologies and reliable health-related information network systems for immediate health risk assessment and disease prevention. In this session, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS :an analytical technique to assess diseases or aging-related stress by measuring levels of oxidized lipids in the blood) and research on carbon nanotube sensors will be introduced. Projects for establishing structures to enable the use of these systems worldwide will also be presented. In addition, the feasibility of an industry-academia-government collaboration project involving a tele-health consultation system that connects pharmacies and universities will be examined in terms of technical matters, operation and policy, and the disaster-relief activities we have implemented using this system (in the form of extended demonstration experiments) in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake will be reported.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	General Affairs Section, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hokkaido University TEL: +81-(0)11-706-3315 E-mail: shomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On October 16, a public seminar entitled An Advanced Technology and Management System for Health was held to mark the establishment of Department of Health Sciences and the opening of the Health Innovation Center at Hokkaido University's Faculty of Health Sciences.

First, with Prof. Koichi Yokosawa presiding, Hiroki Sato of Hitachi, Ltd. gave a lecture with the title Technologies for Measuring Biological Functions to Support Mental Healthcare, discussing the current status and future prospects of research to evaluate mental health using non-invasive brain activity measurement technology. Next, Specially Appointed Assistant Professor Seiji Takeda spoke on the theme of How Can Nanotechnology Contribute to Health Sciences?, covering the development of a small, high-sensitivity sensor based on the properties of nanomaterials, discussing the application of the technology to the measurement of lipid peroxides and other antioxidants, and detailing observation technologies for nanoscale-level investigation.

Next, with Prof. Hitoshi Chiba presiding, Specially Appointed Associate Professor Hui Shu-Ping delivered a lecture entitled Molecular-level Health Sciences to Enable Mass Spectrometry, illustrating the development of a technique for measurement of lipid peroxides at the molecular level using liquid chromatography mass spectrometry and its clinical application. Prof. Hitoshi Chiba then took to the podium, giving a speech entitled From Regional Level to Global level: The Advanced Lipid Analysis Laboratory as a Research Base, highlighting lipid and lipid peroxide analysis technologies developed under the Sapporo Bio Cluster Bio-S project. He also outlined the activities of the Health Innovation Center and The Laboratory for Advanced Lipid Analysis (which are tasked with providing technologies both domestically and internationally) and shed light on visions for the future.

The seminar continued with Prof. Katsuhiko Ogasawara presiding. Prof. Ogasawara also gave a lecture entitled Challenges for Tele-health Consultation, outlining the details of remote health guidance services based on cooperation between pharmacies and the Office of Tele-Health Consultation at Hokkaido University's Faculty of Health Sciences and explaining tele-health support activities for areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. His presentation was followed by a further lecture by Kazuyuki Nakayasu, DEPUTY DIRECTOR Counselor Office of Health and Welfare for Director-General for Policy Planning and Evaluation MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR AND WELFARE and a Hokkaido University Visiting Associate Professor in health sciences. Speaking on the theme of An Information Network System for Health, he outlined the details of information network systems and introduced actual examples of their application. He also talked about the direction of institutional and technical studies on information networks from the viewpoint of medical information policy, and discussed problems facing the application of networks.

The seminar saw enthusiastic exchanges of views and opinions between the speakers and other participants. The event can be considered a success because many respondents to a post-seminar questionnaire expressed interest in an ongoing series of meetings of this type, illustrating a high level of interest in the environment of research among the general public.

Hokkaido University's Faculty of Health Sciences expresses its gratitude to event co-host Sapporo Bio Cluster Bio-S (the Northern Advancement Center for Science & Technology) and to the Sapporo Electronics and Industries Cultivation Foundation for its sponsorship.





Overview

Date	Friday, 21 October, 2011 Saturday, 22 October, 2011 Start at 8:45 (Finished)
Organizer	WSEN in Hokkaido University Organizing Committee
Co-host	Center for Sustainability Science, Hokkaido University
Venue	Center for Sustainability Science (CENSUS)
Language: English	
Intended Audience: College Students	
Outline	The World Student Environmental Network (WSEN) aims to help address global challenges such as climate change. As part of its activities, students of universities around the world that participate in the network seek to share knowledge on the green initiatives that are implemented on their individual campuses toward the resolution of environmental problems. Students also impart information and promote exchanges among themselves to achieve their goals, and come together annually at the body's summit meeting. The first summit was held in 2008 at Doshisha University in Japan, and the Student Proposal compiled there was submitted to that year's G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit. The event has since been held in Canada, Germany and this year in Sweden (with Student Proposals delivered to COP15 and COP16). During the Sustainability Weeks event, students with experience in summit meetings from Doshisha University and Hokkaido University – the only Japanese universities to have been members of the WSEN network since its establishment – will hold a mini summit. This event, which will be attended by international students from both universities, will feature presentations on energy usage in the students' hometowns and ongoing regional environmental activities. Based on these presentations, summit participants will discuss environmental activities in which Japanese students can collaborate with local governments. They will then compile a Student Proposal for submission to the municipal governments of Kyoto and Sapporo.
Registration	Required. Please register via E-mail by October 4 (Tue.)
Fees	Free
Contact	WSEN Organization at Hokkaido University E-mail: sss.hu2011@gmail.com
URL	http://wsen.doshisha.ac.jp/

Report

At this event, students of Doshisha University and Hokkaido University worked together to host a scaled-down version of the World Student Environmental Summit at Hokkaido University.

The summit was implemented as a project of the World Student Environmental Network (WSEN), a global organization of students engaged in environmental conservation activities on campus. Students of universities participating in the WSEN seek to help address global challenges, such as climate change, by sharing knowledge on the green initiatives that are implemented on their individual campuses. The WSEN also hosts the World Student Environmental Summit, where students assemble from around the world for discussion. The first summit was held in 2008 at Japan's Doshisha University, and the student proposal compiled there was submitted to that year's G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit. The event has been held in Canada, Germany and this year in Sweden, with student proposals delivered to COP 15 and COP 16.

Hokkaido University is Japan's only institution to have sent students to the summit every year since the WSEN's establishment. Students of Doshisha University and Hokkaido University who had attended the World Student Environmental Summit played central roles in the holding of this scaled-down version with international students from both universities.

On the first day, participants attended lectures focusing on the energy situation in Japan and other countries, and on the establishment of a sustainable society. They also inspected a biogas plant, and international students made presentations on energy use in their home countries and on environmental initiatives implemented in their hometowns and at their universities.

The second day involved discussion of the requirements for creating a sustainable society based on insights gained by attendees the previous day from the lectures, inspection and presentations. Participants also developed specific projects for the cities of Sapporo and Kyoto (where Doshisha University is located), and proposals based on these projects were delivered to officials in both cities.



RIRic Project: Genetically Modified Foods and the Community



Overview

Date	Saturday, 22 October, 2011 Sunday, 23 October, 2011 Start at 8:45 (Finished)
Organizer	The management committee on the RIRiC version's GM jury
Venue	Hokkaido University Enyuu Gakusha
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students	
Outline	The GM Domin Council follows the concept of the GM jury, which is based on the idea of a public jury, as an approach to public involvement in technological assessment. The session will involve 15 members of the general public discussing specific issues both in small groups and in plenary while collecting information from professionals, and their finalized views on these issues will be announced to the media. With the GM Domin Council as a starting point, we also plan to create a place on campus where we can work to consider, discuss and form opinions together with the people of Hokkaido on how to proceed with genetically modified crops in the future.
Registration	Required. Please register via e-mail or phone (Sept. 22 – Oct. 21)
Fees	Free
Contact	The RIRiC Project(Remodeling Interactive Risk Communication based on Actor's Spontaneous Cooperation) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4129 E-mail: riric@agr.hokuda.ac.jp

Report

The RIRiC Project (Remodeling Interactive Risk Communication based on Actor's Spontaneous Cooperation) at Hokkaido University's Research Faculty of Agriculture aims to examine interactive risk communication based on consumer consent.

The GM Domin Council was set up as part of a study on combining a public participatory forum for mature and exhaustive debate with a platform for risk communication.

An executive committee independent of the RIRiC Project managed the activities of the GM Domin Council. In reference to the GM jury (a UK body made up of members of the public), council members answered predetermined questions listed on the agenda. The committee sent questionnaires to 3,000 randomly selected people in Hokkaido, 158 of whom expressed a desire to be involved with the council. Sixteen of these were selected to represent Hokkaido's demographic make-up, and were asked the following questions:

Assuming genetically modified crops are to be cultivated in Hokkaido:

- 1 What functions should crops have to be authorized for cultivation?
- 2 Under what conditions should they be authorized for cultivation?

These questions may have been difficult for members of the general public, who might lack specialist knowledge of the topic, but the participants decided on answers through related discussions. A supervisory panel established to ensure fairness oversaw the proceedings and provided guidance as necessary.

The answers given by the GM Domin Council, along with related reference materials, were submitted to the Senior Director for the Bureau of Food Safety Promotion in the Hokkaido Government's Department of Agriculture and other officials. The Senior Director accepted the answers as worthy opinions, and expressed his expectations for various related initiatives undertaken by universities.

As a future research agenda item, individuals involved with the RIRiC Project will examine whether this methodology is applicable to other fields toward its actual implementation.



Risk Diversification in Modern Society and Environmental Education



Overview

Date	Saturday, 22 October, 2011 Start at 9:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Center for Sustainability Science (CENSUS)
Co-host	Akita University
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	In this session, which will be based on the viewpoint of education for sustainable development, methods of risk management in today's society and the promotion of public awareness for such management by means of environmental education will be discussed in relation to the extensive damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake. A report on the disaster areas and proposals for the development of sustainable systems will be given with special emphasis on agriculture, fisheries and ecology. Possible responses to enormous risks (such as those attributable to the activities of modern society in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake) and the role of environmental education in risk management will be discussed.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Center for Sustainability Science(CENSUS) Contact: Momota TEL +81-(0)11-706-4531 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4534 E-mail: jj-admin@census.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Held by Hokkaido University's Center for Sustainability Science on October 22, this symposium involved discussion of the roles of risk management in modern society with focus on education for sustainable development (ESD). At the event, damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake was reported on from the specific viewpoints of primary industry and ecology, and proposals were also made in relation to the establishment of sustainable systems. The event's morning session began with a lecture focusing on the status of radioactive contamination of soil after the Great East Japan Earthquake and the feasibility of phytoremediation ? a decontamination technique involving the use of plants. The next presentation discussed the role of forest biodiversity in Southeast Asia in mitigating natural disaster risks. The final lecture highlighted the post-disaster reconstruction processes for long-line fishing in Kesennuma City from the viewpoint of fisheries science. In the Q&A session that followed, participants from abroad proposed the use of phytoremediation for decontamination at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. In the afternoon session, a keynote speech on ESD was delivered with focus on leadership education. Speakers from abroad described the status of ESD in their countries, and participants then engaged in related exchanges.

The symposium involved discussion of the roles of environmental education in risk management with focus on the common ground that exists between the different fields of post-disaster reconstruction and ESD. The outcomes of the event will be used as educational resources and shared within the Center for Sustainability Science's network with Asia and Africa.



The 8th Presentation & Debate Competition, School of Economics and Business Administration



Overview

Date	Saturday, 22 October, 2011 Start at 9:50 (9:30- Opening session) (Finished)
Organizer	School of Economics and Business Administration、 Hokkaido University
Venue	Hokkaido University Center for Experimental Research in Social Science W103、 102、 101、 202
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students	

Outline	In this program, teams consisting of Hokkaido University undergraduate and graduate students from various fields will make presentations on unique ideas for Sapporo transportation system design, and will identify the strengths and weaknesses of their plans through debate. This year's event will be the eighth of its kind, and will involve discussion of issues facing the transportation system in Sapporo, such as rapid demographic aging due to a lower birthrate, reduced economic vitality and challenges relating to the realization of a low-carbon city. With an understanding of these issues, students will compete against each other with proposals for the development of future strategies in Sapporo transportation. We look forward to sharing ideas with members of the general public, high school/university/graduate school students and people involved in local transportation.
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Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	School of Economics and Business Administration、 Hokkaido University、

sponsored by “The 8th Presentation & Debate Competition” Management Office (Contact: K.Tsukada)
 TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4066 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4066
 E-mail: sacade@econ.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The 8th Presentation & Debate Competition was organized by the School of Economics and Business Administration under the theme of Unique Ideas for Sapporo Transportation System Design. The event attracted 120 students in a record number of 15 teams, including individuals attending the event for the first time and some from other faculties and universities. The teams pooled their knowledge to present their own transportation designs based on various modes of transportation, including bicycle, bus, taxi and underground waterway, and engaged in lively debates for nearly eight hours.

The poster contest, which was launched in 2010, also attracted a large number of visitors and provided participating students with a fresh experience different from that of the debate competition.

The event was attended by many students and visitors, and was considered a great success.

Debate competition results

First place – Hokukoukai (a joint team consisting of students from the Faculty of Engineering, the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and the School of Law)

Second place – Minna de Kurasundayo No. 2 (lit. “We all live together”) (Hashimoto Seminar, School of Economics and Business Administration)

Third place – Team Kudo (School of Economics and Business Administration, Kudo Seminar)

Poster contest result

Winner – Experts in Africa (School of Economics and Business Administration, Takai Seminar)



Special Lecture:History of the Radiotherapy of Cancer and Cutting-edge Research



Overview

Date	Saturday, 22 October, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Funding Program for World-Leading Innovative R&D on Science and Technology (FIRST)
Co-host	The Hokkaido University Museum
Venue	The Hokkaido University Museum 1F
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General Public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	This event is intended to introduce the history of radiation therapy for cancer treatment and related state-of-the-art technology to members of the general public.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Graduate School of Medicine, Hokkaido University (Contact: K. Kimura) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-7440 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-7353 E-mail : sentan [at] med.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Radiotherapy enabling the treatment of cancer without surgery is currently attracting widespread attention due to the remarkable developments achieved in the field in recent years. Funded by the Funding Program for World-leading Innovative R&D on Science and Technology (FIRST Program), Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Medicine is developing a state-of-the-art radiation therapy system as part of such efforts. At this event, Prof. Hiroki Shirato gave a presentation in layman's terms on the history of cancer radiotherapy and related cutting-edge technologies. Despite rainy weather, the event attracted a capacity audience, including many members of the general public.

All respondents to a post-event questionnaire stated that the lecture had served to deepen their interest in cancer radiotherapy, with many saying they would undergo the treatment if they suffered from cancer. Several respondents also outlined specific impressions on their questionnaire forms, such as surprise at the progress of radiotherapy's development, relief that they would be fine even if they had cancer in the future, and expectations for radiotherapy over surgery and anticancer drugs. Many indicated that they would be interested in attending any future radiotherapy lectures held. In response to such interest, Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Medicine is considering hosting a lecture meeting with upgraded content on radiotherapy for cancer and other events during the 2012 Sustainability Weeks.



Reconstruction of Disaster-Affected Areas and Human Resource



Development – The possibility of Building Sustainable Societies through Social Entrepreneurship

Overview

Date Sunday, 23 October, 2011
Start at 9:30 (**Finished**)

Organizer Center for Sustainability Science (CENSUS)

Venue Hokkaido University Conference Hall

Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)

Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students

Outline This symposium will focus on the role(s) and potential of social entrepreneurship in disaster-affected areas, ideally leading to the creation of sustainable social systems and making them available to disaster victims. Keynote speakers will talk about their experiences with social entrepreneurship in developing countries. Then, those who are engaged in supportive activities in the Tohoku region will report on condition in the disaster-affected areas as well as on the actual needs of the disaster victims. And finally, a discussion will be held with representatives of private companies on the traits considered essential for social entrepreneurs to create sustainable societal systems that accurately reflect victims' needs, and on development of the necessary human resources to achieve such entrepreneurship.

Program

Dr. Nobuyuki TSUJI (Associate Professor, CENSUS, Hokkaido University)

9:55-10:05 Opening Remark: Prof. Noriyuki TANAKA (CENSUS, Hokkaido University)

Morning Session: Keynote Speech

10:05-11:00

"Developing Community Entrepreneurship through Public Service Education"
Prof. Irfan D. PRIJAMBADA (Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia)

11:05-12:00

"Rebuilding Japan with Foreign Tourists: Blueprint for Building Japan's Largest Travel Advisor Website"
Mr. Terrie LLOYD (Chief Executive Officer, LINC Media, Inc.)

12:00-13:00 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: Panel Discussion

13:00-14:30 Panel Discussion

Panelists

Mr. Harumitsu TAKAGI (Director, NPO NEOS)

Prof. Kiyoto KUROKAWA (Graduate School of Environment and Information Science, Yokohama National University) “Worldwide One Village One Product movement as a regional development approach – Innovation for social business and new responsibilities of university”

Dr. Makoto TAMURA (Institute for Global Change Adaptation Science (ICAS), Ibaraki University)

Dr. Yuki SADAIKE (Institute of Seismology and Volcanology, Hokkaido University)

Chair Prof. Noriyuki TANAKA

14:30-14:40 Conclusion

14:40-14:50 Closing Remark

Prof. Masao MINAGAWA (Director of CENSUS/ Graduate School of Environmental Science)

Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Center for Sustainability Science (Contact: Tanaka) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4530 E-mail: jimu@census.hokudai.ac.jp , Web: http://www.census.hokudai.ac.jp/

Report

On October 23, 2011, Hokkaido University's Center for Sustainability Science hosted a symposium entitled Reconstruction of Disaster-affected Areas and Human Resource Development ? The Possibility of Building Sustainable Societies Through Social Entrepreneurship. The event involved discussions from the viewpoint of social entrepreneurship on the educational tools required in order to foster human resources capable of taking action independently to create opportunities in the field. The event also identified related challenges.

In the morning session, two invited speakers delivered keynote addresses highlighting two cases: 1. one involving the provision of public service education in cooperation with local governments in Indonesia, and 2. one involving information services for overseas visitors to Japan. The latter report detailed areas in which visitors from abroad considered Japan to be lacking in terms of services provided. The establishment of post-disaster Japanese social systems involving people from outside Japan was also discussed.

In the afternoon panel discussion session, five panelists presented studies on the roles of social entrepreneurship in the reconstruction of disaster-affected areas. Questions raised by the audience included whether or not social entrepreneurship would be instrumental in sustainable regional reconstruction. The questions led to further in-depth discussions, which clarified how small-scale social entrepreneurship helps to revitalize local communities by promoting the rediscovery of local resources and bringing people and goods in from outside communities. The reporting also detailed how cooperation in efforts to reconstruct disaster-ravaged areas will help to enhance independence among young people. It was further pointed out that micro-scale entrepreneurship based on collaboration between young people and local residents is effective for local communities mapping out a viable future.

The symposium clarified how efforts to reconstruct disaster-stricken areas will foster independence among the younger generation and help to develop fresh human resources. Collaboration between social entrepreneurs and local communities was also discussed, and the outcomes served to highlight the direction that Japan should take in efforts to reconstruct disaster-stricken areas.



Ride and Think for Sustainability 2011 in Hokkaido Univ.



Overview

Date	Monday, 24 October – Sunday, 6 November , 2011 Start at 9:00 * depending on weather conditions (Finished)
Organizer	IFES-GCOE Regional Education and Outreach Promotion Office, Hokkaido Univ.
Co-host	Hokkaido Green Purchasing Network , NonProfit Organization EcoMobility SAPPORO
Venue	On the street at Hokkaido University
Language: Japanese/English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students, Primary and Junior High School Students	
Outline	Velotaxi cycle rickshaws, which were well received at last year's Sustainability Weeks event, will be seen on the Hokkaido University campus again this year. Visitors can enjoy rides on CO2 emission-free vehicles operated by environmental conservation students in the university's beautiful natural settings. An opportunity not to be missed!
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	IFES-GCOE Regional Education and Outreach Promotion Office, Hokkaido Univ. Contact: Yoshimura TEL: +81-(0)11-706-3355 E-mail: ynobu14001@ees.hokudai.ac.jp

Environmentally friendly velotaxi cycle rickshaws were operated free of charge on the campus from October 24 to November 6, 2011. This was the second student-planned event of its kind following the implementation of the service in 2010.

The main advantage of this mode of transport is that drivers can easily communicate with passengers. The event capitalized on this benefit to achieve three purposes: 1) increase environmental awareness among passengers; 2) publicize the Sustainability Weeks 2011; and 3) pave the way for outreach activities. During the period of operation, 14 students acted as drivers, and passengers were given fallen-leaf stickers to place on the green bikecabs so that the vehicles gradually took on autumnal colors with the changing of the seasons.

*Achievements

A total of 918 people (423 pairs) took velotaxi rides during the two-week period, and the cabs were particularly well received by tourists and locals (including elderly couples, families with children and high school students) who visited the campus to view Ginkgo Avenue. The word “Sustainability” painted prominently on the bikecabs prompted passengers to ask questions, thereby giving drivers opportunities to explain sustainability and the Sustainability Weeks 2011. Passengers were asked to write messages on fallen-leaf stickers to be placed on the cabs expressing their own green efforts, their impressions of riding velotaxis, or other thoughts. One passenger wrote, “I hope my son will be able to attend the university the year after next to help continue the velotaxi event.”

Velotaxi service footage captured by a cab-mounted camera was also broadcast via Ustream and shown in an underground walkway in downtown Odori.

The students who planned the event additionally learned about the processes involved in project planning, and enjoyed opportunities to develop communication skills through interaction with passengers.

*Future Prospects

As with the 2010 event, the velotaxis were used extensively by tourists and locals, providing a significant contribution as a means of transport on campus. In response to high demand for the service, Hokkaido University’s Faculty of Environmental Earth Science will operate an experimental velotaxi service outside the Sustainability Weeks period. The service will also run in winter and on rainy days.

*Acknowledgements

The velotaxi planners would like to express their deep appreciation to the Hokkaido Green Purchasing Network and the nonprofit organization EcoMobility Sapporo for their loan of the bikecabs and their support for driving them. Thanks also go to the IFES-GCOE Regional Education and Outreach Promotion Office for supporting the planning and execution of the event.



Opening Ceremony

Overview

Date	October 24 (Mon.) 14:00-14:15 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University, Japan
Venue	Live broadcasts on the internet (Ustream channel)
Language: English/Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	Sustainability Weeks 2011 Opening Ceremony marks the start of an intensive two-week program with variety of events in which participants discuss means to realize a sustainable society.
Registration	Not-required. Please access to Ustream Channel (http://www.ustream.tv/channel/sw2011)
Fees	Free
Contact	Secretariat for Hokkaido University Sustainability Weeks 2011 Phone: +81-(0)11-706-8031 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-8036 E-mail : sw1[at]oia.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

An opening ceremony on October 24 marked the beginning of Sustainability Weeks 2011 – the fifth such event to be held.

The ceremony started with an address from Hokkaido University president Hiroshi Saeki in which he expressed sympathy for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. He also spoke on his recognition of the need for higher education institutions to play leading roles toward the establishment of a sustainable society by overcoming challenges faced by the entire world, including regional development to prepare for natural disasters, securement of stable energy supplies, and environmental conservation. Hokkaido University Executive and Vice President Takeo Hondoh, who chaired the Sustainability Weeks 2011 executive committee, outlined this year's themes and characteristics. He especially highlighted the events for the realization of a sustainable campus and the creation of a model for sustainable society. A video of the university's experimental forests, which are some of the world's biggest, was shown to the public for the first time. He also introduced collaborative events with the Hokkaido Office of the Finnish Institute in Japan and a new university-wide program called GiFT (Global Issues Forum for Tomorrow).

The audience in the ceremony hall was mainly from the press, and the ceremony was broadcast live on the Internet. Six reporters gathered at the venue, with over 100 people from all over Japan watching the online broadcast. Based on this year's new approach, Hokkaido University will continue to make use of technology for live broadcasting via the Internet as a medium that transcends physical boundaries.



Hokkaido Univ. Sustainability Research Poster Contest



Overview

Date *Tuesday, 25, October – Sunday, 30, October, 2011
 >>Contest: Wednesday, 26, October 9:00 – 12:30 (Finished)
 *Tuesday, 1, November – Sunday, 6, November, 2011
 >>Contest: Wednesday, 2, November 13:00 – 16:30 (Finished)

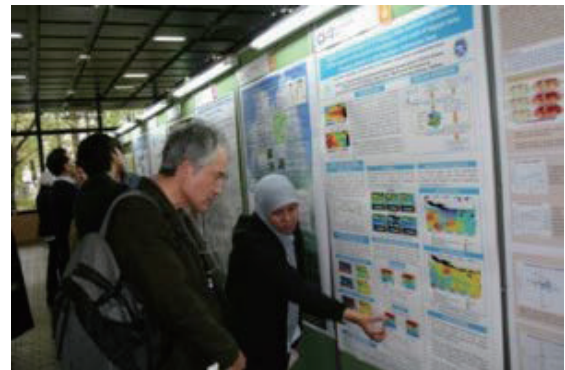
Organizer Hokkaido University

Venue Hokkaido University Conference Hall

Language: English/Japanese

Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students

Outline In this event, HU students will review their current research projects from the viewpoint of contribution to the creation of a sustainable society, summarize their efforts in the form of poster presentations and discuss them either in Japanese or in English. More than 100 posters will be exhibited over a period of two weeks. Communication Time (CT) sessions will be held on Wednesdays, and presenters will explain their research as well as answering questions from visitors and judges. Awards will be given to outstanding presentations. The program offers a great opportunity for people to understand how students see the future and learn about academic poster presentations. It is open to anybody, and may be of particular interest to members of the general public, corporate human resource managers, and students from other universities. (A picture in the right: Poster Contest 2010)



Abstract This is final version of the abstract.

- [cover page](#)
- Theme Category [1-3](#) (for Oct. 26)
- Theme Category [4-6](#) (for Nov. 2)

Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Secretariat for Hokkaido University Sustainability Weeks 2010 TEL: +81-(0)11-706-8031, FAX: +81-(0)11-706-8036 E-mail: office1@oia.hokudai.ac.jp
Award Nominees & Winners	(Discipline 1-3) Winners 1-1: Pedcris M. Orencio (Winner) 2-10: Risa Takashima (Winner) 3-12: John Ngoy Kalenga (Winner) Nominees 1-2: Tatsuru Sato 1-5: Izumi Hagino 2-5: Daisuke Kuwajima 2-9: Harutaka Kubo 2-13: Miki Miyajima 3-2: Kensuke Kaneko 3-6: Takaoki Ishii 3-13: Abdul Latif Noh 3-14: Shogo Ito (Discipline 4-6) Winners 4-13: Teruaki Yuta (Winner) 5-9 : Yuki Miura (Winner) 6-7 : Megumi Tazawa (Winner) Nominees 4-1 : Nobuo Ishiyama 4-4 : Masanao Sueyoshi 4-8 : Hisashi Endo 4-10 : Yuri Hoyo 5-8 : Yusuke Sato 6-5 : Tokihiro Kurita 6-10 : Ayo Ri & Hoyo Rin Special Award 6-8 : Yuki Yoshihara, Shihomi Seki, & Yosuke Takahashi

Report

The 3rd Annual Hokkaido University Sustainability Research Poster Contest was held in the Conference Hall on October 26th and November 2nd. This contest has become known as part of the annual Sustainability Weeks event hosted by Hokkaido University.

The contest offers all Hokkaido University students an opportunity to review their current research projects from the viewpoint of creating a sustainable society. Students are also encouraged to give simple explanations so that people from different fields of study will be able to easily understand significances of their research. Compared to last year, 16 more teams participated, making 92 teams in total. All participating students worked hard to reconsider how their research is connected to the creation of a sustainable society, which is an issue with global impact. Students made their submissions in one of six categories, depending on how their research will be able to contribute to sustainability. The posters from Category 1 to 3 were exhibited during the first week, and the ones of Category 4 to 6 during the second week. On the day of the contest, students gave presentations, standing by their

posters. Each poster and presentation was scored by 5 judges: 3 faculty members and 2 students, with a total possible score of 375. 77 faculty members and 89 students, who were also presenters, participated as judges. As in the previous year, the judges examined posters relating to disciplines outside their own areas of expertise.

The award ceremony was held on November 7th in the Conference Hall. Six outstanding students received the HU Sustainability Research Poster Award.

Questionnaires distributed at the event indicate that both students and faculty members enjoyed the contest.

< Comments from students >

*I was able to define the goal of my research by explaining it to researchers from different areas of expertise.

*It was meaningful for me to be able to interact with researchers from other areas and find that they used similar approaches in their research.

*It was a great experience since I rarely have chance to give English presentations in Japan. I want to improve my English abilities.

*I appreciated the valuable advice from researchers from various backgrounds. It was such a great experience that I would like to participate again next year.

<Comments from faculty members>

* The contest was a great chance for us to see a snapshot of the various kinds of research going on at HU. It was also good that the posters were categorized according to the subjects of the research.

*It was a significant opportunity for researchers because they were able to interact with people from various fields.

* The contest offers a chance for students to practice giving simple explanations to researchers from different areas of expertise. I think it is meaningful from an educational perspective.

* I found the presentations fascinating. Above all, I really enjoyed listening to them.

A student from the University of Iceland participated in this year's contest. He studies at Hokkaido University through a short-term study abroad program. The contest will be reorganized next year in such a way as to attract more participants from overseas universities, especially from HU partner institutions. The Sustainability Research Poster Contest is expected to develop and play a role as an international platform for researchers to network, as well as a place where researchers from various fields can gather and cooperate.

<Number of Participants>

*Graduate Students

Environmental Sci.:40, Health Sci.:20, Engineering:14, Agriculture: 6, Chemical Sci. &Engineering:4, Economics and Business Administration: 3, Media, Communication, and Tourism Studies: 2, Life Sci.:2, Medicine: 2, Education: 1

*Undergraduate students

Economics and Administration: 6, Medicine:2, Engineering:1

<Award Winners>

Award Winners Category 1: Living in Risks

Pedcris M. Orencio (M2), Graduate School of Environmental Science

Category2: Quality of Life

Risa Takashima (D2), Graduate School of Health Sciences

Category3: Sustainable Production & Consumption

John Nogy Kaalenga (M2), Graduation School of Economics and Business Administration

Category4: Mitigation and Adaptation for Climate and natural Environment Change

Teruaki Yuta (D2), Graduate School of Environmental Science

Category5: Natural Resource Management

Yuki Miura (D2), Graduate School of Environmental Science

Category6: Rural & Urban Development

Megumi Tazawa (M1), Graduate School of Engineering



Fair Trade Fair vol. 6

Overview

Date	October 26 (Wed.) – November 5 (Sat.) 2011 (Finished)
Organizer	International Cooperation Student Association “yui”
Venue	Hokkaido Univ. Co-op Building 1F
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students	
Outline	During this fair, you will be able to shop for foodstuffs and general merchandise that students often purchase in order to increase awareness of fair trade products, i.e., those traded with a focus on paying fair wages to producers in developing nations. We hope that the items on sale, which will include chocolate, coffee beans and other products made in consideration of environmental protection, will generate enhanced interest in fair trade among many students, faculty members and members of the general public.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	International Cooperation Student Association “yui” (Contact: K. Uchii) TEL : +81-(0)90-5129-4267 E-mail : uchikazu4[at]gmail.com
URL	http://yuiyui7.web.fc2.com

Report

The Fair Trade Fair Vol. 6 – an event providing opportunities for the sale of fair-trade products – was held at the Hokkaido University Co-op Building from October 26 to November 5. Its aims were threefold: 1) to enhance awareness of fair trade among Hokkaido University students; 2) to encourage visitors to realize the close connections that exist between their lives and the world; and 3) to provide chances for visitors to turn their attention to the outside world. At a related meeting, a lecturer invited from outside the campus talked about fair trade, detailing its current situation in relation to Latin America and its expected effects.

Proceeds from sales were almost twice those of the previous year, suggesting that fair trade has gained further recognition. However, since working adults accounted for a large percentage of those who actually bought products, future fair trade fairs will need fresh ideas to attract the attention of more Hokkaido University students. A variety of activities to help enhance awareness among the general public will also be required in order to move away from the limited approach of selling merchandise.



Modern Society & Human Health: Tangling structure in lifestyle



Overview

Date Wednesday, 26 October, 2011
Start at 13:30 (**Finished**)

Organizer Center for Environmental and Health Sciences

Co-host Faculty of Education, Faculty of Health Science, Graduate School of Medicine

Venue Hokkaido University Conference Hall

Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)

Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students

Outline Today's urbanized and industrialized social environment has a complex and integrated structure that affects human health, and cannot be discussed in simple context. Health issues are social challenge rather than individual, because well-being is influenced by various social environmental factors and daily living conditions, including those related to cultural backgrounds and human relationships.

In this session, circumstances and related situations in individual societies will be shared from an international aspect, particularly associated with life-style related disease and discussions will be conducted to identify issues and to get perspective for overcoming the challenges involved. Despite of drastic burst of human population on the earth, obesity is still prevailing worldwide. Additionally, obesity is not challenge of developed societies, but it involves developing societies. On the contrary, malnutrition has been observed not only in poor countries, but affluent countries in term of excess weight loss in yo. The event is open to all students and members of the public who are interested in urbanization, healthy lifestyles, health promotion, food and related issues.

1. Chronic Diseases, Behavior and Social Environment in China

Peiyu Wang, MD., PhD

Professor of social medicine and health education, Peking University, China

During the past 20 years, the morbidity and mortality of CVD (heart disease and stroke) cancers and other chronic diseases in China are elevating continuously, while those in West European countries, America and Japan has steadily dropped down at same term. The crude death rate of CVD increased from 190 in 1990 to 260 per 100 000 population in 2009. Mortality

of cancers rose from 120 in 1990 to 155 per 100,000 population in 2009. It is estimated that the number of the patients with CVD currently is 230 million, of which, 200 million are afflicted with hypertension, more than 7 million with stroke, 5 million with pulmonary heart disease, 2 million with myocardial infarction, and so on. One out of 5 adults is suffered from CVD. About 3 million Chinese die of CVD annually, which accounts for 41% of all death, the top reason of the death. Moreover chronic diseases were shown accelerated increase in the recent years. The prevalence of diabetes mellitus rose from 2.6-4.4% in 2002 up to 8.6-9.7% in 2008, that of hypertension was 18.8% in adults according to a National Survey in 2002 and reached approximately 25% in recent years in the investigation reports of some provinces and cities.

These are very serious state. If the chronic diseases could not be well controlled, the wealth and property created by the people will be largely offset. Further, the quality of living and happiness of the people will also be greatly reduced. Why did the chronic diseases rise continuously? One reason is the aging of population, which is inevitable and hard to intervene. However, the major reason is that health risk factors were violently increased and not well controlled. Therefore, how to reduce the health risk factors is the point for the prevention and control of chronic diseases

The major risks for chronic diseases in China are unhealthy diets (over take of energy, fat and salt), physical inactivity, air pollution, smoking, excessive alcohol onsumption as well as mental stress and pressure. Behind these risk factors, there are complicated social, economic, environmental and personal reasons. Many researchers emphasized nutrition, physical activity, tobacco and alcohol, but I think the mental stress and psychological pressure are the more important for chronic diseases. The mental stress is easily ignored for it is difficult to measure. Currently, Chinese are one of the most tired, stressful, hard-working nations in the world. We have the longer working time, lower income and higher prices. People are now facing various stresses regardless of children, adolescents or adults. The stresses for children and adolescents mainly come from learning and employment, while the adults have living stress, working stress and traffic stress. The stress and psychological unbalance also come from disparities in income and society. The speeded rhythm in work and life, narrow space and low health awareness led to reduced physical activity (people do not have time and space to exercise); the extraordinarily increased cars accelerated physical inactivity and air pollution (Beijing has near 5 million cars, this is the double of Tokyo in spite of the similar population). The unhealthy diet is mainly due to the traditionally higher intake of salt, the rising consumption of fat/oil and meat which comes from improved economics, the fashion of fast food as well as poor knowledge on nutrition. The production and consumption of tobacco and alcohol increased triply during the recent 30 years. All these factors lead to the high prevalence of obesity, hypertension and dyslipidemia, which may further develop to coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancers.

To control the risk factors of the chronic diseases requires the efforts of individuals, society and government cooperatively. Every citizen should learn health knowledge, improve the health literacy and try to lead healthy life. The government and the society should create a healthy environment (both social and natural) and strengthen the health promotion, such as reforming the health care system and health services, increasing the public green area for exercise, limiting the excessive growth of automobile and alcohol, improving the traffic and air pollution, reinforcing tobacco control, relieving the mental stress of people. The most important issue is to set the final goal at the good health, better lives, social wellness and happiness, rather than economic growth or GDP only. Recently, Chinese government (also some local governments) actively promoted some healthy campaigns, such as “Health Beijing 10 Year Project”. However, it needs time to see the outcomes of these health promotion projects.

2.Nutrition-derived health impact in Japan-Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome & DOHaD-

Professor of Health Science, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Education

Aging in Japan is becoming more serious at a speed and scale never seen before. On the parallel with it, chronic degenerative disease has been increasing constantly since the end of WWII. Energy-enriched fat intake has been drastically increased by three times (20g to 60g a day) in these days along with emerging of lifestyle related disease, particularly diabetes and metabolic syndrome in male adult. Despite of no increase of total energy intake, why these diseases associated with deterioration of glucose metabolism have increased? It seems to be attributed to population aging, and another may be increasing of disproportionate fat intake. In our cohort study, share (%) of oleic acid among fatty acids on red blood cell membrane is strongly associated with increased serum triglyceride coupling with low HDL-cholesterol level and serum insulin level in asymptomatic population. Contrary to our expectation, it suggests that oleic acid is a significant determinant to induce insulin resistance in Japanese who have relatively high intake of fish oil.

Another nutrition-derived health impact is weight loss in young women with childbearing ages. A fifth of young adult women have BMI less than 18.5, diagnosed as excess weight loss that is well-known associated with delivering low birth baby (LBW<2,500g). Maternal birth weight and pre-pregnant body-weight are a significant predictor of her child's birth weight. Accordingly LBW grow poorly become stunned girl who tends to give birth to LBW, which continues to the next generation as a vicious cycle, subsequently followed by life-style related disease. Sustainable development of society based on human health indicates that the present generation is responsible for the human reproduction.

3. Metabolic syndrome and the life style modification to overcome it in the Korean population

Bo Kyung Koo,MD

Seoul National University, College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

According to the Korean National Health and Nutritional Examination Surveys, the age-adjusted prevalence of metabolic syndrome was 24.9 % in 1998, which was significantly increased to 31.3% in the next 10 years. Metabolic syndrome is characterized by insulin resistance and epidemiologic studies in Korea elucidated that visceral fat and sarcopenia, the well-known causes of insulin resistance, increase the risk of metabolic syndrome in the Korean population. In addition, physical inactivity and increased meat and alcohol consumption, the characteristic life style in westernized and urbanized Korea, also increase the risk of metabolic syndrome in the Korean population. Furthermore, as the risk of abnormality in glucose metabolism, dyslipidemia, and hypertension is higher in the elderly, the increased average life span of the Koreans might accelerate the expansion of prevalence of metabolic syndrome.

Here I will describe the characteristics of metabolic syndrome in the Korean population and the intervention to overcome the risk of metabolic syndrome from the perspective of life style modification.

4.Obesity and low physical fitness among Asian children: current trends and mitigation strategies

Taro Yamauchi.,PhD

Associate Professor, Hokkaido University Faculty of Health Sciences

In Japan, the decline in the physical fitness of children makes the news on TV and in newspapers every year around National Sports Day in October. Over the last 30 years, the height and weight of children have increased, and their body size has improved, although the number of overweight/obese children has also increased. However, children's performance in physical fitness tests has declined, and their physical activity level, such as walking, has also decreased.

Not only in Japan but also in many other developed countries, there have been reports on the decreased physical fitness and increased obesity of children. Similar reports have also been made in East Asian countries. Our field surveys have also found the signs of increased obesity and decreased physical fitness among elementary and junior high school students in urban areas of China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

We have conducted field research over approximately 20 years, with the mindset of local people, concerning the adaptability to the living environment and health of people living in rural and urban areas in developing countries and traditional societies such as a hunter-gatherer society. The changes seen in children in developed countries have not been found in children living in an environment where people depend strongly on nature, such as a village in a developing country and a traditional society based on a self-sufficient

life. However, rural areas in developing countries are currently in the midst of rapid urbanization, experiencing drastic lifestyle changes. It might only be a matter of time before physical changes become apparent in children living in rural areas in developing countries.

Along with developing countries, traditional societies have also begun to change amid ongoing economic globalization, but the lifestyle of children there has basically remained unchanged; for example, children in a hunter-gatherer society learn the knowledge and skills of survival through playing in the forests. Considering that human being slowly evolved while adapting to the living environment of the hunter-gatherer society, it might be possible to find the desirable situation for children's physical fitness and health in the lifestyle of the hunter-gatherer society.

Here, the lifestyle and health of children living in a traditional society where there is no obesity and decreased physical fitness are considered to find a way to improve the physical fitness and health of children in Asia.

Registration	Required. Please register via website , e-mail, phone or fax.
Fees	Free
Contact	Center for Environmental and Health Sciences Contact: Araki/Takamatsu TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4747 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4725 E-mail: info@cehs.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On October 26, Hokkaido University's Center for Environmental and Health Sciences held an international symposium entitled Modern Society & Human Health: Tangling Structures in Lifestyles. The event focused on a discussion of health issues in Japan and in the rapidly growing nations of China and South Korea in consideration of related lifestyle and social environment differences. With Prof. Takeshi Saito presiding, Professor Peiyu Wang from Peking University delivered a lecture with the title Chronic Diseases, Behavior and Social Environment in China, illustrating serious situations in his country. These included a steep increase in the incidence of lifestyle-related diseases (particularly cerebrovascular conditions and stress) associated with rapid economic development. He also highlighted income disparities between urban and rural areas and issues with accessibility to medical services. Next, Professor Akito Kawaguchi from Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Education spoke on the theme of Nutrition-derived Health Impacts in Japan – Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome & DOHaD- , discussing the possible association of excessive vegetable fat intake with increased incidence of diabetes and metabolic syndrome. He also spoke about the link between excess weight loss among young women and an increased number of low-birth-weight babies. Associate Professor Taro Yamauchi from Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Health Sciences then spoke on the subject of Obesity and Low Physical Fitness among Asian Children: Current Trends and Mitigation Strategies, detailing a rapid increase in numbers of children with obesity and low levels of physical fitness in urban areas of developed nations, in contrast to the situation seen in rural areas of developing nations, where low physical fitness among children is not an issue. He also outlined how the lifestyles of children living in good health in traditional societies can be adopted for children throughout Asia. Dr. Bo Kyung Koo from Seoul National University delivered a lecture with the title Metabolic Syndrome and the Lifestyle Modification to Overcome It among the Korean Population, detailing the link between metabolic syndrome and physical inactivity in her country. She also discussed the possibility that environmental pollutants may trigger insulin resistance.

In addition to the aforementioned increase in the incidence of lifestyle-related diseases, a general discussion held at the end of the event highlighted a significant increase in the number of suicides in both South Korea and Japan as a serious health issue in today's society. The symposium was a fruitful event, and helped to strengthen collaboration among the three countries.



Sustainable Campus International Symposium 2011



Overview

Date	Wednesday, 26 October, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Office for a Sustainable Campus
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	Representatives of universities at the forefront of sustainable campus development in the U.S. and Japan will highlight their past achievements and outline future challenges from the two perspectives of hard infrastructure to support university sustainability (i.e., campuses) and soft infrastructure (i.e., various initiatives). A vision for campus sustainability will also be discussed.
Registration	Required. Please register via website or e-mail (Sept. 1 – Oct. 24)
Fees	Free
Contact	Office for a Sustainable Campus (Contact: Matsubara) TEL+81-(0)11-706-3660 E-mail: office@osc.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Sustainable Campus International Symposium 2011 held at Hokkaido University Conference Hall on October 26, 2011, was attended by representatives from Portland State University, the University of Oregon, Stanford University, the University of California, Berkeley, Kogakuin University, Chiba University, Nagoya University and Kyushu University, all institutions at the forefront of sustainable campus development in the U.S. and Japan. The representatives highlighted their past achievements and outlined future challenges from the two perspectives of hard infrastructure to support university sustainability (e.g., physical aspects of campuses) and soft infrastructure (e.g., related initiatives). The topics they discussed included energy-saving campus construction practices (e.g., better thermal insulation, use of high-efficiency equipment and natural energy sources) and facility environment improvements (e.g., the adoption of energy measuring systems). The speakers highlighted an Internet-based participatory program called Ecochallenge as an environmental curriculum item for students, and outlined various related initiatives such as measures calling for lifestyle-related efforts toward sustainability. The event provided attendees with valuable opportunities to listen to lectures exploring sustainability at universities as a whole.

Audience feedback indicated that the event stimulated attendees to consider the issue of sustainability more deeply. A challenge for this symposium in the future is to increase the number of student participants, thereby turning the event into a platform for developing attendees' awareness of sustainability.

The next day, a conference was held with the participation of expert lecturers and Hokkaido University faculty members engaged in research on sustainability initiatives. In the morning session, representatives of the U.S. universities outlined the Climate Action Plan, the credit categories of the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) and other initiatives. Their Japanese counterparts highlighted the status of planning and other aspects of their campus sustainability efforts. The afternoon session featured exchanges of opinions on Hokkaido University's Sustainability Plan and the related draft action plan.



JSPS Invitational Seminar for East Asian Young Researchers SUSTAINED INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE THROUGH STOMATOLOGY



Overview

Date	Wednesday, 26 October, 2011 Start at 17:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Graduate School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University
Co-host	Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), The Alumni of Department of Orthodontics, Hokkaido University
Venue	Conference Hall at School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University
Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, College Students	
Outline	This seminar will feature young researchers from Hokkaido University and one of its partner institutions – Thailand's Mahidol University. The session will provide these researchers with opportunities to better understand previous collaborative relations between their dentistry faculties and discuss future relations that will promote their contribution to stomatology. This is expected to help lay the foundations for continued collaboration into the next generation. We expect the event to be of particular interest to dentists, researchers and international students at Hokkaido University and elsewhere, especially those from Thailand.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Graduate School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University Contact: Kajii TEL&FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4917 E-mail: kajii@den.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On October 26, 2011, Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Dental Medicine held a JSPS Invitation Seminar for East Asian Young Researchers entitled Sustained International Exchange through Stomatology.

The seminar was attended by eight young researchers from Thailand's Mahidol University (a Hokkaido University partner institution) and two accompanying faculty members, and focused on the following three goals:

1. to raise awareness of previous collaboration between the dentistry faculties of the two universities;
2. to discuss future collaboration for the promotion of young researcher contributions to stomatology; and
3. to lay the foundations for continued collaboration in future generations.

Lectures were given in English by Prof. Junichiro Iida and Tangjit Nathaphon (a senior international student from Mahidol University on a doctoral degree program at Hokkaido University) from Hokkaido University and by Dr. Suwannee Luppanapornlarp and Dr. Narumon Chalernsarp from Mahidol University.

Many young researchers from the Graduate School of Dental Medicine attended the lectures. The event included a lively Q&A session between the lecturers and the audience, providing outstanding support for the goals of the seminar.



Japanese Ceramide Society Annual Meeting



Overview

Date	Thursday, 27 October, 2011 Start at 13:00 Friday, 28 October, 2011 Start at 9:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Japanese Ceramide Society
Co-host	Hokkaido University: Faculty of Advanced Life Science, Sapporo Bio-S
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	Ceramide Society (together with Sapporo Bio-S) will hold an annual meeting on ceramide functions and possibility of development of functional foods containing ceramide. The highlight of the meeting will be published widely in Kenko Shinbun and other media.
Registration	Required. Please register via website (~Oct. 26) Please see the below website (Japanese Only) for details; http://www.ceramide.gr.jp/meeting/index.html
Fees	charge
Contact	Secretariat of Japanese Society for Ceramides (JSC) E-mail info@ceramide.gr.jp FAX : +81-(0)11-706-9024

Report

The 4th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Ceramides held on October 27 and 28, 2011, was attended by 100 people from all over Japan. Jointly organized by Hokkaido University's Sustainability Weeks program and the Sapporo Bio Cluster Bio-S project, the event also attracted many Hokkaido University students and individuals involved in the Bio-S initiative. At the start of the meeting, a book entitled *Ceramide: Research and Application* (published in October 2011) that highlighted the achievements of past annual meetings of the society was introduced.

During the meeting, Prof. Thierry Levade from France's University of Toulouse delivered a lecture outlining the roles of ceramide signaling in cancer. Dr. Sumiko Hamanaka, Director of the Hamanaka Dermatological Clinic, also detailed the results of her studies on ceramide molecular species as skin barriers. Her lecture as a doctor engaged in the actual treatment of atopic dermatitis and other skin diseases provided plenty of new information for the audience. The lecturers also included Prof. Kazuhisa Iwabuchi from Juntendo University's Faculty of Medicine, who spoke about innate immunity systems and ceramides, and Dr. Kenji Umemura from the Agricultural & Veterinary Research Laboratory of Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd., who discussed new possibilities for ceramides in agricultural chemicals. Prof. Toshiro Okazaki from Kanazawa Medical University then outlined his research results, discussing autophagic mechanisms and the balance between ceramides and S1P. The two-day meeting involved 13 lectures on achievements made in ceramide studies over the past year, and featured lively discussions on ceramide research. The event provided opportunities for attendees to understand the solid progress that has been made in this field of research in Japan.



ESD Symposium—Tackling Social Disparity



Overview

Date	Thursday, 27 October, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Graduate School of Education and the others
Co-host	Korean Affiliated Universities (Tentative)
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese / English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	Modern society based on freedom and equality has ironically brought various forms of inequality and injustice (such as gaps in income, health and education) in Japan and in other countries as a result of industrialization and economic progress. While the widely embraced concept of individualism fits in well with the social structure of today's society, there is also increased recognition for the significance of social capital based on human communication in society. In this session, the role of education (based on the efforts and development of those involved in such communication) in the sustainable development of human society and related tasks will be identified, and the challenges to be overcome as well as efforts to pass the concept on to the next generation will be discussed.
Registration	Required. Please register via website or e-mail (edkyomu@edu.hokudai.ac.jp)
Fees	Free
Contact	Secretary Department of Education, Administrative assistant TEL: +81-(0)11-706-3082 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4951 E-mail: shomu@edu.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

While increasing levels of affluence are enjoyed in some segments of today's society, such prosperity also brings with it a variety of disparities. This poses an enormous challenge to efforts aimed at securing the sustainability of society for the future. The international symposium on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was held to provide a platform for discussing educational challenges to the establishment of sound and sustainable society. With two researchers invited from Seoul National University and Kongju National University in South Korea, the symposium gave chances to acknowledge the causes and current situation of social disparities and to examine the direction of efforts to solve related problems based on international perspectives. South Korea is rapidly becoming a multicultural society due to increasing numbers of marriage immigrants and labor immigrants. Prof. Sang Hwan Seong from Seoul National University shed light on the results of a survey that revealed a structure of discrimination between Koreans as immigrants and as receivers of immigrants. He also clarified educational challenges relating to the growth of children in multicultural living environments. Based on the results of another survey, Hokkaido University Prof. Takashi Miyazaki outlined the current situation of Japanese high school dropouts, who live in a society characterized by a structure of exclusion and various forms of discrimination, and illustrated a vision of a system in which further education for high school dropouts will be guaranteed. Prof. Youn Kee Im from Kongju National University focused on educational problems caused by student migration and transfers to other schools in South Korea's depopulating rural society. He also explained that the deterioration of educational resources and the loss of ability to provide adequate education in rural areas have prompted student migration and transfers, resulting in the further degradation of education in such regions. He presented a vision for new rural schools whose quality will exceed that of their urban counterparts. Hokkaido University Associate Professor Shin-ichi Uehara focused on the hierarchical structure of Japan's labor and employment environment from the viewpoint of social disparity in occupations, highlighting problems concerning the organization of workers along with income and gender disparities. All the lectures clearly suggested the alienation of certain groups from increasingly affluent societies. It was also revealed that both Japan and South Korea are experiencing a widening gap between people at the top and the bottom of society and increasingly complicated problems. To overcome these issues, there is a need to promote ESD with a clear awareness of the related challenges and to advance practical application in order to resolve them. Future development of related discussions is eagerly anticipated on all topics covered at the symposium.





Opening Session for Sustainable Collaboration

Overview

Date	Friday, 28 October, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office
Co-host	Hokkaido University
Venue	Hokkaido University Centennial Hall
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students, Educators	
Outline	2011 establishes a strong basis for sustainable collaboration between Hokkaido and Finland. We aim to support the already existing collaboration and to discuss the best ways of creating new academic exchange opportunities for students and researchers. The public is welcome to actively take part in the discussion and to receive information about universities in Finland. Check Agenda for more details. Oct. 31(Mon.): Northern Environmental Research Symposium Nov. 1(Tue.): Symposium on Tourism & Landscape in the North Nov. 2(Wed.): Symposium on Indigenous People and Education
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office Contact: Tyriseva Martina TEL: +81-(0)11-726-2000 FAX: +81-(0)11-726-2005 E-mail: martina.tyriseva@finstitute.gr.jp

Report

The Opening Session for Sustainable Collaboration was held at the Centennial Hall on Friday October 28, 2011.

Hokkaido and Finland have many similarities in terms of climate, population distribution and the issues the regions face. In 2011, the Finnish Institute in Japan opened its Hokkaido office on the campus of Hokkaido University with a view to further consolidating Finland's relationship with Hokkaido. Against such a background, the institute's Hokkaido office held this opening session in conjunction with the Hokkaido University Office of International Affairs.

More than 70 people from the university and elsewhere attended, which exceeded the number expected. In the morning session, Mr. Heikki Makipaa, Director of the Finnish Institute in Japan, and Hokkaido University President Hiroshi Saeki gave speeches, followed by a keynote address given by His Excellency the Ambassador of Finland to Japan Jari Gustafsson. Next, representatives of the University of Oulu, the University of Lapland, the University of Helsinki, the University of the Arctic and Sapporo University gave keynote addresses on matters related to future collaboration between Hokkaido and Finland. A panel discussion and a question-and-answer session followed.

In the afternoon session, Hokkaido University Executive and Vice President Takeo Hondoh held concrete discussions with representatives of the University of Oulu, the University of Lapland, Yokohama National University and Sapporo University. In the discussion, examples of and suggestions for exchanges among researchers and students were presented.

Hokkaido University concluded an inter-university exchange agreement with the University of Oulu in 2001. In 2011, it concluded similar agreements with the University of Helsinki and the University of Lapland, and became the first Japanese institution to join the University of the Arctic – the collective name given to a network of universities in the Arctic Circle. In addition, a Hokkaido University Helsinki office is scheduled to open on the campus of the University of Helsinki in 2012 to consolidate relationships with the universities in Finland and the rest of Europe. The hosting of this event attended by representatives of organizations related to Finland is highly significant for Hokkaido University, and is expected to lead to fostering the relationship between Hokkaido and Finland.





Northern Environmental Research Symposium

Overview

Date	Monday, 31 October, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office
Co-host	Institute of Low Temperature Science
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	The Northern Environment faces rapid changes due to global warming! Multinational efforts are needed for establishing a strong cooperation across the borders. Changes in people's lifestyle and creating new tourist attractions may cause biodiversity. Let's make the cooperation between Finland and Hokkaido moreover strengthen. We warmly welcome students and young researchers challenging to solve the problems in the Northern Environment. Check Agenda for more details. This is an event of "Hokkaido-Finland. A Bridge for Northern Cooperation".
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office Contact: Tyriseva Martina TEL: +81-(0)11-726-2000 FAX: +81-(0)11-726-2005 E-mail: martina.tyriseva@finstitute.gr.jp

Report

The 3rd Northern Environmental Research Symposium was held during the Hokkaido-Finland Days. In the past, the Joint Japanese-Finnish Seminar on Northern Environmental Research was held in 2008 at Finland's Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland, and the second seminar was held in 2009 at Hokkaido University. These past events involved discussions on the continuity of joint research by institutions in Hokkaido and Finland and the feasibility of future research planning with a focus on the environments of northern regions, which have undergone rapid changes due to global warming.

This symposium addressed research fields in which Finland and Hokkaido can work together regarding the environmental impacts of rapid climate change in northern regions. The event consisted of a keynote lecture, three sessions and a discussion.

First, H. E. Hannu Halinen, Finnish Ambassador for the Arctic, delivered a keynote lecture with the title Cooperation in the Arctic: Finland's Arctic Policy, outlining Finland's approach to Arctic research among other topics. Next, Dr. Kari Laine from the University of Oulu detailed research and educational approaches to northern environments (the theme of the symposium), highlighting the importance of interdisciplinary joint research.

In the three subsequent sessions, three presentations were made in Session 1 (theme: ice and climate change), five in Session 2.1 (theme: biodiversity and environmental protection in northern regions) and two in Session 2.2 (theme: environmental protection transcending borders). In the concluding session, one presentation was made. Sessions 1 and 2.1 focused on the status of progress and the outcomes of joint research programs proposed at previous seminars, as well as on the schedules and possibilities of future joint research activities. In Session 2.2 and the concluding session, research themes in need of joint promotion were proposed, and related discussions included the framework to be established for specific collaborative systems. The success of the symposium highlighted the strong desire of Finnish universities to work with their counterparts in Hokkaido, centering on Hokkaido University. In particular, HU's establishment of an office on the University of Helsinki's campus is expected to boost collaborative efforts by Finland and Hokkaido toward the resolution of northern issues.





Symposium on Tourism and Landscape in the North

Overview

Date	Tuesday, 1 November, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office
Co-host	Center for Ainu and Indigenous Studies, Center for Advanced Tourism Studies
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	In recent years, the role of tourism in the development of northern regions has gained attention. In this regard, an important contribution is made by landscapes, the environment and approaches to land use. Accordingly, the nature of these elements as they relate to tourism development is a major consideration. The morning session here will focus on tourism with discussions covering the related roles of local residents, including indigenous peoples of the north. The afternoon session will highlight landscapes and approaches to land use. With the Sami and the Ainu as examples, discussions will also focus on issues facing indigenous peoples in relation to today's rapid social and climatological changes as well as their involvement in environmental conservation and biodiversity protection initiatives. Check Agenda for more details. This is an event of "Hokkaido-Finland. A Bridge for Northern Cooperation".
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office Contact: Tyriseva Martina TEL: +81-(0)11-726-2000 FAX: +81-(0)11-726-2005 E-mail: martina.tyriseva@finstitute.gr.jp

Report

This symposium held on 1 November, 2011, consisted of morning and afternoon sessions. The first session dealt with the development of tourism in northern regions, and the second one focused on landscape and land use in these regions. At the outset of each session, a keynote lecture relating to its theme was delivered.

The morning session illustrated the importance of developing tourism programs that benefit local communities and tourism that highlights the history and culture of indigenous people. At this session, Japanese and Finnish participants discussed effective ways to achieve these goals.

The afternoon session involved a variety of discussions concerning indigenous people in northern regions, covering topics such as the historical transition of the living spaces of indigenous people, initiatives to promote the utilization of historical and cultural heritage resources, indigenous communities facing environmental change, and health issues among indigenous people. A proposal was also made to establish an international network with a database as a way to store and utilize cultural information relating to indigenous people.

Symposium attendees reconfirmed the common challenges facing university research institutions in the two countries, both of which are located in northern regions and face issues related to indigenous communities. The event served as a platform for university researchers in both countries to discuss common challenges and build new structures for collaboration. In future work, the two nations are expected to regularly exchange opinions on various issues (especially those discussed at the symposium) and promote joint research on current and future challenges.





Symposium on Indigenous People and Education

Overview

Date	Wednesday, 2 November, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office
Co-host	Center for Ainu and Indigenous Studies
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	Finland is known as one of the world's most developed countries in the field of education, and runs unique educational programs relating to indigenous peoples. In Japan, the importance of education involving the language and culture of the Ainu is also attracting attention. The morning session here will involve discussion of effective and sustainable cultural sharing with focus on the dissemination of ethnic culture in local communities (including those of indigenous peoples) and particular emphasis on such dissemination in school education. The afternoon session will highlight language – a core element of ethnic culture – and explore the potential for language education in schools and via the media. Check Agenda for more details. This is an event of "Hokkaido-Finland. A Bridge for Northern Cooperation".
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Finnish Institute in Japan Hokkaido Office Contact: Tyriseva Martina TEL: +81-(0)11-726-2000 FAX: +81-(0)11-726-2005 E-mail: martina.tyriseva@finstitute.gr.jp

Report

The Symposium on Indigenous People and Education held on November 2nd, was a great success. It was the last day of the Hokkaido-Finland Days event and brought together researchers and participants from Norway, Finland and Hokkaido.

In the morning session, the speakers focused on the indigenous knowledge transmission in local communities and how environmental conservation survey could help acquiring skills on indigenous culture to further transmit this knowledge to the children. Furthermore, the participants showed different examples on the collaboration between universities, indigenous people, and local communities, as for example the networks in programs of circumpolar health and wellbeing at the University of Oulu. They also explained how indigenous people enter higher education in Japan, how the indigenous language is being used in the Saami University College and how to attract students to study about the indigenous culture, law, journalism, etc. The afternoon session focused more on the challenges of education and on the role of the media to preserve the indigenous language. The language revival was a strong theme discussed by all our invitees, especially on the possibilities of reviving a language through several generations even when the number of potential speakers is extremely low.

This event provided a ground for exchange between our three northern regions of Finland, Norway and Japan. It created the opportunity for the local community from Nibutani to start a joint project with Vardobaiki Sami Centre in the near future. Arja Rautio from Thule Institute at Oulu University proposed a program for student exchange and she is ready to welcome people from Hokkaido University for summer or winter schools for example. We further discussed the possibilities to organize a language nest seminar in 2012 with partners from Finland, Norway and Japan- the organization committee is to be selected soon. At last, the international indigenous radio network meets every year in March. The Director of FM Nibutani Pipaushi Radio as well as Ainu youth interested in media are warmly invited to join the meeting to be held in Norway in March 2012.



International Symposium :Sanitation Challenge in Sub Sahara – The 2nd AMERI-EAUR International Workshop on Sustainable Water and Sanitation System / The 8th International Symposium on Sustainable Sanitation



Overview

Date	Friday, 28 October, 2011 Start at 9:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University
Co-host	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), JICA, 2iE, Ministry of Agriculture, Burkina Faso
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, College Students	
Outline	Poverty is generally considered to cause increased incidence of all waterborne diseases, which in turn support and exacerbate the cycle of poverty. Countries around the world have been striving to meet the safe water and sanitation targets of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, but the situation in Sub-Saharan Africa remains extremely difficult. In this symposium, solutions for water and sanitation problems in the region will be discussed based on the results of international joint research projects conducted by JICA and JST to address global issues. 
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Lab. of Sustainable Sanitation System, Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University (Contact: Hosokawa) TEL&FAX: +81-(0)11-706-6270 E-mail: ubnwtse@eng.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Poverty is generally considered to result in increased incidence of all waterborne diseases – a phenomenon that in turn supports and exacerbates the cycle of poverty. WHO estimates that a lack of access to safe drinking water causes nearly 1.7 million deaths worldwide every year, and that 82 million years of healthy life are lost annually in developing countries as a result of unclean water. Countries around the world have been striving to meet the safe water and sanitation targets of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, but the situation in Sub-Saharan Africa remains extremely difficult. At this symposium, solutions for water and sanitation problems in the region were discussed based on the results of international joint research projects conducted by JICA and JST to address global issues.

The symposium was attended by Burkina Faso Minister of Agriculture, Water & Fisheries H. E. Dr. Laurent Sedogo, who at the opening ceremony expressed great expectations of the symposium in regard to solutions for his country's water and sanitation problems. Research presentations and discussions took place in six sessions covering Urine and its use, Water treatment – 1 and 2, Policies and social aspects -1 and 2, and Composting feces and its use. A total of 21 presentations were made, and the sessions, which were attended by 123 people in all, were characterized by lively exchanges.

The results of the event will be publicized on a global stage at the World Water Forum to be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012. Based on the outcomes of this symposium, pilot experiments are also scheduled for implementation in two villages in Ziniare, Burkina Faso.



Community Care Forum



Overview

Date Saturday, 29 October, 2011 **(Finished)**
Start at 14:00

Sunday, 30 October, 2011 **(Finished)**
Start at 9:30

Organizer Hokkaido Community Care Society, Institution of Community-collaborative Primary Care Education

Co-host Hokkaido University Hospital Postgraduate Clinical Training Center

Venue Hokkaido University Conference Hall

Language: Japanese

Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students

Outline In this session, possible collaborative efforts involving residents and the government to help maintain local medical services facing collapse due to a shortage of doctors will be discussed. In order to create sustainable local communities, we can no longer rely solely on medical professionals for health protection activities. The roles of residents, the government, welfare service providers and healthcare professionals must be defined, and a system for collaboration among them must be established. This event may be of particular interest to university students, the general public, local government officials and experts keen to learn more about improving the quality of medical and welfare services.

Registration Required. Please register via [website](#) or email

Fees Free

Contact Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine Medical statistics Healthcare Systems Research (Contact: Nikaido)

TEL: +81-(0)11-706-7005 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-7628

E-mail: nikaido@med.hokudai.ac.jp

The Community Care Forum was held on October 29 and 30.

On Day 1, a poster session was held on the theme of Collecting and Spreading Wisdom Cultivated through the Practice of Healthcare and Welfare Services in Local Communities. A total of 25 poster presentations were made with presenters from various occupations (including health professionals, clerks and instructors) outlining their local community initiatives, followed by lively exchanges of opinions.

The number of poster presentations by category was as follows: disease prevention and health promotion: 7; community support in disaster-stricken regions and the international arena: 4; nursing care (home visits, general): 2; education: 5; family care: 1; collaboration (in communities, with other occupations): 4; and improvement: 2.

Dr. Reiko Kishi from the Center for Environmental and Health Sciences delivered a keynote lecture titled Considering the Employment of Working People, their Health, Safety and Living Security: Expectations for Individuals Engaging in Community Medicine, covering the history of Japanese health and well-being over the past 100 years, social and economic disparity and other topics.

On Day 2, two sessions were held on the theme of When and Where We Can Learn about Community Medicine. The first session involved a discussion of important points to note in the development of clinical training programs for community medicine on the theme of What Types of Programs are Effective for Community Medicine Training? A clinical training system for new medical professionals that was started in 2004 mandated doctors to undergo community health and medical training for a period of one to three months. In a subsequent revision of the system, this preparation was renamed community medical training, but the training program per se was not assessed for improvement. In this session, doctors, local government officials and public health nurses from related facilities and municipalities made presentations, while students and doctors supervising training workshops expressed their opinions on the program.

The second session focused on the Hokkaido Training Center for General Internal Medicine Specialists, which was inaugurated in FY 2010, on the theme of the Present Status and Problems of the Center. Although there are established programs for family medicine specialist courses designed for graduates of medical faculties, neither programs nor a framework have yet been developed in regard to courses for general internal medicine specialists at hospitals. The discussion included a request for the establishment of general internal medicine specialist courses in clinical training.

The forum attracted about 200 people from the campus and elsewhere, including doctors, nurses, public health workers, physical therapists and other health professionals, as well as members of the general public and students. Based on the poster session and the lively exchanges of opinions that took place both during and after the lectures, the forum was considered a great success.



International Symposium on Work-Life Balance



Overview

Date	Saturday, 29 October, 2011 Start at 13:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Center for Applied Ethics and Philosophy, Faculty of Letters
Venue	Hokkaido University Clark Memorial Student Center
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	The Work-Life Balance Charter outlines three objectives for the realization of a society in which people can work with a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment, accomplish their work responsibilities, and choose from a variety of lifestyles according to different stages of life (such as the childrearing and mid-life periods) within their family and community. This symposium will focus on one of the charter objectives – a society in which people can choose from a variety of lifestyles – in terms of gender, and proposals for the pursuit of sustainable happiness will be made.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Center for Applied Ethics and Philosophy (Contact: Senaha) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4085 E-mail: june@let.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Center for Applied Ethics and Philosophy in Hokkaido University's Faculty of Letters has annually hosted a public symposium entitled Frontiers of Gender & Sexualities Studies since 2007. The four symposiums held in the past dealt with the topics of gender-specific medicine; the mechanism of domestic violence (DV); environments of sexually transmitted diseases; and aging and technology. In 2011, it was held as an international event for the first time with the attendance of a lecturer from outside Japan and the arrangement of simultaneous interpreters to support the hosting of international students and attendees from other countries.

The theme of the 2011 symposium was work-life balance. In 2007, a meeting that consisted of both public and private sectors resulted in the development of the Work-life Balance Charter, which outlined the vision of a society in which people can achieve three specific goals: work with a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment, accomplishment of job responsibilities, and choice of diverse lifestyles and workstyles according to different stages of life (such as the childrearing and mid-life periods) within families and communities. The symposium focused on one of these objectives-choice of diverse lifestyles and workstyles-and discussed work-life balance toward the creation of a sustainable society from gender perspectives. At the end of the symposium, recommendations were made for the successful pursuit of sustainable happiness.

Note: A society in which people can choose diverse lifestyles and workstyles is one that provides everybody with opportunities to try various ways of living and working in line with their wishes and abilities, regardless of age and gender. In such a society, people can enjoy flexibility in the way they work to match their circumstances (e.g., periods of parenting or nursing care for parents), and are entitled to fair treatment.

The event attracted a record number of 130 people, the majority of whom were members of the general public. It received support from the Hokkaido Government and the Sapporo Municipal Government, and the Vice-Mayor of Sapporo delivered a congratulatory address. The lecturers were Hiroshi Ono (Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University), Junko Sakamoto (Executive President, NPO Niiza Childcare Support Network) and Masako Ishii-Kuntz (Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sciences, Ochanomizu University), who respectively spoke about work-life balance-related systems, NPO support and education. The lectures will be published in a separate volume of the Japanese journal OYORINRI or APPLIED ETHICS.



Panel Discussion and Demonstration for Promoting Green Purchasing



Overview

Date	Sunday, 30 October, 2011 (Finished) Start at 13:30 (exhibit: all day)
Organizer	Hokkaido Green Purchasing Network
Co-host	Lab of Environmental Social Psychology, Department of Behavioral Science, Graduate School of Letters
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	The system of green purchasing that we started more than 10 years ago has expanded from daily commodities, furniture and domestic appliances to cover green electricity, carbon offsets and other such considerations. In this session, students and representatives of producers and consumers will engage in panel discussions to exchange views and examine advanced approaches to involve all Hokkaido residents and encourage individuals to start with small steps that can be easily taken in everyday life. A panel exhibition designed to introduce organizations involved in green purchasing will also be held to coincide with this program.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Hokkaido Green Purchasing Network (Contact: Ouchi) TEL: +81-(0)11-222-0234 FAX: +81-(0)11-222-0235 E-mail: staff@hokkaido-gpn.org

Report

The Panel Discussion and Demonstration for Promoting Green Purchasing was held on October 30 based on the concept that taking realistic steps to have 100 people achieve 1% rather than having 1 person to achieve 100% will help to promote the development of a sustainable society. Students, researchers and consumer representatives held a panel discussion on ways to expand the contributions they can make respectively. Advanced approaches for implementation throughout Hokkaido were also covered in the discussion.

Mr. Seiichi Ueyama (Representative of the Environmental Management Institute for the Retail Industry and former managing director of Aeon Retail Co., Ltd.) gave a lecture entitled Achievements in the Promotion of Green Purchasing and Future Issues. Mr. Ueyama talked about the promotion of development for products based on the 3Rs, and focused on encouraging a substantial reduction in the number of plastic shopping bags used with visual aids to facilitate understanding among students and the general public. Mr. Kazuya Kojitani (Executive Director of the Green Purchasing Network) also talked about the principle and significance of green purchasing as well as efforts made by the Green Purchasing Network. Mr. Kunihiro Nagasaka (a second-year master's degree student at the Graduate School of Letters' Lab of Environmental Social Psychology) gave a presentation outlining a social experiment for promoting the use of reusable bags and bottles based on his own studies. Lastly, illustrator Ms. Sora talked about herself, her past works and environment-related practices in her life. A panel discussion was then held on the theme of adopting reusable bottles as the first step toward pro-environmental behavior and the further promotion of green purchasing. To wrap up, a question-and-answer session with the four panelists was held, and a number of visitors made declarations in regard to their 1% contribution.



GIFT2011 Global Issues Forum for Tomorrow



Overview

Date	October 30 (Sun.) 13:00-18:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University, Japan
Venue	Live broadcasts on the internet (Ustream channel)
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	The issue we face, which include every problems, food shortages and deterioration of the natural environment, cannot be resolved without cooperation and support from professionals in various fields. In this session, 12 researchers from Hokkaido University who are committed to finding ways to create a sustainable society and ensure the continued enjoyment of nature's blessings will share their ideas on high-priority global challenges. 
Registration	Not-required. Please access to Ustream Channel (http://www.ustream.tv/channel/sw2011)
Fees	Free
Contact	Secretariat for Hokkaido University Sustainability Weeks 2011 Phone: +81-(0)11-706-8031 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-8036 E-mail : sw1[at]oia.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Hokkaido University (HU) started a new initiative, named 'Gift' on October 30, aimed at helping to realize a sustainable society. GiFT is an acronym of Global Issues Forum for Tomorrow. This year's forum was mainly targeted at undergraduates and high school students who were yet to decide their specialized areas of study and research. For these future leaders, 12 young researchers from the university each made a 15-minute presentation on global issues and possible solutions to them. More than 100 people of all ages gathered to find out about their own issues, with another 500 people viewing the event live on the Internet across Japan. The video archive of the event was viewed 6,288 times in just a month, indicating high levels of interest in the forum.

▼ GiFT 2011 video archive with English subtitles

<http://sustain.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/GiFT/archive.php>

GiFT attracted widespread interest due to the following four factors:

- * Audience members and viewers had opportunities to listen directly to leading researchers concerning global issues and future developments.
- * The presentations were designed to be understandable for people with the scientific literacy of a first-year undergraduate student.
- * Stylish and visually appealing slides based mainly on photos and diagrams were used.
- * Each presentation was limited to 15 minutes to maintain listeners' attention.

GiFT was started in 2011, which marked the Sustainability Weeks' fifth anniversary. While the Weeks event has grown to be a major fixture in the calendar of HU, there remains room for progress to a higher level in terms of its management. In November 2010, HU opened the Office for a Sustainable Campus. In order to contribute to creating a sustainable society, it will be necessary for HU to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emitted by participants traveling to the events of Sustainability Weeks. The idea of a forum that leverages the medium of the Internet came from consideration of such factor.

As a new direction for HU's sustainability activities, GiFT is expected to grow into a platform to help share the information worldwide.



Candlize2011



Overview

Date	Sunday, 23 October, 2011 Start at 17:00 (Finished) Candlize2011 has been postponed till Sunday, 30 October, 2011 due to bad weather condition.
Organizer	The Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University
Venue	Hokkaido University Central Lawn
Language:Japanese Intended Audience: General public, College Students, High School Students, Primary and Junior High School Students	
Outline	In this session, street lamps will be turned off, and candles made from waste oil or recycled from spent candles will be lit in the evening in an effort to provide residents and students with an opportunity to consider environmental issues and sustainability in a fantastic candle-lit atmosphere.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University Contact: Takaishi E-mail: hp104213@hops.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Candlize 2011 – the second such event following last year – was held in October with the objectives below:

- (1) Further promote Sustainability Weeks
- (2) Provide students, residents and other individuals with opportunities to recognize and consider environmental issues.
- (3) Recycle candles.
- (4) Enhance power-saving by turning off lights.

In consideration of last year's results, the number of candles was reduced by about half to approximately 2,700 to reduce waste, while the number of venues was increased to two (the Central Lawn and the road in front of the front gate). Many Japanese and international visitors from the university and elsewhere came to the venues along with family members, friends and partners.

For extra entertainment, two special events were planned for Candlize 2011 in collaboration with the Hokkaido University Cafe Project and the Hokkaido University Jazz Society. Although these were unfortunately cancelled due to rain, the range of possibilities for future Candlize events was expanded through the planning of the collaboration. Members of the Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University intend to make Candlize even more lively and environmentally friendly next year by further promoting cooperation with other organizations and increasing the number of recycled candles used.





Invitation to Study-Abroad Programs: SD on Campus

Overview

Date	October 31 (Mon.) 15:00-17:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University Office of International Affairs
Venue	Multimedia Education Building
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Hokkaido University Students	
Outline	In this event, the representatives of HU's overseas partner institutions will introduce their campuses to attract HU students to become their exchange students as they present their unique approaches for sustainable developments on their own campuses. These universities are known for their commitments for the creation of a quality sustainable society (i.e., sustainable development) as they pursue to establish a global quality of life for the future. They will be introducing their prized research and education programs. The event should be very inspirational for those who are interested in studying abroad, or simply interested in SD in other universities. So, don't miss it! 
Registration	Required. Please register via website .
Fees	Free
Contact	Division of International Services, Office of International Affairs, Hokkaido University Contact: Kono TEL: +81-(0)11-706-8053 E-mail: jryugaku@oia.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Invitation to Study-Abroad Programs: SD on Campus was held, following the consecutive success since 2009. In 2011, five universities were selected on the basis of close relationships with Hokkaido University to educate young promises for tackling global issues. These were Beijing Normal University (China), De La Salle University (the Philippines), Korea University (South Korea), Mahidol University (Thailand) and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Switzerland).

At the event, representatives from these institutions outlined the educational programs they offer to promote sustainable development (SD) and illustrated how their students are involved in SD both in and outside the classroom. They also introduced characteristic initiatives of the programs.

Student responses revealed that the seminar had helped to shape their desire to study abroad. The representatives of the institutions also saw the event as a valuable opportunity for direct promotion to HU students.



Towards the Formulation of Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Systems



Overview

Date	Monday, 31 October, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Division of Field Engineering for the Environment and Division of Engineering and Policy for Sustainable Environment, Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University
Co-host	International Center for Urban Safety Engineering, Institute of Industrial Science. The University of Tokyo
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	Japan in the 21st century is characterized by a low birthrate and an aging population, efforts toward the restoration of a sound public finance system, a high-tech society, a focus on environmental load reduction, decentralization of power and balanced contraction. In this session, experts from various academic fields and members of the general public will discuss and exchange opinions on the development of urban infrastructure systems that create safe, affluent living environments, and will identify future challenges for the continuation of such systems as well as proposed measures to cope with such challenges. This is an ideal opportunity to collectively consider and identify future issues and measures to deal with them so that our affluent lifestyles can continue into the future.
Registration	Required. Please register via website by October 28
Fees	Free
Contact	Division of Engineering and Policy for Sustainable Environment, Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University (Contact: Yokota) TEL&FAX: +81-(0)11-706-6204

Report

Prof. Haruo Sawada from the University of Tokyo gave the first presentation (entitled Wide-area Hazards amid Global Environmental Changes and Related Surveillance), discussing the application of remote sensing technology to comprehensive disaster prevention information systems and early disaster warning/reporting systems. Prof. Norihiro Izumi of Hokkaido University took to the podium next to share his insights in a delivery with the title Imminent Water Crises ? Depletion of Water Resources and Intensification of Flood Disasters. The speech focused on the need to make effective use of our finite water resources and cope with intensifying flood damage through technological innovation.

Next, Prof. Kimiro Meguro from the University of Tokyo spoke on the title Future Earthquake Disaster Prevention in Light of the Great East Japan Earthquake, discussing lessons learned from the disaster and the subsequent recovery and reconstruction efforts. He also outlined the basics of disaster prevention measures and efforts to promote seismic retrofitting of existing vulnerable buildings. Lastly, Specially Appointed Prof. Seiichi Kagaya of Hokkaido University spoke on the subject of Planning Methods and Application of Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Development, focusing on governance based on the concept of strategic environmental assessment and planning methods for urban infrastructure development.

After the lectures, the speakers took questions from the floor. As the presentations dealt with such currently relevant topics, many questions and suggestions were raised both by technical experts and by members of the general public, and the speakers discussed this input with the audience. The event was successful as a forum for meaningful discussions both for the speakers and for attendees.



CLARK THEATER 2011



Overview

Date	Wednesday, 2 – Sunday, 6 November, 2011 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido Univ. Theater Project 2011
Venue	Hokkaido University Clark Memorial Student Center
Language: Japanese / English Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students, Primary and Junior High School Students	
Outline	The Clark Theater is a limited-period event providing opportunities to enjoy culturally enlightening films with the aim of creating a forum for communication through images and movies. This year's theme is "Generations – things that change and things that don't." We hope viewers will find a variety of examples of this concept in the intergenerational movies on offer. A number of related programs are also scheduled, including the 3rd Short Film Event for showings of films created at Hokkaido University, and screenings using a 35 mm movie projector as a reminder of the time when the Clark Memorial Student Center was established. We hope lots of people will come and enjoy these movies.
Admission	*One program: Advance – 400yen Day – 500yen *Nobel Prize Chemistry Award Commemoration Program: 1000yen (Advance/Day) *Premium Pass: 2500yen (Available only on the day. Admission to any program, excluding Nobel Prize Chemistry Award Commemoration Program.) *One-day Pass: 800yen (Available only on the day. Admission to any program, excluding Nobel Prize Chemistry Award Commemoration Program.)
Ticket	Available at Doshin Play Guide and Hokudai CO-OP. Ticket reservation is also available at http://www.clarktheater.jp/ct2011/form.html (Japanese.)

Report

The theme of Clark Theater 2011 was “Generations – things that change and things that don’t.” Things that change include intergenerational considerations stemming from different historical backgrounds, living environments and other factors, as well as differing generational values among children, adolescents and adults. Conversely, some things never change, and the aim of the organizers in selecting films and programs here was to highlight the contrast between change and consistency.

At the start of the event, films produced by students at Tokyo University of the Arts, Sapporo Visual Arts College and Ochanomizu University were shown under the theme of Screening of Student Movies – the Abilities of the Generation that will Shape the Future. Those who actually produced the films also said a few words on their pieces. This opening event, which featured films produced by young creators who will lead the next generation of the film industry at the theater, provided valuable experience for viewers and producers alike.

In conjunction with the Hokkaido University Short Film Committee, the Clark Theater also hosted a screening of the third short film to be produced by Hokkaido University, titled “Midori no Sokuseki,” which highlights the life of 2010 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry Akira Suzuki. The screening was followed by a public discussion featuring Dr. Suzuki, Wataru Hayakawa (a Hokkaido University alumnus and the director of the film) and students. During the event, Dr. Suzuki spoke to the audience and delivered a message for future generations.

Another film entitled “Koi Suru Tomato” (Love Tomato) was screened, and a related public discussion was held featuring actor Yasuo Daichi and Sapporo novelist Haku Kohiyama. The screening of “Hoshi o Ou Kodomo” (Children Who Chase Stars) – the latest film by renowned anime creator Makoto Shinkai – and a related public discussion were also held with the participation of Mr. Shinkai himself. The Clark Theater 2011 attracted a large number of guests for these events.

During the five-day period of the Clark Theater event, a total of 44 films – including long and short movies previously unreleased at movie theaters – were screened, and 23 individual programs were run.

In the future, members of the Hokkaido University Theater Project plan to continue their activities toward establishing a permanent movie theater at Hokkaido University to boost its role in the further development of film culture. Through this work, all members hope to highlight problems inherent to modern society from a range of different perspectives.



Business-Academia-Government Collaboration Seminar on Developments of Geo-Spatial Information



Overview

Date	Wednesday, 2 November, 2011 Start at 13:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University Graduate School of Letters
Co-host	GIS Association of Japan Hokkaido Regional Office, Hokkaido GIS/GPS Society, Non-profit Organization "Digital Hokkaido"
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	Currently, "Geo-spatial Information" is used to prepare a new digital map of Japan. It will form an information network along with the technologies of "Geographical Information System (GIS)" and "Satellite-based Positioning System". This seminar will explain the practical uses of geo-spatial information in companies, universities, and in government. In particular presenters will speak about the recent trends for practical uses of geo-spatial information in agriculture and Tourist business – two important industries in Hokkaido.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Hokkaido University, Graduate School of Letters (Contact: Hashimoto) TEL & FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4019 E-mail: you@chiri.let.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

There are high hopes for the role of geo-spatial information as a social data infrastructure tool in supporting the creation of a sustainable society. The use of such information together with technologies for the Geographical Information System (GIS) and the satellite positioning system enhances the promotion of various industries and the development of effective social welfare services in an aging society. This third seminar of its kind highlighted the latest trends of geo-spatial information application in the typical Hokkaido industries of agriculture and tourism.

First, event organizer Associate Professor Yuichi Hashimoto from Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Letters highlighted the pivotal role to be played by regional monitoring with geo-spatial information in a sustainable society. Next, Hamanasu Foundation Managing Director Kazuhiko Yamazaki delivered a keynote lecture with the title Agriculture and Tourism in Hokkaido and Regional Sustainability, focusing on tourism- and agriculture-based ways to prevent rural areas from becoming impoverished due to urbanization.

In relation to agriculture, Associate Professor Takaaki Nihei of Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Letters and Associate Professor Toru Sasaki of Sapporo Gakuin University's Faculty of Economics also explained trends and problems of Japan's agriculture in the context of geo-spatial information, with the former speaking on the theme of Hokkaido's Agriculture from the Viewpoint of Energy Efficiency and the latter on Consideration of Japan's Agriculture from a Provincial Perspective. In the area of tourism, two lecturers highlighted the achievements of new systems designed to collect and provide tourist information. First, Associate Professor Hidemi Fukada from Otaru University of Commerce's Department of Information and Management Science gave a presentation with the title A Tourist Information System Using Marker-based AR Technology – a New Initiative for the Otaru Canal Area. The next lecture by Associate Professor Hidenori Kawamura of Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Information Science and Technology was entitled. An Ambition Encapsulated in a Local Information Website Called Anata Joho Magajin Bimooru (lit. "Your Bemall Information Magazine").

Lastly, Prof. Hashimoto summed up the seminar and discussed his expectations for the future application of geo-spatial information. The event attracted more than 150 participants, including researchers, local government employees and students, indicating strong interest in GIS application to the fields of food and tourism.



Playing, Learning and Working : Studies for Supporting Sustainable Development



Overview

Date	Wednesday, 2 November, 2011 Thursday, 3 November, 2011 Friday, 4 November, 2011 Start at 9:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University Graduate School of Education, Research and Clinical Center for Child development
Venue	Nov. 2(Wed.)-3(Thu.) Center for Graduate School of Education W103, Nov. 4(Fri.) Center for Graduate School of Education 3F 305
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	The situation surrounding character building in society is becoming increasingly challenging, and people who support such development also face more and more difficulties. In this session, specialists and practitioners from a variety of fields, including psychiatry, psychology, sociology and education, will engage in trans-disciplinary discussion on the theory of sustainable development in which the potential for progress is not inhibited, and will outline visions for the creation of a society that allows such development. The following sessions are planned: A: Play and development B: Pushing the boundaries of academic learning and new concepts for schools C: Development in the workplace D: Development and disabilities E: Review of a society that supports personal development
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free

Contact Faculty of Education, Hokkaido University (Contact: Miyazaki)

TEL&FAX: +81-(0)11-706-3495

E-mail: miyazaki@edu.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On November 2, Prof. Shozo Aoki from Kawasaki Medical School delivered a keynote lecture with the title “Jidai ga Shimesasu Kokoro” (“People excluded from today’s society”). This was followed on November 3 by three symposiums with themes focusing on “Exploration into the mystery of curious minds”, “Pushing the boundaries of academic learning for schools”, and “Development in the workplace”. A final session was also held on November 4 with the title “Review of Systems to Support Character Building” as well as a panel discussion that summarized the content of the three days of discussions.

The three-day event attracted far more people than expected -a total of 422, the majority of whom came from outside the campus. The huge positive feedback received from attendees demonstrated that the event was meaningful as a forum for discussion open to the general public. The event also won praise from speakers and other participating researchers for its unprecedented program offerings and content, thereby highlighting its academic value as a forum for discourse. The outcomes of the event will be summarized in written form for publication.



Symposium on Environment and Energy – Earthquake Disaster Revival, Renewable energy and the Potential of Hokkaido



Overview

Date	Thursday, 3 November, 2011 Start at 13:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University Public Policy School, Hokudai Low-Carbon Society PT
Co-host	Hokkaido Regional Environment Office MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	The development and adoption of natural and renewable energy sources as well as mid- to long-term visions for their usage need to be addressed in relation to power shortages caused by the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, the suspension of operations at other nuclear power plants across the country and other related issues. Hokkaido and its rich natural environment have the potential to play a leading role in demonstrating the use of next-generation natural and renewable energy. This symposium will offer chances for discussion of Japan's natural energy policy and Hokkaido's potential with the public via lectures given by government officials, researchers and practitioners as well as through panel discussions.
Registration	Required. Please register via website , e-mail, phone or fax. (Registration finished)
Fees	Free
Contact	Hokkaido Regional Environment Office MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT (Contact: Hosogai) TEL: +81-(0)11-299-1952 FAX: +81-(0)11-736-1234 E-mail: reo-hokkaido@env.go.jp

Report

The Symposium on Environment and Energy-earthquake Disaster Revival, Renewable Energy and the Potential of Hokkaido was held on November 3, 2001. The event was co-hosted by the Hokkaido University Sustainable Low-carbon Society Project and the Ministry of the Environment's Hokkaido Regional Environment Office.

Japan is currently facing problems with electricity supply and demand due to a reduction in the percentage of electricity generated from nuclear energy as a result of the Great East Japan Earthquake. The nation also requires a change in its environmental policy, which has previously laid disproportionate emphasis on nuclear power generation. Given this background, renewable energy sources are currently attracting increased attention. This symposium involved discussion of challenges facing the widespread adoption of renewable energy sources, and reports were made on initiatives that have been actually implemented in Hokkaido – a region considered to have vast potential in terms of renewable energy.

During the first section of the symposium, Prof. Kazuhiro Ueta of the Graduate School of Economics at Kyoto University delivered a keynote speech entitled Post-disaster Regional Energy Management in Japan, emphasizing the need for a fundamental change in our approach to energy and highlighting that individual regions would need to consider specific visions for societal development in relation to energy. He also noted the benefits of capitalizing on the energy supply and demand characteristics of individual regions, and of promoting development and designing systems suited to these characteristics.

Next, Mr. Tokuya Wada, Senior Policy Coordinator at the Ministry of the Environment's Global Environment Bureau, and Mr. Masato Yasuda, Deputy Director of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, introduced the government's renewable energy policy. First, Mr. Wada spoke on the theme of Potential for the Introduction of Renewable Energy. The Ministry of the Environment carried out the Study on the Potential for the Introduction of Renewable Energy in FY 2009 and published the results; Mr. Wada reported on the outcomes of another study implemented in FY 2010 with focus on the implementation of the feed-in tariff (FIT) system and possible introduction amounts based on specific scenarios. He also discussed the feed-in tariff system for renewable energy.

In the second section, reports were given on three Hokkaido renewable energy initiatives. First, Hamanaka Agricultural Cooperative Chairman Shigenori Ishibashi spoke on the theme of Efforts to Introduce Photovoltaic Power Generation, outlining the circumstances that led to the installation of a mega-solar power generation system in FY 2010. The lecture gave an invaluable glimpse into a pioneering example highlighting the roles that agricultural cooperatives can play in energy-conscious urban development.

Next, Hiroo Akabane, Deputy Director of Japan Steel Works' Muroran Plant, gave a presentation with the title The Current Status of Wind Power Generation and JSW's Endeavors. As wind power generation involves various types of equipment, it is considered to have a significant effect in regard to the creation of jobs in related industries. The presentation also highlighted the importance of setting FIT purchase prices and periods as well as the essential role of reinforced power system operation in expanding the use of wind power generation.

Lastly, Hokuren Agricultural Research Institute Advisor Juzo Matsuda gave a lecture entitled The Current Situation of Animal Waste Biogas Plants in Hokkaido and Related Problems. The delivery highlighted that biogas plants are considered to have great potential in Hokkaido because they enable waste treatment and energy production at the same time. However, Matsuda also pointed out that such plants have not made significant inroads because revenue from selling electricity generated at them does not cover the related maintenance and operation costs.

The subsequent panel discussion and Q&A session focused on the design of FIT systems to promote investment in renewable energy. The exchanges of opinions that took place clarified the importance of coordination between FIT policy and other policies.

At the symposium, speakers and other participants discussed how individual regions might independently consider the future of local communities in light of energy, and how regions, businesses and administration should build social systems to realize these visions. The lively discussions that took place between the speakers and other participants made the symposium a fruitful event.



Welcome to the World of Health Science: A Revival from the Earthquake Disaster



Overview

Date	Thursday, 3 November, 2011 Start at 13:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Faculty of Health Science, Hokkaido University
Venue	3-1 lecture room, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hokkaido University
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	First Period: Professor Hiroyuki Date will explain radiation issues highlighted by the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. Second Period: Professor Mariko Kawaharada will discuss the physical and mental care necessary for people in the disaster areas. Third Period: Professor Katsuhiko Ogasawara will outline an advanced tele-health consultation system connecting remote areas and Hokkaido University using video telephone technology as a concept that has attracted attention recently. The system has been used to provide health consultation services to people in the disaster areas. Each speaker will give easy-to-understand, detailed explanations from a health science standpoint.
Registration	Required. Please register via e-mail or phone by Oct. 28
Fees	Free
Contact	General Affairs Section, Faculty of Health Science, Hokkaido University TEL: +81-(0)11-706-3315 E-mail: shomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

A public program run by the Faculty of Health Sciences at Hokkaido University with the title Welcome to the World of Health Science was held on November 3, and three speakers made presentations in their respective areas of specialty. The program, which was subtitled Revival from the Earthquake Disaster, focused on recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake from the standpoint of health sciences.

In the first period, entitled The Effects of Radiation on the Human Body – Definitions of Exposure and Risk, Professor Hiroyuki Date outlined radiation issues highlighted by the nuclear accident. Attendees had their levels of radiation measured, which proved to be an interesting exercise for all present.

In the second period, entitled Care to Support the Health of People in Disaster Areas – Interpersonal Bonds and Health, Professor Mariko Kawaharada discussed the physical and mental care necessary for people in disaster-stricken regions. The presentation included photos taken during support activities in affected areas, giving attendees a valuable opportunity to find out about the actual status of these places and the support being provided.

The third period was entitled Remote Health Consultation Connecting Disaster Areas and Hokkaido University. Professor Katsuhiko Ogasawara outlined the details of an advanced tele-health consultation system based on videophone technology to connect remote areas with staff at Hokkaido University. The presentation included slides showing scenes of health consultation using the system, and expectations for the technology's development in a variety of fields were highlighted.

Each speaker gave straightforward detailed explanations from a health science standpoint with focus on quality of life (one of the themes of the Sustainability Weeks 2011 event) and recovery from the disaster. According to the results of a questionnaire survey, levels of satisfaction with the program were high. After the session, the three speakers also gave detailed, easy-to-understand answers to questions from audience members.

The Faculty of Health Sciences plans to hold public programs every year with themes reflecting the times.



Population Ageing and Sustainable Development-New Approaches and Paradigms



Overview

Date	Friday, 4 November, 2011 Start at 13:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine
Co-host	Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine
Venue	The Alumni Hall "Frate" 1F, School of Medicine, Hokkaido University

Language:Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)

Intended Audience:Researchers, General public, College Students

Outline	Population ageing is a worldwide phenomenon entailing a variety of challenges and issues on today's societies. Each country is urged to address these problems with an interdisciplinary approach, assuring intergenerational equity in the distribution of the limited resources available. Under the theme of "Population Ageing in Sustainable Development-New Approaches and Paradigm", a series of lectures will be offered from various standpoints on subjects like health, care, and technology by national and international experts. The symposium will provide an excellent learning platform, enriched by the opportunity of a dialogue with all the stakeholders involved in the process as well as with the attending citizens and students.
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Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Department of Global Health and Epidemiology, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine FAX: +81-(0)11-706-7374 E-mail: sw2011@ghe.med.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

Event summary: Population aging is a complex and wide-ranging problem, and is progressing rapidly on a global scale. Against this background, individual countries must establish related strategies depending on their own circumstances under the concept of sustainable development. In this program, researchers specializing in medicine, demographics, sociology, welfare engineering and other fields reported on the current status and future prospects of health, nursing care and welfare under the theme of establishing a healthy aging society. There were also opportunities for exchanges of opinions with the general public.

Results: The program was divided into two parts – Sustainability and Demography. Eleven experts from Italy, South Korea, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, Thailand, US and Japan gave presentations on issues concerning the aging societies of their respective nations. The audience of 308 people was made up of members of the general public and students. During the open discussion in each part, the speakers addressed questions from the audience. Despite lasting only half a day, the program provided significant opportunities for attendees and speakers alike to engage in interdisciplinary and international discussions on this worldwide problem. It was also a good chance for Hokkaido University students to experience a symposium in English and carefully consider the urgent issues at hand. Another part of the program involved a regular meeting of an international consortium established in March 2009 to support global health research, education and training. The main members of the consortium include De La Salle University, the University of Geneva, Mahidol University, the University of Peradeniya, Seoul National University and the University of Texas. At the meeting, the progress of joint research activities was evaluated, and plans for further consolidation of the partnerships involved were confirmed.

Future prospects: Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine has held international symposiums on society and health concurrently with the Sustainability Weeks program every year since 2008. An ongoing program of symposiums is planned with the aim of strengthening collaboration with partner universities, training young researchers and raising awareness of issues related to public health. The school also intends to identify the ideal conditions of symposiums that are easy for the general public to attend, and to promote research activities as a contribution to society. The results of this year's event will also be submitted to domestic and international academic journals and other publications.





International Workshop on Green Circuits and Systems

Overview

Date	Friday, 4 November, 2011 (Finished)
Organizer	Center for Next-Generation Information Technology based on Knowledge Discovery and Knowledge Federation
Venue	Room No.17, 11th floor of Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, Hokkaido University
Language: English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students	
Outline	This workshop will introduce next-generation wireless networks, low-power consumption technology for cutting-edge information systems (e.g., multimedia information processing systems for video images, sound, voice, etc.), and human-friendly systems. The program will include an invited lecture by an internationally renowned researcher in the field and presentations by graduate school students on their latest research outcomes. This content will make it more than a simple seminar-style event, and active discussions on the latest technology are scheduled.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	GCOE Office, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology FAX: +81-(0)11-706-7890 E-mail: gcoe@ist.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

In the R&D field of next-generation signal processing, green systems with high functionality, high performance and low power consumption are attracting attention as part of efforts to develop advanced information and communication systems that are friendly both to people and to the earth. On November 4, 2011, the Global COE Program at Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Information Science and Technology (the Center for Next-Generation Information Technology based on Knowledge Discovery and Knowledge Federation) hosted a workshop with a keynote lecture on green systems and a technical session.

Prof. Kosin Chamnongthai from King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT; one of Thailand's top universities for engineering) delivered a keynote lecture on intelligent signal processing with the title Next-Generation Digital Signal Processing. In the technical session, Global COE Research Assistants (students in the latter period of doctoral degree programs) and postdoctoral researchers from the Graduate School of Information Science and Technology made presentations on the latest technological trends in multimedia signal processing and wireless communication processing. As most of the participants were young researchers with experience in making presentations outside Japan, the deliveries were smooth and the Q&A session was lively and animated.



Documentary Film Premier Preview in Sapporo “Messages from Taiga”



Overview

Date	Friday, 4 November, 2011 Start at 18:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Global Environmental Forum
Co-host	Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students, Primary and Junior High School Students	
Outline	Pristine taiga forest stretches over the Bikin River basin in Russia's Primorsky Krai region. This is one of the world's most valuable mixed conifer- and broad-leaved forest areas, characterized by unspoiled and biologically diverse ecosystems as well as providing a habitat for the Amur tiger. The taiga has managed to survive thanks to the efforts of local residents, including the Udege people (an indigenous minority), who have protected the forestland from deforestation and other threats. The film Messages from Taiga highlights the natural beauty of the four seasons in the Bikin River basin as well as the daily lives and sentiments of those living with the forest there. Through this film, we aim to share the charms of the taiga with people around the world. We also hope that it will spur individuals in today's society to consider how this taiga region can be passed on to future generations and offer opportunities to define our future direction. We expect the event to be of particular interest to people interested not only in Russia and forest protection, but also in the development of a sustainable future.
Registration	Required. Please register via e-mail, fax, telephone or Website
Fees	Free
Contact	Tgiga Forum/Global Environmental Forum(Contact:Sakamoto) TEL:+81-(0)3-3813-9735, FAX+81-(0)3-3813-9737 E-mail:info@taigaforum.jp

Report

On November 11, 2011, a special preview of the documentary “Messages from Taiga” was held to introduce the story of the Udege people – a minority indigenous group living on the taiga forest terrain that stretches over the Bikin River basin in Russia’s Primorsky Krai region. The film highlights the rich ecosystem with the Amur Tiger at its pinnacle that still remains in this mixed forest – a type found in few places worldwide. It also documents how the Udege and other residents there live in harmony with nature and protect the forest from logging activities and various crises. As the Bikin River merges into the main stream of the Amur River, flows into the Sea of Okhotsk and transports nutrients from the forest into the Oyashio and other currents, it also serves as a feeder for Japan’s bountiful ocean environments. This helped the audience to understand that the taiga region has a very strong influence on Japan rather than simply being a forest area in a faraway country. It was considered a major achievement of the preview that this audience in Hokkaido – a region close to Russia – was able to appreciate the charm of the taiga area. The feedback gathered from the preview is expected to act as a valuable resource for conveying the direct opinions of the audience when the film is promoted in other parts of Japan in the future.



Nobel Prize Chemistry Award Commemoration Program HU Short Film 3rd Screening & Talk Show With Dr. Akira Suzuki



Overview

Date	Saturday, 5 – Sunday, 6 October, 2011 (Finished)
Organizer	Hokkaido Univ. Short Film Committee
Co-host	Hokkaido Univ. Theater Project 2011
Venue	Hokkaido University Clark Memorial Student Center
Language: Japanese Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students, Primary and Junior High School Students	
Outline	We will hold world-premiere screenings of only the third short film ever to be produced by Hokkaido University, titled Midori no Sokuseki. Based on the theme of summer at Hokkaido University, the film highlights the life of 2010 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry Akira Suzuki, who has dedicated himself to research at Hokkaido University. On November 5th, the short film (approx. 10 mins.) will be screened, and a public interview will be held with Dr. Suzuki, who makes a guest appearance in the work. On November 6, we will also screen the university's past films – one presenting autumn scenes from Hokkaido University called Under Ginkgo Trees (winner of the Best Foreign Film award at the Mexico International Film Festival), and one presenting winter scenes called Reika 15 do no Tegami (lit. "letters from –15°C"). We hope viewers will enjoy learning about Hokkaido University's campus through these films.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Hokkaido Univ. Theater Project 2011 TEL: +81-(0)80-5583-2705 E-mail: info@clarktheater.jp

Report

A 10-minute short film about the life of Dr. Akira Suzuki, a Nobel prize-winning professor emeritus at Hokkaido University, was screened on November 5 at the Clark Memorial Student Center in conjunction with the Hokkaido Univ. Theater Project 2011. Dr. Suzuki also made a special appearance at a public discussion held after the screening, adding even further to the success of the event.

The discussion was hosted by Miku Yoshihara, a first-year student from the Faculty of Letters. In the first 20 minutes of the session, a talk was given by the film's director Mr. Wataru Hayakawa, a graduate of the university, and Hokkaido University students Shun Nakamichi and Hiroya Konno, who worked as assistant directors. Dr. Suzuki then made an appearance and spoke for 50 minutes about the history of Hokkaido University in relation to scenes shown in the film, providing the audience with outstanding opportunities to learn about differences between the past and present and the history of the university.

After the program, students and staff members involved gathered with Dr. Suzuki in the cafeteria at the School of Engineering, and young undergraduates who will play leading roles in the future celebrated the completion of the movie together with representatives of sponsor companies.

The documentary and a video letter from Dr. Suzuki were also shown on two other occasions at programs hosted by the Hokkaido Univ. Theater Project 2011 so that people who were unable to attend the session on November 5 could also enjoy the film.

This event was featured in various news media beforehand, and the session was covered by The Hokkaido Shimbun and other news agencies on the day. The program was a great success as a Hokkaido University cultural project.



The 2nd International Meeting of Amur - Okhotsk Consortium 2011



Overview

Date	Saturday, 5 – Sunday, 6 November, 2011 Start at 10:00 on Nov. 5 (Finished)
Organizer	Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University and others
Co-host	Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau and others
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/Chinese/Russian (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, College Students	
Outline	This will be the second international meeting of the Amur-Okhotsk Consortium – an international scientific network established by Japan, Russia, China and Mongolia to prevent foreseen problems relating to the Sea of Okhotsk as a result of recent global warming and the rapid development of the Amur River basin. The event will be attended by members of the general public and students, and will involve interdisciplinary discussions on how cross-border environments, which represent elements of shared heritage in the region, can be conserved and passed on to future generations. The session is expected to be of interest to members of the general public and students hoping to learn more about the development of an international framework for environmental conservation.
Registration	Required. Please register via e-mail, fax or postcard (Sept. 1-Nov. 1) *First 120 applicants
Fees	Free
Contact	Pan Okhotsk Research Center, Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, Amur-Okhotsk Consortium Office (Contact: Shinohara) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-7142 E-mail: ao-consortium@pop.lowtem.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On November 5 and 6, 2011, the second international meeting of the Amur-Okhotsk Consortium was held. The consortium is based on a network for multilateral discussions on environmental conservation and sustainable development of the Amur River basin and the Sea of Okhotsk as a single region from an academic standpoint. On the first day, a total of 13 oral presentations were made in three sessions entitled: 1) Environments in the Amur River Basin and their Changes; 2) Environments in the Sea of Okhotsk and their Changes, and 3) Accident of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant and its Impacts to the Marine Environment. On the second day, 11 presentations were made in two sessions entitled: 4) Social Economy in the Amur-Okhotsk Region, and 5) International Cooperation for Environmental Conservation in Pan Okhotsk region. These were followed by a general discussion on the necessity and feasibility of transnational environmental data sharing. Simultaneous interpretation in three languages – Japanese, Russian and Chinese – was provided for the event.

This was the third meeting of the consortium following those held in 2009 and 2010. Presenters from Japan, China, Russia and Mongolia shared valuable academic data on the Amur River basin and the Sea of Okhotsk, and the individual presentations prompted lively discussions. In the general discussion, it was proposed that the consortium should serve as an organization responsible for international archives of trans-border environmental data. However, the majority of attendees held the opinion that it should rather function as a hub to connect existing research institutes and facilitate the sharing of information.

A program of joint observation and navigation on the Amur River by the four countries involved was proposed and approved at the meeting. In addition, a proposal by Russian chief representative Peter Baklanov to hold the third international meeting (scheduled for 2013) in Russia was approved.

Many members of the general public, as well as individuals from universities, research institutes and government organizations attended the meeting. In particular, the participation of the deputy representative of UNEP's Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) helped to underline the relationship between parties related to the Sea of Okhotsk and NOWPAP.

Details of the Amur-Okhotsk Consortium's activities are provided at <http://amurokhotsk.com/>.



The 15th AINU Language Speech Contest 'ITAK AN RO' – Let's make a speech in the AINU Language.



Overview

Date	Saturday, 5 November, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Foundation for Research and Promotion Ainu Culture
Co-host	Hokkaido University Center for Ainu & Indigenous Studies
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese / Ainu	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, High School Students, Educators	
Outline	The annual Itak An Ro Ainu-language speech contest was first held in 1997, making this the 15th such event. Ainu language learners are found not only in Hokkaido but also nationwide, and this contest provides them with opportunities to show the fruits of their efforts. This year too, numerous contestants will demonstrate their skills in the Oratorical Division or the Oral Literature Division, which will include recitals of kamuy yukar (Ainu folk tales in verse form). This will be a precious opportunity to experience the Ainu language, which is rarely heard these days. We hope lots of people will come and enjoy the contest.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Foundation for Research and Promotion of Ainu Culture TEL: +81-(0)11-271-4171 FAX:+81-(0)11-271-4181 E-mail: ainu@frpac.or.jp

Report

The annual Itak An Ro Ainu-language speech contest is designed to inspire and motivate Ainu language learners by providing opportunities for them to exhibit the skills they have honed in practice and giving the general public a forum to allow experience of Ainu culture.

The contest has three divisions: the Children's Division; the Oral Literature Division, in which adults present traditional oral literature; and the Oratorical Division, in which speakers communicate their own thoughts verbally. The event also includes the non-judged Recital Division, in which Ainu language instructors and past winners deliver exemplary speeches in addition to serving as judges.

In recent years, the number of entries with new forms of presentation (such as singing Ainu songs and delivering parent-child dialogue) has increased. The organizers plan to boost efforts to promote the event in order to attract even more participants in the coming years.

Award winners:

- Children's Division

First prize: Takako Gouukon

Second prize: Tenshou Tazawa, Kan Gouukon, Jin Gouukon

- Adults: Oral Literature Division

First prize: Tomoko Taira

Second prize: Rie Yamamoto, Kazunobu Kawanano

- Adults: Oratorical Division

First prize: Biratori Oya to Ko no Ainu Go Gakushu Kai (lit. "Biratori Parent-Child Ainu Language Learners' Club")

Second prize: Hatsumi Komatsuda, Yuka Hayasaka



GLP-Sapporo Open Workshop: Vulnerability, Resilience and Sustainability of Asian Land System



Overview

Date	Saturday, 5 November, 2011 Start at 10:30 (Finished)
Organizer	Global Land Project Sapporo Nodal Office
Co-host	Tribhuvan University, International Network and Training Office of IFES-GCOE
Venue	Hokkaido University Centennial Hal
Language: English	
Intended Audience: Researchers, College Students	
Outline	The Hokkaido University campus is home to the Sapporo Nodal Office of the Global Land Project (GLP), where research on the vulnerability, resilience and sustainability of the land system in relation to land-use and land-cover change is conducted within the international research network's framework. In this workshop, lectures on the results of research regarding land-use and land-cover change in Asia (including the outcomes of joint research conducted by Nepal's Tribhuvan University and Hokkaido University) will be given as part of the Sapporo Nodal Office's activities. Related ideas and views will also be exchanged. * Scheduled main lecturers: President of Tribhuvan University (opening, on joint research by both universities), Prof. Dr. Narendra Raj Khanal (Tribhuvan University, on the vulnerability and sustainability of land-use and land-cover change), Prof. Dr. Narendra Man Shakya (Tribhuvan University, on Nepal's integrated water resource management), Prof. Dr. Pramod Jha (Tribhuvan University, on biodiversity and forest dynamics in Nepal), several Hokkaido University faculty members
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Faculty of Environmental Earth Science Contact: Watanabe TEL&FAX: 011-706-2213 E-mail: twata@ees.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Hokkaido University campus is the site of the Sapporo Nodal Office of the Global Land Project (GLP; an international research initiative started in 2006), where research on the vulnerability, resilience and sustainability of the land system in relation to land-use and land-cover change is conducted. For an open workshop held on November 5, the office invited four researchers from Nepal's Tribhuvan University – an institution with which HU has an Inter-university Exchange Agreement and jointly pursues research projects. The workshop was designed to contribute to the GLP by facilitating exchanges of information on land-use and land-cover change in Asia among Nepalese and Japanese researchers.

Following an address given by the president of Tribhuvan University, a total of nine presentations were made by HU researchers (four Japanese, one Nepalese and one Chinese) and three scientists from Tribhuvan University. The presentations by the HU representatives covered:

- * initiatives of the GLP Sapporo Nodal Office;
- * initiatives for research and education relating to sustainability science; and
- * case studies on land systems in Japan, China and Nepal.

The presentations led to a number of additional deliveries and in-depth discussion at a closed workshop held on November 7, and it was agreed that the presenters and other researchers should jointly write articles for publication as a product of the workshop. The event laid the foundations for productive discussions at a symposium on mountainous environments in Asia to be jointly hosted by the two universities in Kathmandu in October 2012.



Public forum, “Glacier Changes and Disaster; Himalayan perspectives on global warming”



Overview

Date	Sunday, 6 November, 2011 Start at 13:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Faculty of Environmental Earth Science、 Global Land Project Sapporo Nodal Office
Co-host	Tribhuvan University, Global Land Project Sapporo Nodal Office, International Network and Training Office of IFES-GCOE
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese/English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	To what extent have the Himalayan glaciers already melted? What impacts have glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs, believed to stem from the melting of glaciers) exerted on people living in the Himalayas and on trekkers who come from around the world to climb the area's mountains? Just how high is the risk of GLOFs, which are often reported on TV, in newspapers and by other media? In this session, faculty members from Tribhuvan University and Hokkaido University will provide easy-to-understand answers to these questions. Speakers: Prof. Dr. Narendra Raj Khanal (Central Department of Geography, Tribhuvan University), Prof. Dr. Teiji Watanabe (Faculty of Environmental Earth Science, Hokkaido University) Moderator: Nepalese student representative
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	Faculty of Environmental Earth Science Contact: Watanabe TEL&FAX: 011-706-2213 E-mail: twata@ees.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

On November 11, 2011, the Public Forum “Glacier Changes and Disaster: Himalayan Perspectives on Global Warming” held for a target audience of junior high and high school students as well as members of the general public attracted 90 people. Dr. Narendra Raj Khanal from Nepal’s Tribhuvan University and Prof. Teiji Watanabe from Hokkaido University’s Faculty of Environmental Earth Science spoke about the impacts of global warming in the Himalayas.

First, Dr. Khanal gave a presentation on Nepal and the Himalayas, and Prof. Watanabe then explained the nature of glaciers and the characteristics of Himalayan glaciers. Glacial lakes are known to cause glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) from time to time. These floods often attract media attention worldwide, and Nepal’s Imja Glacier Lake in particular is frequently highlighted. Using this lake as an example, Dr. Khanal detailed disasters caused by glacier lake collapse and outlined measures to mitigate related damage and prevent disasters. It was pointed out at the forum that despite the importance of communicating the outcomes of research (field surveys) on GLOFs to residents living near glacial lakes, many researchers neglected to do so. Other topics discussed included the importance in research of holding workshops in areas near glacial lakes to allow exchanges between local residents and researchers.



Sustainable Campus Contest



Overview

Date	Sunday, 6 November, 2011 Start at 14:00 (Finished)
Organizer	The Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University
Venue	Hokkaido University Conference Hall
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General public, College Students, High School Students	
Outline	The Sustainable Campus Contest is intended to allow the sharing of student ideas with the ultimate aim of making the Hokkaido University campus sustainable and eco-friendly. A wide variety of student-planned project ideas characterized by free, imaginative thinking and applications of students' research outcomes will be presented. We invite entries from students with creative ideas, and look forward to welcoming students and members of the general public who are interested in the environment, sustainable campus development and the creative ideas of students.
Registration	Not-required.
Fees	Free
Contact	The Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University University Contact: Takaishi E-mail: hp104213@hops.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Sustainable Campus Contest is designed to encourage students' ideas for sustainable campus models. It provides opportunities for students not only to present their ideas but also to help them become reality. After the contest, the Students Council for Sustainable Development in Hokkaido University (SCSD; the contest organizer) works together with the winner to implement the project proposed.

The winning project this year proposed the establishment of a poster management committee to solve the problems with posters and fliers being randomly posted at the campus. The approach suggested that a student-based organization be established to supervise posters and fliers on the bulletin boards. It will help to prevent excessive paper use and eventually lead to keeping the campus clean. The SCSD aims to implement this project in cooperation with the university.

At this year's contest, joint research conducted by students of Moiwa High School and Hokkaido University under the Science Partnership Project (SPP) was presented as a special event. In addition to the contest's goal of making the Hokkaido University campus sustainable, SCSD members will also consider how Hokkaido can be made sustainable in the future through cooperation with external organizations.



The Science of Pain



Overview

Date	Saturday, 3 December, 2011 Start at 10:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Graduate School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University
Venue	Conference Hall at School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University
Language: Japanese / English (Translation will be provided)	
Intended Audience: Researchers, General public, College Students, Dentist, Medical Doctor	
Outline	In this session, differences in pain perception and their causes will be explained in simple terms using examples of potential situations in daily life. When using a massage stick, for example, how much tolerance do people have for pressure, and at what point does the pleasant sensation turn into pain? Based on experimental data, factors influencing the point at which pain is perceived (the pain threshold) and how this point changes will be explained. Finally, treatment for pain will be introduced with everyday examples using data obtained from experiments.
Registration	Required. Please register via website or Email (Sept. 26 – Dec. 1)
Fees	Free
Contact	Graduate School of Dental Medicine, Hokkaido University (Contact: Arima) TEL: +81-(0)11-706-4275 FAX: +81-(0)11-706-4276 E-mail: tar@den.hokudai.ac.jp

Report

The Science of Pain workshop was held on December 3, 2011, as the final event of Sustainability Weeks 2011. The purpose of the session was to help attendees understand the science behind the sensation of pain. As this topic is familiar to everyone in daily life, and a summary of the content was provided in Japanese together with simultaneous interpretation, the event attracted many members of the general public as well as students of the university. The results of a questionnaire survey of participants included significant positive feedback on the workshop and indicated high levels of satisfaction.

The Graduate School of Dental Medicine has held events under the category of the Quality of Life during the Sustainability Weeks since 2010. In line with the popularity of the sessions run last year and this year, the school is planning to hold another event in 2012 based on the theme of treatment and progress of neuroplegia.





Overview

Date	Saturday, 3 December ,2011 Start at 15:00 (Finished)
Organizer	Project Design Center Incorporated
Co-host	Sustainable Low-Carbon Society Project
Venue	Hokkaido University Enyuu Gakusha
Language: Japanese	
Intended Audience: General Public, College Students	
Outline	Our prefecture of Hokkaido has a high wintertime kerosene consumption rate, so its annual per capita greenhouse gas emissions exceed the national average. Large amounts of waste wood are also produced from the pruning of trees that line the region's streets and grace its parks. To achieve a sustainable society, it is essential to make effective use of this surplus wood as a readily available energy source that contributes to waste reduction and helps to alleviate global warming and climate change. Part of efforts to achieve this involve using waste wood as firewood for heating, and in this context, the use of wood-burning stoves has spread rapidly in Germany in recent years. This event will encompass 1) a lecture, and 2) a Q&A session and discussion. The lecturer will be German environmental counselor Birgit Bianca Fuerst, who will talk about the current situation of firewood use and firewood culture in Germany. The second half of the session will feature a Q&A session on the content of the lecture, followed by a discussion on using firewood in daily life. Why not join us in the Enyuu Gakusha building to enjoy drinks and snacks around a wood-burning stove while considering lifestyles of firewood and the development of a sustainable society based on its use? We expect the event to be of particular interest to people who are concerned about energy issues and to anybody who uses or is thinking about using a wood-burning stove.
Registration	Required. Please register via E-mail. (Monday, 24 October – Sunday, 20 November)
Fees	Charge:500 yen (No charge for Hokkaido University students)
Contact	Project Design Center Incorporated (Contact: M. Okada) TEL/FAX : +81-(0)11-206-6696 E-mail : okada[at]prodec.jp

Report

Maki Cafe was held at Hokkaido University Enyuu Gakusha on December 3rd, consisting of a lecture followed by a Q&A session. Birgit Bianca Fuerst, a German environmental counselor, was invited as the lecturer and he spoke about firewood culture in Germany. He also included the latest information on how firewood is commonly utilized in Germany. The lecture provided participants with many ideas that Japan should take into consideration in the future, such as how sustainable use of firewood can be stipulated by law. The second half of the event featured a Q&A session and a discussion on using firewood. While gathered around a wood-burning stove with drinks and snacks in the style of the Science Cafe (a place where people talk about science over coffee and tea), participants shared their experiences and difficulties in using firewood. The discussion saw enthusiastic exchanges of opinions. The achievements of this event are the following 1): wood-burning users were able to share information on how to obtain and store firewood, 2) prospective users' interest in a wood-burning stove was boosted, and 3) upon learning about the situation in Germany, participants realized that Japan needs to establish a system for the sustainable use of firewood.

