

## **Participation in the UW-TU: AOS Symposium on Natural Disaster Management (2018/2/23)**

Themes: International collaboration, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, Public Health, Toilet problems in disaster  
Place: Washington University (USA, Seattle)

As part of the activities between Washington and Tohoku University: Academic Open Space (UW-TU: AOS), Symposium on Natural Disaster Management ~ Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Prospects for the Future~ was held at Washington University, in Seattle, Washington, on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Feb. 2018. Participants from IRIDeS included Director Fumihiko Imamura (Hazard and Risk Evaluation Research Division), Professor Shinichi Kuriyama (Disaster Medical Science Division), Associate Professor Takako Izumi (Regional and Urban Reconstruction Research Division), Assistant Professor Elizabeth Maly (Human and Social Response Research Division) and Assistant Professor Tetsuya Torayashiki (Human and Social Response Research Division). This event was organized by Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle and UW-TU: AOS Thrust-3 Natural Disaster and Hazard. This Symposium was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop held by UW-TU: AOS Thrust-3, following the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop which was held in November, 2017. As a hub for disaster science research, with international top-level research as a designated national university, this international collaborative research activity became also a first step in practical disaster prevention science development. In addition to academic members, this workshop was also joined by several experts including: Mr. Tetsuya Mizutani (Construction Bureau Sewage Bureau) and Mr. Yasuyuki Muraguchi (Earthquake Disaster Reconstruction Section) from Sendai City; Mr. Hideki Matsuzaki (former Mayor of Urayasu City), Mr. Atsushi Kato (Japan Toilet Labo) who joined the discussion of these issues. 83 people from government, public institutions, the media and staff of Universities from Seattle participated.

AOS was established through the agreements between Washington University and Tohoku University in April 2007, and is the fifth Overseas Representative Office in this university. The purpose of AOS is to develop research collaboration between universities, holding workshops as the gateway with researchers from many kind fields, as well as corporate practitioners and government by organizing workshops and symposiums together, and also to be a place for exchange and cooperation to promote further international collaborative research system and industry collaboration. The symposium including 3 sessions: Sharing of Experience and Lessons from The Great East Japan Earthquake; Medical and Public Health Issues; and Specific Initiatives: Current and Future. Question and answer sessions were held after the presentations in each of the sessions.

Presentations by IRIDeS members were as follows

**Fumihiko Imamura:** The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake: What Happened in Tohoku?

**Shinichi Kuriyama:** Challenge of Public Health to Disaster: Using Public Health Approach and Artificial Intelligence Techniques

**Takako Izumi:** Towards the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: Expectation and Role of Academia and its Initiatives

**Elizabeth Maly:** Post-Disaster Housing Recovery in Japan and Key Issues after the GEJE

**Tetsuya Torayashiki:** Emergency Toilet Management from a Viewpoint of Business Continuity

In the comprehensive discussion after the session, as a prospect of future efforts, we found out how to convey the disaster experience and lessons of Japan to Seattle public institutions, companies and the general public, how we continuously provide a place of exchanging requests, opinions received, and we felt those Seattle citizens who participated has a strong interest of the disaster prevention.

Text: Fumihiko Imamura (Hazard and Risk Evaluation Research Division),  
Tetsuya Torayashiki and Elizabeth Maly (Human and Social Response Research Division)  
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Also, on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the day before the symposium, the Seattle Municipal Crisis Management Bureau and the Public Works Bureau discussed the opinions with the faculty members of our institute from Sendai City, Urayasu City and the Japan Toilet Labo. In addition, at the consular official residence reception after the symposium on 23<sup>rd</sup>, we deepened our friendship with the various organizations that participated in the symposium to strengthen our relationships in the future. *Gensaifuroshiki* (traditional Japanese wrapping cloth with disaster reduction messages), created by Mari Yasuda of IRIDeS, was presented to the Consul General Kazuaki Yamada, showing the importance of traditional disaster-prevention culture in Japan.



Presentation (Prof. Imamura)



Presentation (Prof. Kuriyama)



Presentation (Assoc. Prof. Izumi)



Presentation (Asst. Prof. Maly)



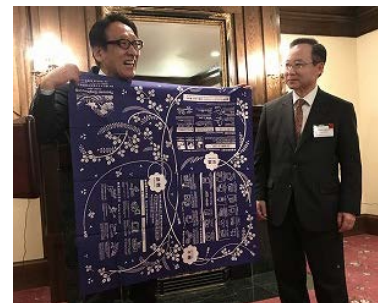
Presentation (Asst. Prof. Torayashiki)



Symposium



Symposium participants from Japan



Present to the Counsel General