

News

The 4th International Conference on Scour and Erosion (ICSE-4), 5-7 November 2008, Tokyo, Japan

The Fourth International Conference on Scour and Erosion (ICSE-4) was successfully held at Surugadai Memorial Hall of Chuo University in Tokyo under the auspices of ISSMGE Technical Committee TC33 on Scour and Erosion (Chair: Professor Jean-Louis Briaud, USA). The Japanese Geotechnical Society (JGS) played a pivotal role in the organization of the conference (Chair: Professor Hideo Sekiguchi), with supports from the following institutions: Japan Society of Civil Engineers, Japan Society of Erosion Control Engineering, The Japan Landslide Society, Chuo University, Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University and Association for Disaster Prevention.

The ICSE-4 provided a forum to discuss new developments, concepts and practices, and to share field experiences, problems and solutions dealing with scour and erosion issues in hillslope, fluvial, estuarine and coastal environments. It inspired in-depth discussions of the integrity of structures in and near water bodies, which include: bridge piers; flood-control levees; revetments; groins; water-retaining fills; underground utilities; seawalls; breakwaters; offshore wind-turbine foundations; and marine pipelines. Also, ICSE-4 addressed a broader perspective for scour and erosion issues from standpoints of sediment routing systems and integrated sediment management. The 3-day conference consisted of 7 keynote lectures and 89 oral presentations. It had a total of 150 participants from more than 20 countries. The conference proceedings with a CD (available from JGS) contain the 7 keynote papers as well as 102 research papers which were peer reviewed. The seven keynote lectures highlighted the conference:

1. "Case histories in soil and rock erosion: Woodrow Wilson Bridge, Brazos River Meander, Normandy Cliffs, and New Orleans Levees" by Professor Jean-Louis Briaud, USA
2. "The physics of local scour at bridge piers" by Professor Bruce Melville, New Zealand
3. "How is the gap between the concept and practice of integrated sediment management bridged?" by Dr. Koh-ichi Fujita, Japan
4. "Design and practice of scour and erosion countermeasures in waterways" by Dr. Michael Heibaum, Germany
5. "A comprehensive study on sediment movement in Tenryu River Watershed and Enshu Coast" by Professor Shinji Sato and Dr. Haijiang Liu, Japan
6. "Coastal and offshore scour/erosion issues - recent advances" by Professor B. Mutlu Sumer, Denmark
7. "Tsunami scour and sedimentation" by Professor Harry Yeh, USA.

The additional features of ICSE-4 include the performance of the Evening Session on Day Two (6 November 2008) at the Hotel Metropolitan Edmont, as well as the two preconference technical visits (TV1: Tour on the Arakawa River; and TV2: TIA Runway Construction Work on Tokyo Bay).

Further information is available at <http://icse-4.kz.tsukuba.ac.jp/>.



Group photograph taken in the ICSE-4 Evening Session

Reported by Professor Hideo Sekiguchi