E-NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 16, ISSUE 1 (JAN-JUN 2020)

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NEWS

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1.1 ASEAN ENGINEERING JOURNAL (AEJ)

ASEAN Engineering Journal Ranked in Tier 1 of TCI
4th Journal Evaluation

On January 10, 2020, AEJ representatives, along with over 1,000 participants from other journals, attended the 4th TCI Re-evaluation of Journal Quality Result Announcement at Challenger Hall, Impact Arena. The event programs consisted of presentations and speeches by various experts from around the world, including speakers from NECTEC, Scopus, and Elsevier.

Established in 2011, ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ) has since demonstrated growth and development of the journal, as it strives to become an internationally recognized academic research platform where researchers and academicians around the globe exchange their knowledge and advancement.

Following its milestone achievement to be accepted for inclusion in the world-renown Scopus database, AEJ completed the 4th Re-evaluation of Journal Quality conducted by Thai Journal Citation Index Center (TCI), and ranked in Tier 1 of the journal title classification. AEJ has been indexed by TCI and ACI since 2015. In order to encourage and sustain the improvement of Thai journal quality and international standard, TCI arranged the re-evaluation of journal titles in the database to ensure the consistency of each journal’s quality development and growth. Classifying the journal titles into three tiers with Tier 1 as the first rank; top qualified journals within TCI database will be put in Tier 1 and automatically be indexed in ASEAN Citation Index (ACI). The result of the 4th re-evaluation will cover the five-year period, from January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2024.
ASEAN ENGINEERING JOURNAL:

CALL FOR PAPERS

ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ) is an official publication of JICA Project for AUN/SEED-Net and is currently indexed by Scopus, ASEAN Citation Index (ACI), and Thai-journal Citation Index Center (TCI). The journal welcomes research works of authors from all around the world, especially from ASEAN countries to share their innovative knowledge and scientific researches in 10 engineering fields, including:

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer and Information Engineering
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Energy Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Geological and Geo-resources Engineering
- Materials Engineering
- Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
- Natural Disaster

AEJ adopts a double-blind peer review system and upholds strong publication ethics to ensure the quality and transparency of the journal operations. The journal produces two issues of publication each year; first issue in June and second issue in December. Despite the publication period, the submission is open all year-round on a first-come-first-serve basis, and is free of charge.

AEJ is determined and committed to contribute to the improvement of research capacity in the region, and is looking forward to receiving your exceptional quality researches in the near future.

For more information about the journal or submission, please visit www.aseanengineering.net/aej or contact journal@aun-seed.net.
1.2 ALUMNI SUPPORT PROGRAM (ASP)

Awardees of Alumni Support Program 2020

Since 2001, AUN/SEED-Net has been providing scholarships and research funds for ASEAN students and academic staff from Member Institutions. Our alumni are from different countries around ASEAN region in which strong collaboration has been eagerly contributed ever since.

As alumni are crucial assets to maintain and expand the network to society, ASP was initially created in Phase IV as a platform to encourage alumni to socialize for knowledge sharing and develop academic activities for self-development and connection.

List of Alumni Groups 2020

In Japanese Fiscal Year (JFY) 2020, the five awarded alumni groups are as follows;

- **HUST/SEED-Net Alumni group**
  Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST), Vietnam

- **HCMUT AUN/SEED-Net Alumni Association (H3A)**
  Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT), Vietnam

- **AUN SEED-Net ALUMNI OF CAMBODIA (ASAC)**
  Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), Cambodia

- **FEN-NUOL-ALUMNI**
  National University of Laos (NUOL), Laos

- **Myanmar AUN/SEED-Net Alumni Group**
  Yangon Technological University (YTU), Myanmar

If you are our alumni who have not joined the alumni group, please contact the group at your institution. Many exciting activities are waiting for you, such as group gathering event, seminar, workshop, and many more. The groups are progressively expanding and welcoming alumni to join.

The outstanding support this year was from the Consulate General of Japan in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to HCMUT AUN/SEED-Net Alumni Association (H3A), which shows progressive network expansion and collaboration with an external partner.

AUN/SEED-Net hopes that the alumni network will continue to strengthen and expand, which will ultimately lead to a sustainable collaboration.
1.3 COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (CEP)

A Huge Progress on AUN/SEED-Net’s CEP

Initiated in 2018, Collaborative Education Program (CEP) consisted of six awarded university consortiums. With the funding from AUN/SEED-Net, the consortiums are empowered to design and formulate academic activities to achieve and deliver the outputs set in the program objectives.

In this issue, let us share the outstanding progress of the two consortiums in Malaysia and Vietnam, respectively: the Collaborative Education Program for Sustainable Environmental Engineering Network (CEP-SEEN), and the Consortium of Master in Construction Management (MCM CEP).

Starting with the first consortium, CEP-SEEN forms a part of strong collaboration between university and industry. Malaysia - Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT), University Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) aims to produce highly qualified students in Master of Philosophy and Ph.D. programs in environmental engineering. The joint supervision and publication are under MJIIT, University of Tsukuba (UT), and Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember (ITS), with two industrial partners: Indah Water Konsortium Sdn. Bhd. (IWK), a national sewerage company in Malaysia, and Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. (NK), Japan’s no.1 international engineering consultant.
The consortium offered promotional visits in various institutions, including Yangon Technological University (YTU) in Myanmar, Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember (ITS), Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII), Universitas in Indonesia, and De La Salle University (DLSU) and the University of the Philippines Diliman (UP) in the Philippines. The promotional sessions received good responses and feedback from the audiences.
CEP-SEEN scholarship students began a new semester at MJIIIT with a session to enhance their skills. The session was taught by MJIIIT’s supervisor and iKohza, a Japanese-oriented education styled research group, on how to conduct qualified research. With great support from industrial partners, each student was supervised under a close monitor and joint supervision from consortium members. Furthermore, both MJIIIT Master’s and doctoral programs provides an opportunity for students to study abroad in Japan. In addition, the program also secures an internship opportunity based on students’ interests during the studies. For more information, please visit, https://mjiiit.utm.my/cepseenpgscholarship/

Led by Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT), the Consortium of Master in Construction Management (MCM CEP) is the partnership among Yokohama National University (YNU), Yangon Technological University (YTU), and JFE Steel Corporation (JFE). The MCM Opening Ceremony at HCMUT on November 30, 2019, the event was attended by wide range of prospective guests, including JFE Vietnam, students, HCMUT’s industrial partners. With close coordination among partners, this consortium delivered a significant action taken to achieve the expected outputs. The well-prepared activities were undertaken to host the first batch of scholarship students, including close supervision and teaching conducted by HCMUT and YNU, one-day trip of the Vietnamese Cultural course, and a field trip to the construction site of Hung Thinh Corporation.
The involvement of JFE Steel Corporation, the industrial partner of the consortium, has brought much benefits to students, including scholarship, internship, and cooperative research opportunities. The recent course of JFE Lecture Series on the Development of Steel Structure Engineers conducted at HCMUT is one of the activity highlights. The course ensures that learners will be well-equipped with knowledge and skills in construction management, which are vital for their future career paths in civil construction, especially for those who will become consultants, managers, or leaders in project investment planning.

Furthermore, the consortium is now preparing and arranging the mobility programs, including YNU/ YTU dispatch lecturer programs at HCMUT, and student internship in Myanmar and Japan. To learn more about MCM CEP, please visit the website:

https://imp.hcmut.edu.vn/en/cep-scholarship/?fbclid=IwAR1EgdfORLCWii2NzTTe-gQpo7o9qodZ87MY3eaox-0_Zv73CYmuDxo68nc#

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to CEP-SEEN and MCM CEP for their commitments and continuous efforts. Their endeavor would certainly contribute to the advancement of education and research capacities among higher education institutions in the field of engineering.

Stay tuned for the next volume of our newsletter; more consortiums will be introduced to you, representing our pride in the strong collaboration and solidarity between the institutions and industrial sectors in ASEAN and Japan.
More than a hundred RCs ranging in ten engineering fields have been organized over the extensive years of operations of JICA Project for AUN/SEED-Net. RC, an annual academic conference, is widely recognized among researchers in Southeast Asia and Japan as an event that allows and promotes exchanges of the latest work and findings in their respective engineering fields. The conference is attended not only by researchers from AUN/SEED-Net Member Institutions (MIs), but the presence of delegates from government agencies, private companies, research centers and local communities can usually be expected as well.

This year, eight RCs, covering nine engineering fields, will be organized by the awarded MIs, starting in October 2020 until January 2021. The information of all Regional Conferences happening this year is summarized in the table below for ease of reference. Nevertheless, it is strongly recommended that those who are interested in participating the events should visit the designated websites to acquaint themselves with different paper requirements, selection procedures and important dates.
REGIONAL CONFERENCE (RC)

**Innovation on Sustainable Energy Development**
- **Organizer:** UI
- **Venue:** Grand Inna Bali Beach Hotel, Bali, Indonesia & online conference (TBC)
- **Date:** Oct 27-28, 2020
- **Website:** [https://smartcity.ui.ac.id/icsci/](https://smartcity.ui.ac.id/icsci/)

**Insights and Challenges toward Achieving SDGs**
- **Organizer:** ITC
- **Venue:** Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- **Date:** Nov 5-6, 2020
- **Website:** TBC

**Enhancing the capacity and technology advancement in Disaster Risk Reduction and Geo-resource Engineering for Sustainable development in ASEAN**
- **Organizer:** UY
- **Venue:** Yangon University, Research Center, Yangon, Myanmar
- **Date:** Dec 1-3, 2020
- **Website:** [www.uy.edu.mm/events/rcgeoercnd-2020/](http://www.uy.edu.mm/events/rcgeoercnd-2020/)

**Advances in Smart Technologies for Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering**
- **Organizer:** DLSU
- **Venue:** Manila, Philippines
- **Date:** Jan 14-15, 2021
- **Website:** TBC
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<td>MatE</td>
<td>Emerging Materials for Sustainable Communities</td>
<td>UGM</td>
<td>Yogyakarta, Indonesia</td>
<td>Jan 27-28, 2021</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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Remark: Dates and venues mentioned in this table are subject to change. Changes will be announced on AUN/SEED-Net official website and Facebook page.
INTRODUCING THE NEWLY DESIGNED WEBSITE

www.seed-net.org

As you may have noticed, JICA Project for AUN/SEED-Net website just had a makeover. Our newly launched website is intended to be faster, multi-device friendly, image-rich, and easy to use. Moreover, the current programs in Phase IV are highlighted and placed on the Home page for easier access and better convenience of users.

We hope you will enjoy the website’s new function and layout design, which can conveniently help you find the information you are looking for. Should you have any comments, please do not hesitate to let us know via contact@aun-seed.net.
What motivated Ms. Astuti to apply for AUN/SEED-Net scholarship is an opportunity to pursue PhD in Japan including several benefits granted, not only financial support but also opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills in engineering field. During her study in Japan, she has gained advantages from many useful programs and continuous guidance from JICA staff. Ms. Astuti shared that through AUN/SEED-Net facilitated programs, such as Regional Conference (RC) and ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ), the academic and scientific network among academicians and researchers in ASEAN countries have tremendously expanded, while AUN/SEED-Net’s relentless support to its alumni through Alumni Support Program (ASP) has also contributed greatly to the success of scholars within the network. In terms of research, Ms. Astuti’s joint research project between Concrete Engineering Laboratory, Kyushu University and P.S. Mitsubishi Construction Co. Ltd., features the exceptional topic of "Development of Repair Method System on Severely Damaged Reinforced Concrete (RC) Structures Using Current Flow Application as Corrosion Prevention of Steel Bars." The case study is demonstrated on 44 years of deteriorated RC beams exposed to the natural marine environments. Application of sacrificial anodes as one of current source in this study is effective to control the corrosion progress of steel bar in the damaged RC structures. The benefits of the result and findings of this research can be applied in actual structures exposed to marine condition.
Talking about her experiences while studying in Japan, she revealed that her professor gives her an opportunity to conduct a joint research with a construction company as mentioned above. Furthermore, he also motivated her to attend some international conferences in Japan and in foreign countries, in order to be able to publish some scientific papers. As a result, she has received three best paper awards during her study.

Not only the advice and support from the academic staff, but also the living and studying environment that contributes to the achievement and success story of Ms. Astuti. This includes countless memorable moments in laboratory, such as technical site visit and laboratory party, excellent work environment, and fun chat with members--- these are what made her life in Japan becomes unforgettable experiences, both academically and socially.

Ms. Astuti expects to complete her PhD in September 2020, which is less than three years since her enrollment. “Keep focusing on target, be disciplined, and never give up” are the key factors to success she always bears in mind. She added that to complete AUN/SEED-Net scholarship in PhD level is one of the greatest achievements in her life, which will support her future academic career when returning to the university as a faculty member in her home country, Indonesia.

"My special gratitude is dedicated to JICA project for AUN/SEED-Net for providing financial support, study guidance, and continuous support during my PhD program in Japan.”

Ms. Astuti said.

We also would like to thank Ms. Astuti for her hard work throughout the years. We are confident that her achievements today will not only be an inspiration to many, but will also contribute greatly to the sustainable development of engineering education in the region.