

ACTIVITY REPORTS OF THE INSTITUTE OF TURKISH CULTURE STUDIES

4th International Conference on Archi-Cultural Interactions through the Silk Road

The 4th International Conference on Archi-Cultural Interactions through the Silk Road, co-sponsored by the International Association of Silk Road Universities (iaSU) and Mukogawa Women's University with the joint sponsorship of Bahcesehir University (Istanbul, Turkey), was held at Mukogawa Women's University's Kami-Koshien Campus from July 16, 2016 (Saturday) to July 18, 2016 (Monday).

iaSU is an association of universities established for promoting exchange between universities in the various regions of the "Silk Road." It includes Mukogawa Women's University and Bahcesehir University at the two ends of the ancient trade route. The association seeks to contribute to the peace and prosperity of countries and regions along the Silk Road by promoting wide-ranging research on lifestyles, technologies, and cultures along the route, with an emphasis on architecture, elucidating the points in common, and creating mutual understanding between those countries.

The international conference drew 82 participants from nine countries, including researchers, designers, and engineers engaged in research on architecture, cities, and landscapes in the Silk Road regions. The program included three keynote lectures and other invited talks, student poster sessions, a performance of the tea ceremony, general research presentations (52 from eight countries), and a one-day bus tour of Nara. The event fostered vigorous discussions on the architecture, lifestyles, technologies, and cultures of the Silk Road countries and regions.

The poster features a central image of a traditional Japanese building with a tiled roof. Text on the poster includes: 'iaSU 2016', '4th International Conference on Archi-Cultural Interactions through the Silk Road', 'July 16-17-18, 2016 Nishinomiya, Japan', 'Call for Papers', 'Extended abstract (Short peer-reviewed paper)', 'Scope & Topics', 'Specific examples of acceptable topics', 'Important Dates (Japan time)', 'Submission deadline for extended abstracts >> March 17, 2016', 'Early registration deadline >> June 3, 2016', 'Nara 1-Day Tour', 'Conference Venue: Mukogawa Women's University, Department of Architecture, Koshien hall, Nishinomiya, Mukogawa Women's University', and 'Contact Us: JACSR/JACSR Steering Committee, Mukogawa Women's University, Email: jacsr@iwu.ac.jp, For more information please see the website: http://www.mukogawa-u.ac.jp/jacsr2016/

Conference Poster



Opening Ceremony

Conference Program

Saturday, July 16, 2016				Sunday, July 17, 2016				Monday, July 18, 2016
Koshien Hall		Architecture Studio		Koshien Hall		Architecture Studio		
Lounge	West Hall	Presentation Room	East Studio	Lounge	West Hall	Presentation Room	East Studio	
9:00	Registration 9:00-9:30			9:00				Nara 1-Day Bus Tour
		Opening Ceremony 9:45-11:00						
10:00				10:00				
					Session W3 115-119 10:20-12:00	Session P3 206-209 10:20-11:40	Session E3 409-413 10:20-12:00	
11:00	Keynote Lecture 1 11:00-12:00 Dr. Kosei Morimoto Abbot Emeritus Todaiji Temple			11:00		Break		
12:00	Welcome Reception 12:00-13:20			12:00	Lunch 12:00-13:00			
13:00				13:00		Session P4 405-408 13:00-14:20	Session E4 414-416 13:00-14:20	
	Session W1 101-105 13:20-15:00	Session P1 111-114 13:20-14:40	Session E1 301-304 13:20-14:40			Break	Break	
14:00				14:00				
		Break	Break			Session P5 305-308 14:40-16:00	Session E5 417-419 14:40-16:10	
15:00	Break			15:00				
	Session W2 106-110 15:20-17:00	Session P2 201-205 15:20-17:00	Session E2 401-404 15:20-16:40			Break	Break	
16:00				16:00				
						Keynote Lecture 3 16:30-17:30 Dr. Hironobu Yoshida Professor Emeritus Kyoto University		
17:00	Break			17:00		Closing Ceremony 17:30-18:00		
	Keynote Lecture 2 17:20-18:20 Dr. Mamoru Kawaguchi Professor Emeritus Hosei University							
18:00				18:00	Dinner Party 18:10-19:30			
19:00				19:00				

July 16 (Saturday)

The opening ceremony was held in the West Hall of Koshien Hall. First, a welcome chorus was performed by three students from Mukogawa Women's University's Architecture and Music Departments. These students were chorus club members of the university's affiliated junior high and high schools. Next, messages of greeting from the co-sponsors were given by Professor Shigeyuki Okazaki, Chair of the iaSU2016 JAPAN Committee (also chair of Mukogawa Women's University's Department of Architecture and Director of the university's Institute of Turkish Culture Studies), Mukogawa Women's University Chancellor, Ryo Okawara, Mukogawa Women's University President, Naosuke Itoigawa, Bahcesehir University Vice President, Ali Gungor, and Bahcesehir University Faculty of Architecture and Design Faculty Dean, Sema Soygenis. Furthermore, guest-of-honor Takeshi Imamura, the mayor of Nishinomiya City, gave a welcome message. Chair Okazaki introduced each overseas participant individually as he read out their names and asked them to stand. Finally, the mother and daughter duo of Pouri and Dalia Anavian came onstage and closed the ceremony with a musical performance of the santur, a traditional Persian hammered dulcimer.

After the performance, Dr. Kosei Morimoto, Abbot Emeritus of Todaiji Temple, gave the keynote lecture entitled "Islam and Buddhism: With a Historical Perspective." Referencing words found in the Koran and in the Buddhist texts such as Sutta Nipata and Dhammapada, Dr. Morimoto gave an overview of Islam and Buddhism through the lens of various topics such as Muhammed, justice, the afterlife, and jihad in Islam, and Siddhartha Gautama and principles of human existence in Buddhism. He then compared the features of Islam and Buddhism with diagrams, and finally commented on the modern challenge of "how to secure a peaceful space."

During the lunch break, a welcome party was held in Koshien Hall. Researchers from around the world gathered and interacted with each other.



Opening: Chorus Performance by MWU Students



Speech of Prof. Dr. Shigeyuki Okazaki (iaSU2016 JAPAN Organizing Committee Chair, MWU)



Speech of Mr. Ryo Okawara (Chancellor, MWU)



Speech of Prof. Dr. Naosuke Itoigawa (President, MWU)



Speech of Prof. Dr. Ali Gungor (Vice President, Bahcesehir University)



Speech of Prof. Dr. Sema Soygenis (Dean of Faculty of Architecture and Design, Bahcesehir University)



Speech of Mr. Takeshi Imamura (Mayor, Nishinomiya City)



Musical Performance: Performance of the Santour by Ms. Pouri Anavian (Santour Performer)



Musical Performance: Explanation of the Santour by Ms. Dalia Anavian



Keynote Lecture 1 "ISLAM AND BUDDHISM—WITH A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE" by Dr. Kosei Morimoto (Abbot Emeritus of Todaiji Temple, Ph.D. in Literature)



Dr. Kosei Morimoto (Abbot Emeritus of Todaiji Temple, Ph.D. in Literature)



Welcome reception



In the afternoon, the conference was divided into three venues: the West Hall, the Review Room, and the East Studio. A total of 25 general research presentations were held. The themes of the presentations were “Religion, Art and Cross-cultural Interactions,” “Religion, Art and Cultural Formation,” “Regional Characteristics of Living Space,” “Modernization, Globalization and Urbanization,” and “Technology and Sustainability.” Architecture students also held a poster session showcasing their works.

In the evening, Professor Emeritus Mamoru Kawaguchi of Hosei University gave the keynote lecture entitled “Rationality & Nationality in Structural Design” in the West Hall. Using actual examples of Antoni Gaudi’s upside-down hanging arches, Eduardo Torroja and Felix Candela’s shell structures, Robert Maillart’s concrete bridges, and Heinz Isler’s concrete shells, Professor Kawaguchi surveyed the rationality of structural designs of the German school, Spanish school, and Swiss school. He observed that national, regional, and individual characteristics influence the rationality of structural design. Professor Kawaguchi also showed that Yoyogi National Gymnasium and Olympic Stadium Munich both employ the rationality of tension structures. He pointed out, however, that the former evokes the impression of Japanese traditional roofing architecture (“Oyane”), whereas the latter directly expresses the mechanism of tension structures.



Session at West Hall in Koshien Hall



Session at Presentation Room in Architecture Studio



Session at East Studio in Architecture Studio



Poster Session by MWU Students



Keynote Lecture 2 "RATIONALITY & NATIONALITY IN STRUCTURAL DESIGN" by Dr. Mamoru Kawaguchi (Professor Emeritus at Hosei University, Dr.-Eng., Dr.-Ing.E.h. Past President of IASS)



Dr. Mamoru Kawaguchi (Professor Emeritus at Hosei University, Dr.-Eng., Dr.-Ing.E.h. Past President of IASS)

July 17 (Sunday)

On the second day, the conference was again split into the three venues: the West Hall, Review Room, and East Studio. A total of 27 general research presentations were given centered on the themes of “Cultural Formation along the Silk Road,” “Regional Characteristics of Living Space,” “Landscape and Sustainability,” “Modernization, Globalization and Urbanization,” “Environmental Engineering that Underpins Culture,” “Structural Technology that Underpins Culture,” and “Design and Fabrication of Full-scale Model.”

During the “Structural Technology that Underpins Culture” session, Professor Emeritus Akira Wada of the Tokyo Institute of Technology gave a lecture entitled “More Robust Building to Protect Our Children in the Seismically Active Country, Japan.”



Invited Talk "MORE ROBUST BUILDING TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN IN THE SEISMICALLY ACTIVE COUNTRY, JAPAN" by Dr. Akira Wada (Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Institute of Technology, Past President of Architectural Institute of Japan)



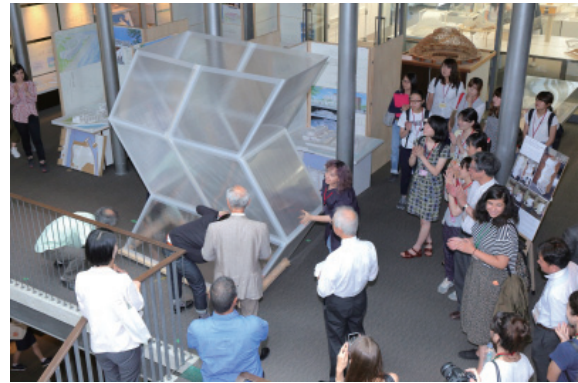
Dr. Akira Wada (Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Institute of Technology, Past President of Architectural Institute of Japan)

Professor Wada discussed the damages inflicted by the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquakes. He observed that although many scientific and technological advances, including progress in research on earthquake engineering, were made in the twentieth century, the current reality is that earthquakes have not ceased in the twenty-first century. He pointed out that Japan's Building Standards Act presents the minimal legal standard in the country, and that the construction of the buildings should be stronger. Old buildings and homes should be assessed for earthquake resistance and repaired to be more earthquake-proof.

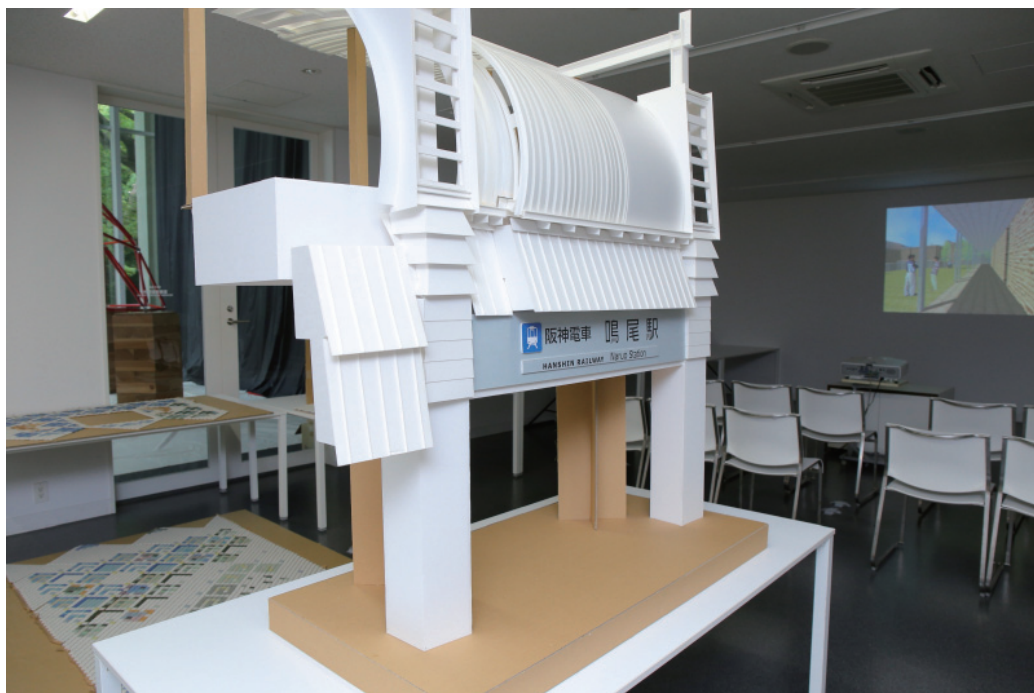
In the tea room on the campus, the third-year architecture students voluntarily performed the Japanese tea ceremony, which many overseas researchers were able to experience. A poster session of works by architectural students was also carried out. In addition, the graduate students in architecture exhibited works of architectural origami and mosaic paintings. Exhibition of design projects by Mukogawa Women's University architecture faculty members, including Naruo Station, Bamiyan Cultural Centre, Petra Museum, and the Hisham's Palace project, were also presented.



Third-year architecture students voluntarily performed the Japanese tea ceremony



Demonstration of works of architectural origami



Exhibition of design projects by Mukogawa Women's University architecture faculty members

In the evening, Professor Emeritus Hironobu Yoshida of Kyoto University gave a keynote lecture entitled “The Sense of Beauty and View of Nature Found in Japanese Historical Gardens.” Using a rich collection of photographs, Professor Yoshida gave an overview of the characteristics of Japanese gardens from ancient times to the present based on their historical changes. Along with presenting the diversity of Japanese garden styles, such as the Jonokoshi ruins, rock arrangements, meandering streams, Shinden-zukuri, Jodo style gardens as shown by Byodo-in, dry landscape gardens as shown by Saiho-ji temple, Shoin (drawing room), Sukiya (tea ceremony house), circuit style gardens as shown by Katsuta Imperial Villa, borrowing landscapes as shown by Entsu-ji temple, the full-scale nature seen in Murin-an, as well as the meaning of water and ponds, Professor Yoshida showed that in this undercurrent there is a consistent Japanese sense of beauty and view of nature.



Keynote Lecture 3 "THE SENSE OF BEAUTY AND VIEW OF NATURE FOUND IN JAPANESE HISTORICAL GARDENS" by Dr. Hironobu Yoshida (Professor Emeritus at Kyoto University, Dr.-Agric.)



Dr. Hironobu Yoshida (Professor Emeritus at Kyoto University, Dr.-Agric.)

Afterwards, the closing ceremony was held. Chair Okazaki expressed thanks to everyone who had contributed to the conference, and the desire to meet again at the next meeting. A commemorative photo was then taken of all the participants.

A dinner party was held in the evening. Mukogawa Women's University President Naosuke Itoigawa gave a greeting message, and Vice President Kazuyoshi Seguchi gave the toast. The gathering deepened friendship among researchers from around the world. Finally, Tsunetaka Miyoshi, Dean of the university's School of Human Environmental Sciences, gave the closing message to conclude the conference.



Commemorative Photo



Closing Speech of Prof. Dr. Shigeyuki Okazaki (iaSU2016 JAPAN Organizing Committee Chair, MWU)



Dinner Party

July 18 (Monday / Holiday)

The conference participants went on a one-day bus tour of Nara. They departed from Koshien Hall and first visited the Horyu-ji temple. There they studied the Horyu-ji Saiin Garan, Dai-Hozo-in, and Toin Garan. Next, they visited the Todai-ji temple and studied its Nandaimon (Great Southern Gate) and Daibutsuden (Great Buddha Hall) sites. The participants enjoyed the allure of Nara's architecture, which can be viewed at the eastern terminus of the Silk Road.

The three-day international conference thus successfully concluded. We sincerely thank everybody for their cooperation in making this event possible and for taking the time to attend it.



Horyu-ji temple



Horyu-ji temple



Todai-ji temple



Todai-ji temple



Todai-ji temple



Todai-ji temple