

SEED-Net *News*

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



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日本、君と共に。 JAPAN, With You We Are

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"AUN/SEED-Net would like to share our deepest sympathy and condolences to the people of Japan for the loss of lives and properties caused by the destructive earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011."

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prakrit Tangtisanon, Executive Director, AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat



"We are deeply sad that Japan is facing unprecedented multiple disasters. Our condolences go to victims in this event, and we wholeheartedly hope that your family and loved ones are safe. With best wishes for your country's effort to get through this difficult crisis and for a fast recovery."

Prof. Dr. Panitan Lukkunaprasit, Civil Engineering Department, Chulalongkorn University



"I donated some money via the Embassy of Japan officers here in Bandung. I also sent a message to the Japanese Government through the Cabinet's e-mail account and got a reply with thanks and regards. I sent my regard to Prof. Shudo (TMU), Prof. Shioji (Kyoto), Prof. Aizawa (TIT), as well as people around them. I was happy to hear that they were fine. I can give anything I have even it is small. It made me remember a song called 'We are the World' by Michael Jackson and what people once said that 'whatever you have, no matter how big or how small, they are all can be counted as a unity.'"

Mr. Ratnak Sok, Cambodian student at Institut Teknologi Bandung



"Recently I read news about tsunami and earthquake in Japan. I'm really shocked and sad because a thousand people died and missed, and perhaps there will be many potential hazards after this disaster. I want to condole and pray for the Japanese; I hope everything will pass quickly. If our project has any campaign to support Japan such as charitable collections, volunteer campaigns, etc. and you think we can join, just direct to us."

Mr. Huynh Viet Quang, Vietnamese student at Gadjah Mada University



Publish Your Work in ASEAN Engineering Journal

Here comes the opportunity to publish your work! The ASEAN Engineering Journal looks forward to quality research papers in the scope of nine engineering fields from all researchers in the ASEAN region, including young staff and graduate students. Following types of papers are published: Full Papers, Notes, and Technical Reports.

For more information, please visit http://www.seed-net.org/journal_guidelines.html or contact journal@aun-seed.net.



Chemical Engineering Encourages Collaboration Expanding

As many as 113 participants gathered at the 3rd Chemical Engineering Conference organized by De La Salle University on January 20-21, 2011 in Manila. This number included those from non-member universities, government bodies, and companies, such as Kumamoto University, Santo Tomas University and Philippine Commission on Higher Education, Department of Science and Technology of Philippines, LAUDS Technologies, and Philippine Bio-Science Company. After the plenary session where six keynote lectures were given, 45 papers and five posters were presented in eight parallel technical sessions.

During discussion, the participants agreed to encourage more involvements from Japanese universities in and outside the AUN/SEED-Net network, Singaporean member universities, and industries. Research collaboration between host and sending institutions would be increased through the existing student mobility scheme. Many participants showed high interest in the ASEAN Engineering Journal to be launched in mid 2011.

The next conference in this field will be held by University of Malaya in February 2012.



Materials Academics Establish ASEAN Materials Society

On February 2-3, 2011, the 3rd Regional Conference in Materials Engineering (RCM 2010) was held in conjunction with the 1st International Conference on Materials Engineering (ICME 2010) by Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Eighty participants from academic and industrial areas in ASEAN and Japan gathered to make 66 oral presentations including six keynote presentations and 25 poster presentations.



During the conference, the idea on setting up a platform for research collaboration among member institutions beyond AUN/SEED-Net scheme was raised and strongly supported. Topics like "Recycling of Polymer" and "Green Technology", for examples, could be explored together by sharing of resources or facility plus involvement of industry and community. The participants also aimed to establish ASEAN Materials Society, in preparation for which they would seek possible linkage between existing national societies in their countries.

Tentatively the next RCM will be held on December 8-9, 2011 by Hanoi University of Science and Technology.

Global Environment Conference Discusses Global Warming

The AUN/SEED-Net's 3rd ASEAN Global Environment Conference was held on February 21-22, 2011 by University of Malaya (UM) in Malaysia. It was attended by 40 participants including Dr. Makarim Wibisono, Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation who delivered an opening remark. Four plenary lectures under the conference theme "Towards a Solution to the Challenge of Global Warming in ASEAN Region" were given by Prof. Dr. Takeshita Kenji from Tokyo Institute of Technology in the topic on Green Technology, Prof. Ir. Mohamed Rehan Bin Karim from UM on Transportation, Dato' Dr. Nadzri Yahaya from National Solid Waste Department of Malaysia on Waste Management, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sumiani Yusoff from UM on Energy. In addition, 35 technical papers from participants were published and presented in two parallel technical sessions on "Green Technology, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy" and "Sustainable Waste Management".

Chulalongkorn University would be the next host of the conference in December 2011.





ASEAN Biotechnology Conference Attracts Big Crowd

Hanoi University of Science and Technology organized the AUN/SEED-Net's 3rd ASEAN Biotechnology Conference on "Towards Biotechnology Industry in the Region" on March 3-4, 2011. The conference was attended by 143 participants from ASEAN countries, Japan and beyond. Plenary speakers came from Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam; Kyoto University and the University of Tokyo, Japan; and RMIT University, Australia.

Forty-five technical papers were published in proceeding as well as being presented during the two-day paralleled technical sessions on various topics relating to biotechnology. Additionally, 58 posters were presented during the poster presentation session. After the technical sessions, the participants updated completed and ongoing biotechnology research projects in their institutions for future collaboration.

The next conference would be co-organized by Burapha University and Chulalongkorn University in Thailand on January 26-27, 2012.

Mechanical and Aerospace Conference Draws External Sponsors

The 3rd Regional Conference on Mechanical and Aerospace Technology was held by De La Salle University on March 4-5, 2011. In total 93 participants including some from non-member institutions and industries attended the event, presenting 51 full papers and eight posters in three parallel sessions. Dr. Makarim Wibisono, Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation, were among several honorable guests delivering messages to all participants during the opening ceremony. After all, Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), the host institution of this field, attempted to promote AUN/SEED-Net programs and ASEAN Engineering Journal, which received high interests from the meeting.



It is notable that this regional conference was not only supported by ASEAN Foundation through AUN/SEED-Net but also funded by various organizations and companies including Cricket Safety Lighters, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (Philippine Chapter), F.R. Sevilla Industrial and Development Corporation, Solidworks, State Alliance Enterprises Inc., C&E Publishing Inc., Philippine Institute of Mechanical Engineering Educators, and Philippine Society of Ventilating, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigerating Engineers. Even ITB also supported expenses for their 18 staff and students.

Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology would host the next conference in December 2011 or January 2012.

ICT Academics Look for Forum & Student Exchange

Seventy participants joined the 3rd Regional Conference in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), organized by National University of Laos in Vientiane on March 10-11, 2011. Apart from five keynote speeches, 22 papers were presented, from which three best were selected to be published on the ASEAN Engineering Journal.



After the technical sessions, the participants discussed future collaborative activities. They would like to set up the ICT forum for sharing of policies, strategies, or solutions concerning issues, difficulties, or improvement of ICT practical application or any other ICT related areas. This idea was welcome by ASEAN Foundation. Furthermore, the member institutions would like to promote student exchanges among them and with Tokai University under AUN/SEED-Net's Short-term Visit in ASEAN Program or other channels.

As for the next ICT conference, host and date will be confirmed later.

The Fruit of Collaboration: Biofuels Handbook

AUN/SEED-Net provides platforms for research collaboration to all the network members, ranging from Collaborative Research conducting jointly by advisors, co-advisors, and students in the member institutions in ASEAN, Regional Conference gathering academic and industrial experts, and several staff visit/exchange programs. These platforms have become stepping stones to other collaborative activities even beyond the AUN/SEED-Net scheme.

From AUN/SEED-Net's collaborative activities Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iman K. Reksowardojo of Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kanit Wattanavichien of Chulalongkorn University (CU), and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Anh Tuan of Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST) started their collaboration. They jointly authored an article entitled "Utilisation of biofuels in diesel engines", incorporated in Part Four of the "Handbook of biofuels production: Process and technologies" with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Le Anh Tuan as main coordinator of the part. The book is now available in bookstores worldwide.



Handbook of biofuels production: Processes and technologies

Edited by R Luque, J Campelo,
University of Córdoba, Spain and
J Clark, University of York, UK

Woodhead Publishing Series in
Energy No. 15

Part one reviews the key issues in the biofuels production chain, including feedstocks, sustainability assessment and policy development. Part two reviews chemical and biochemical conversion and in turn. Part three reviews thermal and thermo-chemical conversion, with both sections detailing the wide range of processes and technologies applicable to the production of first, second and third generation biofuels. Finally, Part four reviews developments in the integration of biofuels production, including biorefineries and by-product valorisation, as well as the utilisation of biofuels in diesel engines.

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**Julirose Gonzales and Project Manager
Norasyidah Mohd Yusoff**

AUN/SEED-Net Students' Project Awarded Again

From over 500 entrants, the project "ENVlrodeSIGN Beta Version 0.8" by the Sustainable Manufacturing Group of University of Malaya (UM) won the Silver Medal at the 10th Malaysia Invention & Innovation Award, held concurrently with the 10th Malaysia Technology Expo 2011, the biggest national event for revolutionary invention displays, at Kuala Lumpur Convention Center on February 17-19, 2011. This is the second time for this project to be awarded, after receiving the silver medal from UM Creativity and Innovation Expo last year.

Presented by the Malaysian Association of Research Scientists and PROTEMP Exhibitions Sdn Bhd to inventions and innovations that break away from the convention and go above marginal improvements, the Awards aimed to encourage and recognize new scientists and researchers for their excellence in research and development.

"ENVlrodeSIGN" is a software based on a qualitative method of assessing a design's environmental risk and facilitating eco-innovation process in product development, specifically intended for Small and Medium Industries (SMIs). The project is conducted by the Sustainable Manufacturing Group under the Center for Product Design and Manufacturing supervised by Prof. Dr. Zahari Taha and Dr. Salwa Hanim. Team members include AUN/SEED-Net PhD students at UM, Ms. Julirose Gonzales and Mr. Sugoro Bhakti Sutono.



Upcoming Events

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

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|----------------------|--|
| October 12-13, 2011 | The 4th Regional Conference in New/Renewable Energy @Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam |
| October 27-28, 2011 | The 4th Regional Conference in Natural Resources & Materials @ The Philippines |
| November 9-10, 2011 | The 4th Regional Conference in Manufacturing Engineering @ Yogyakarta, Indonesia |
| November 22-23, 2011 | Joint Regional Conference in Civil and Environmental Engineering @ Yogyakarta, Indonesia |
| December 8-9, 2011 | The 4th Regional Conference in Materials Engineering @ Hanoi, Vietnam |