

SEED-Net *News*

Quarterly Newsletter of the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network



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Students & Alumni' Achievements

Miss Soe Soe Han, PhD scholar from Yangon Technological University (YTU) studying at Chulalongkorn University (CU), was presented the Best Paper Award for her outstanding paper on "The Role of Thickness of GaP Ultra-thin Insertion Layer on Characterization of the Structure Property of InP Quantum Dots" at the 32nd Electrical Engineering Conference (EECON32) in Thailand in October 2009.

And in November 2009, she received the Presentation Award at the 1st International Conference on Science and Engineering (ICSE2009), the first international conference of engineering field held in Myanmar.

Mr. Muhammad Agung Bramantya, PhD scholar from Gadjah Mada University (UGM) studying at Keio University, was awarded the Young Engineer Award 2009 from Japan Society of Applied Electromagnetics and Mechanics (JSAEM) on November 19, 2009 in Tokyo.



The awards are annually presented to talented scientists or researchers who have contributed significantly to the society or education in applied electromagnetics and mechanics. For 2009, the award jury selected Mr. Bramantya's research paper entitled "Ultrasonic Study on the Clustering Structures of Magnetorheological Fluids under a Uniform Magnetic Field" published in the JSAEM Journal as the excellent work.

AUN/SEED-Net alumni **Dr. Ali Awaludin** was honored to receive the Japan Wood Research Society (JWRS) Progress Award for 2009. The award certificate and medal were handed to him by President of JWRS during the 60th annual meeting of JWRS in Miyazaki, Japan on March 17, 2010. This award was based on his research work titled "Effect of Axial Forces in Bolts and Its Relaxation on Static and Dynamic Response of Steel-to-Timber Bolted Joints", mostly conducted during PhD study at Hokkaido University. Under this research, he has published three papers in the Journal of Wood Science (2008), one paper in the Journal of Structural Engineering JSCE (Japan Society of Civil Engineers, 2008), and two papers in international conferences in 2008 and 2009.

A faculty member of UGM, Dr. Awaludin graduated from CU and Hokkaido University under AUN/SEED-Net Master's and PhD Programs. He is now taking a post-doctoral study at Hokkaido University sponsored by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).



Staff Change



Mr. Yamada Sakae, Program Coordinator, has completed his service term in April 2010.



Mr. Takahashi Atsushi has joined the Project as Program Coordinator on March 20, 2010. He will be in charge of Information & Communication Technology field and accounting.



Ms. Rungchalai Punninda has been promoted to be Program Coordinator since April 2010. She is responsible for PhD Program in Singapore, public relations, alumni network and open house.



New & Renewable Energy in Spotlight

New and renewable energy became a topic in the spotlight with high attention and support from local and foreign agencies. Especially, ASEAN Foundation (AF) agreed to fund one special conference on bioenergy beyond the AUN/SEED-Net scheme.

It was revealed at the 2nd AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conference on New & Renewable Energy during January 21-22, 2010 that some researches conducted by Member Institutions and Japanese supporting universities received generous supports from the government and the industry. Hence, the participants have seen more rooms for collaboration, joint research supervision as well as student and staff mobility.

Arranged by Burapha University (BUU) in Chonburi, Thailand, this conference attracted 88 attendants and 56 research papers mostly on bioenergy and biofuels. It was officially opened by BUU Vice President Asst. Prof. Dr. Pichan Sawangwong, BUU Dean of Faculty of Engineering Asst. Prof. Dr. Wirogana Ruengphrathuengsuka, and AF Executive Director Dr. Filemon A. Uriarte, Jr. Keynote speeches were given by Prof. Dr. Kunio Yoshikawa from Tokyo Institute of Technology, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Toshio Shudo from Hokkaido University, Technical Advisor Asst. Prof. Pricha Karasuddhi from Nuclear Power Program Development Office, Ministry of Energy of Thailand, and Chairman of the Energy for Environment Foundation and the Honorary Fellow of Association of Electricity Supply Industry of East Asia and Western Pacific Mr. Chaya Jivacate.

The next AUN/SEED-Net regional conference on new and renewable energy will embrace diverse topics and will be hosted by Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang tentatively on October 13-14, 2010. Recognizing the importance of energy technologies, AF also committed to fund another conference focusing on bioenergy from plants to oil.

Mechanical & Aerospace Experts Gathering

More than a hundred experts gathered and presented their research at the 2nd Regional Conference on Mechanical and Aerospace Technology hosted by Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in Bali, Indonesia on February 9-10, 2010.

Jointly arranged with and co-supported by the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME), the conference gathered as many as 152 participants and 117 paper presentations from 137 full papers submitted. Keynote lectures were given by Prof. Dr. Aliakbar Akbarzadeh from RMIT Australia, Prof. Dr. Shinnosuke Obi from Keio University, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Takeshi Tsuchiya from University of Tokyo, Prof. Dr. Ichsan S. Putra from ITB, and Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Cross from Tokyo Institute of Technology. Also attended the Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation Dr. Filemon A. Uriarte, Jr.

The participants exchanged and updated research topics as well as activity progress in the field. Lastly, they agreed that the next conference would be held by De La Salle University (DLSU) in the Philippines around March 2011.



Food Biotechnology Conference



On February 11-12, 2010, the 2nd Regional Conference on Biotechnology: Research and Development on Food Biotechnology was organized by Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC) in Phnom Penh. It was attended by 51 participants with H.E. Pit Chamnan, Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Youths and Sports of Cambodia and Mr. Yasujiro Suzuki, Chief Representative, JICA Cambodia Office delivering opening addresses. Apart from four keynote lectures by Japanese professors, 16 papers were presented and 22 papers were published.

The member institutions' delegates updated research progress and coordinators for this interdisciplinary area, at the same time discussed how to intensify collaboration between the member institutions with similar research interests.

The next conference will be hosted by Hanoi University of Technology (HUT) in late 2010.



Disaster Mitigation Conference Moves Close to International

The 2nd Regional Conference on Disaster Mitigation was organized by Gadjah Mada University (UGM) in Bali during February 25-26, 2010. The conference attracted 98 academicians, professionals, and students from various institutions even outside the AUN/SEED-Net network such as Geological Survey Institution of Indonesia, Research Institute of Indonesia, Nusa Cendana University, Hassanudin University, and Soedirman University from Indonesia; Holkar Science College Indore and Jadavpur University from India; and RWTH Aachen University from Germany.

Among 79 papers published in proceedings, 66 were presented plus 21 posters were exhibited. Presentations from six keynote speakers from various fields and countries including Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Germany and USA induced active discussion among participants. From the discussion, new collaborative research topics under the umbrella 'Adaptable to the Extreme Weather Conditions' were formulated to meet with the current climate change circumstance.

The next conference will be organized by Kyoto University in Japan on August 24-25, 2010 to commemorate the 15th anniversary of Kobe earthquake.

KMITL Inter College Takes Charge of ICT Activities

King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), the hub for ICT field of the AUN/SEED-Net network, announced recently that KMITL International College now has been fully responsible for all AUN/SEED-Net activities. Current ICT research umbrella embrace Applications in Telecommunication Industries, Applications in Computer and Electronics Industries, and Applications in Electricity Industries.



KMITL informed this update to participants joining the 2nd Regional Conference on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Jogjakarta, Indonesia, on March 2-3, 2010. The conference was held successfully by Gadjah Mada University (UGM) with 104 participants and 83 papers presented in four sessions. Seven keynote speeches were given by delegates from Ministry of Communication and Informatics of Indonesia, PT Schneider Indonesia, and five Japanese supporting universities.

Tentatively, the next year's conference will be held in Luangprabang by National University of Laos (NUOL) together with "Joint International Conference on Information & Communication Technology, Electronic and Electrical Engineering" or JICTEE. The exact date and venue will be finalized at soonest.

Conference on Global Environmental Issues

The 2nd Regional Conference on Global Environment was organized by Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT) on March 8-9, 2010 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The conference theme was "Global Environmental Issues for Sustainable Development in ASEAN Region".



A total of 74 participants took part in the conference, where seven keynote lectures were given and 19 posters were exhibited. Twenty-two papers on different topics related to global environment were presented under four technical sessions: Ballast Water Treatment, Monitoring of Environmental Change, Technologies for Climate Change Mitigation, and Environmental Assessment and Management System. The participants also agreed with the idea of journal setup. The next conference will be hosted by University of Malaya (UM) but schedule is yet to be confirmed.

Sustaining ASEAN Civil Engineering Conference

Civil Engineering academics put efforts to improve and sustain the ASEAN Civil Engineering Conference through committee set up and promotion to wider societies.

Academics joining the 2nd ASEAN Civil Engineering Conference (ACEC) in Vientiane during March 11-12, 2010 discussed intensively how to set up ACEC committee consisting of advisory, editorial and technical boards, in order to improve conference organizing system. The editorial and technical board will be responsible for reviewing papers for both conference and AUN/SEED-Net's journal, planned to be launched in late 2010. Strong public relations and best paper awarding will also be taken up to attract more participants from non-member institutions, government and private sectors. All of these efforts hopefully will bring about income from registration fees, leading to sustainability of the conference. The participants also planned to propose a joint research for external fund.

Organized by National University of Laos (NUOL), the 2nd ACEC drew around 120 participants from ASEAN and Japan. Two keynote speeches and five invited lectures were delivered, plus 35 reviewed papers. After the presentations, a field trip was arranged for participants to observe construction sites of Mekong River's bank protection project and Mekong riverside park.

The 3rd ACEC will be hosted by University of the Philippines (UP) in November 2010.



Upcoming Events

Find latest schedules and more details at <http://www.seed-net.org/calendar.php>

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| August 24-25, 2010 | The International Conference on Disaster Mitigation @ Kyoto, Japan |
| September 8-9, 2010 | AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conference on Microelectronics joint with 2010 International Symposium on Multimedia and Communication Technology (ISMAT) and 2010 IEICE Smart Info-Media Systems in Asia (SISA) @ Manila, the Philippines |
| October 13-14, 2010 | The 3rd Regional Conference on New & Renewable Energy @ Penang, Malaysia |
| November 8, 2010 | The 17th AUN/SEED-Net Steering Committee Meeting and Year 2010 Annual Meeting @ Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam |
| November 11-12, 2010 | UP ICE Centennial International Symposium with AUN/SEED-Net: 3rd Regional Conference on Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering @ Manila, the Philippines |
| November 25-26, 2010 | The 3rd Regional Conference on Natural Resources & Materials @ Jogjakarta, Indonesia |