

E-VISION

**E-VISION MAGAZINE**



2010

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Photo:  
Mifue SHIMAMURA

**E-VISION**

2010  
WINTER-  
SPRING

The magazine of the English Engineering Education program (e<sup>3</sup>)

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Thanks to everyone's cooperation, E-vision 2010 spring issue is finally published. I hope you'll like this and get to know more about e3 members by picking up this magazine.

Again, thanks for all the people who worked on this magazine!



# THE NEW E3 OFFICERS



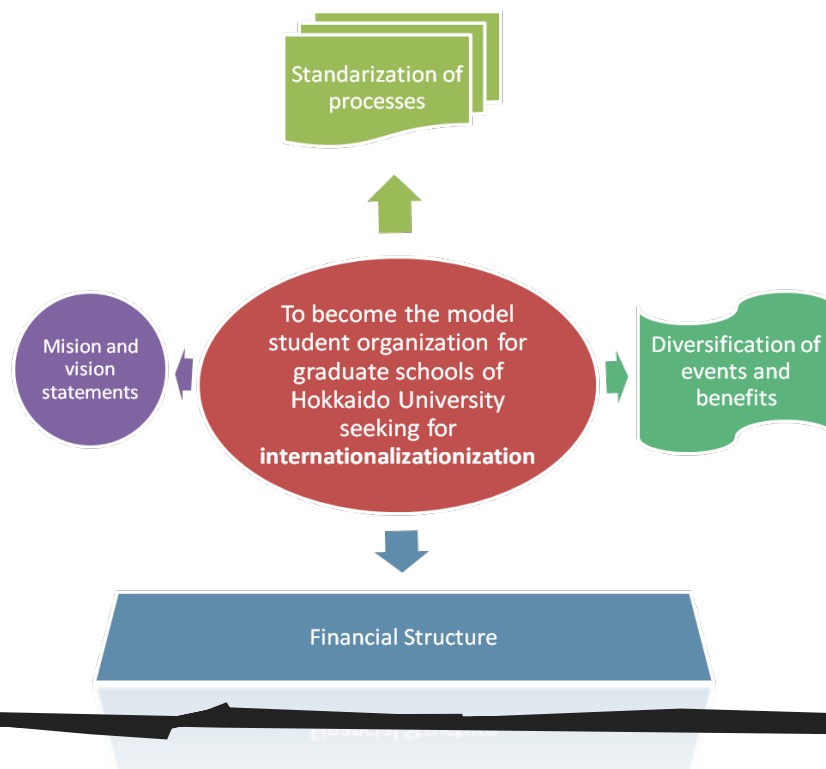
The new e3 officers.....

## What have we been working on?

In our life in Sapporo, most of us have participated in events organized by the e3 Student Organization (e3SO) such as the graduation ceremony last Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of March, or the E-lympics. In these events, fabulous food is served and there are recreational activities that at least for a while take out our minds from the stress of the work we carry on day by day. But, is that all what e3SO had to offer?

During the last 6 months, the elected e3 officers have been trying to find an answer to the question: What is e3 and where are we going? We, the officers of the e3SO believe that the following 5 points hold the key for improving our organization and leading it to diversify its activities and objectives:

1. It is important to have a long term vision of what e3SO would be in the next 5 or 10 years. This is e3SO's **Vision** and **Mission**
2. Standardization of procedures
3. Financial reform to make it easier for everyone to join the organization
4. Diversification of activities and benefits to its members.
5. Contribute to the University efforts towards internationalization (e.g. Hokkaido University Initiative for Sustainable Development -HUISD).



# We will briefly introduce the first four points and why we chose them.

## 1. E3SO Vision and Mission

The vision of any organization reflects the ideal future condition. We have understood that there should be more to e3SO than just the recreational activities and the parties we hold every month. E3 studentship is changing. More families are joining, so the events and services of e3SO should also change as well. So after careful debates, we propose the following e3SO mission and vision.

“To become the model student organization of graduate schools in Hokkaido University seeking for internationalization”

-e3SO Vision

We found in the constitution, the mission of the organization. Article 3, section 2, summarizes it:

“Section 2 The Organization aims to work for the welfare and promotion of academic, social, cultural and other common interests of all its members.”

E3SO Constitution, Article 3, section 2

## 2. Standardization of procedures

E3SO officer work should be supported by a systematic framework that enables acting e3SO Officers to execute their duties with the highest efficiency, providing the members of the e3SO with a continuously high performance. The e3SO should act as an administrative team which does not entirely rely on individual commitment but on a sturdy framework. Some examples of improvements for easier interaction that we are working on are:

- Online Course Evaluation
- Task Group Financial format
- Task Group Evaluation Form
- Online Event evaluation
- E3SO blog webpage

## 3. Financial reform to make it easier for everyone to participate.

Since many professors, staff and students at Hokudai actively participate in the events organized by the e3SO, and due to the changing studentship make-up, we have developed a financial reform to maintain all the possibilities open for everyone in a way which does not confront to any particular or general interests. The new scheme will be effective starting April 2010.

## 4. Diversification of activities

Here we present some of the ideas that we have been working on, as well as continuing with the ones from previous administrations. The VC Social would like to provide all members with opportunity to get to know each other and relax. If you have any idea of new events or activities, feel free to make suggestions to him.

- Transformation of Bonenkai into a Winter E-lympics
- Pizza night + Movie night
- Services for e3 Students such as discount tickets.
- More family-oriented activities.
- Promotion of activities of interest to the e3SO community.

So let's work together for the internationalization of our university! This might not be easy, but we will definitely pave the way for new developments to follow!

# BONENKAI ARTICLE!



Figure: PANI KHELA game for new year in Bangladesh

Last December, the bonenkai (which might be the last one) was held. This time, the task group committee joined efforts to create an event that is interesting and that could give the participants something more than full bellies.

Creativity is a major concern when engineers don't have a specific objective ahead. Therefore, we had to meet many times to get a concrete idea. Finally it was set: we would make a nice game for everyone to participate:

Subject: Celebrations of New Year around the world. Groups: 3, chosen by color.

Then, as any kind of work, research was needed. People contributed with ideas and celebrations from their own cultures, since the group was very international and from many places around the world.



# My favorite places in Sapporo

BY MIFUE SHIMAMURA

It has been almost three years since I left my hometown, Kobe, to live in this snowy city! Over these years, I have found a few favorite places where I would go over and over again. I would like to share some of them with you here. I hope you find at least one of them worth trying to visit! Enjoy with the pictures I took in each place!



## Hana Cafe Silver Rain & Margaret



Hana Cafe Silver Rain & Margaret (south8 west3 : new store opened) is a unique place that has a flower shop and a cafe next to one another. You can enjoy a nice cup of coffee (450 yen~) while looking at beautiful flowers. The place is very cozy. The last order is 6:30 p.m. (south8 west3)

BY MIFUE SHIMAMURA



### Cafe Madu



Cafe Madu (North 5 West 2 in Stellar Place) is a very chic cafe located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Stellar Place in Sapporo station. This is my favorite cafe by far. The interior is very modern, and the drinks are rather cheap (coffee is 350 yen~). They have great sweets as well. Recommended for girls who like to stay in a cafe for hours just to chat! Open until 9 p.m.!

You can also enjoy lovely cafe art (drawing on coffee).

### Cat cafe, Love-Neko



Cat cafe, Love-Neko (South 2 West 5) is an interesting cafe where you can enjoy a cup of coffee and hang out with a bunch of CATS!!! It is amazing how people come up with different ideas. There, you can watch/touch/play with about 15 different cats. Open until 10 and the charge is 480 yen/30 minutes. I know some of you think "what!!! It's stupid to pay just to touch cats!!!" but if you are a cat loving person, it's totally worth it!

BY MIFUE SHIMAMURA



## Jitlada



Jitlada (South 4 West 5) is my favorite Thai food restaurant in Susukino. I am not a big fan of spicy food but I can find plenty of non-spicy delicious Thai dishes here. The Chef is a Thai lady. You can find a lot of different drinks including alcohol beverages. It is not so cheap to dine out here, so I recommend you to go for special occasions! Open until midnight on weekends.

## Sapporo Science Center



The last place is Sapporo Science Center (Atsubetsu Chuo 1-jo 5-chome - 1 minute from Shin-Sapporo Station). The best thing about this place is the planetarium. Each month, they show different constellations with a different theme (50 minutes show). If you like stars, it's a great place to visit monthly. They also have many scientific things about sound, light, and robots etc...

You can play there all day and you may learn new things! The fee is 1000 yen. During winter time, they close at 4:30p.m.

The list of URL  
(all in Japanese)

Hana Cafe: <http://r.tabelog.com/hokkaido/A0101/A010101/1009421/>

Cafe Madu: <http://r.tabelog.com/hokkaido/A0101/A010101/1010017/>

Love Neko: <http://www.loveneko.jp/pc/index.html>

Jitlada: <http://www.tosh-net.com/jitlada/>

Sapporo Science Center: <http://www.ssc.slp.or.jp/>



# E3 MEMBER'S DAILY LIFE

## Questionnaire Results *by Kango ITO*



The objective of a questionnaire is to collect the practical information about our daily life and share them to make e3 students more active!

The questionnaire that everyone answered is shown in the right. We received 24 responses. The two most common opinions (No.1 or No.2) and some interesting comment to the questionnaire are shown below.

### FOOD

#### •Favorite restaurant in Sapporo

→No.1: **Warung Jawa**, Halal food (N14W1)

Reason: Halal food, and I get to meet a lot of people (Rafiq). /only halal food restaurant in Sapporo (Indra)

No.2: **Pa mi Casa**, Dominican Food (N16W4)

Reason: Big portions, delicious food, cheap price (David) /excellent homemade food at good price! (Alex)

Others: **Picante**(Nikol) /**Mohan dish**(Guizani)/**Cheese & Cheese**(Juan) etc...

### CULTURE

#### •Your favorite place for sightseeing in Hokkaido

→No.1: **lake Toya**

Reason: most beautiful natural place I have seen (Guizani). / Close, easy to reach, full of nature and possibilities for hiking and outdoor activities. (Karo)

No.2: **Rishiri** and **Rebun island**

Reasons: Super crazy hostels are there in summer (Kango)

Others: **Hokudai** because it's close (Dayway)

### Questionnaire

#### Food

•Favorite restaurant in Sapporo

•Favorite bar

• Favorite Café

• Favorite food in engineering Cafeteria

#### Culture

•Recommend store to buy presents

•Your favorite place for sightseeing in Hokkaido

•The best movie to watch after having a stressful day

•The best music to wake up to

#### Life

•Your original way to protect yourself against the cold

•Your original way to get up early

•Your original way to diet

•The important thing you cannot live without

#### Love

•A good way to get a Boyfriend/Girlfriend

•Place to go on a date

•What characteristic do you like best in the opposite sex?

•What characteristic don't you like in the opposite sex?

#### •The best movie to watch after having a stressful

#### day

→No common answer

Several opinions: **Otoko wa tsurai yo**

(Werawan)

/ **Comedy movies, like The Simpson's Movie** (Rafiq)

/ **Flash of Genius** because you recall how important is to maintain the courage to persist and achieve what ever you believe in (Karo)

### LIFE

#### •Your original way to protect yourself against the

#### cold

→No.1: **Wearing more clothes**

Reasons: Not original, just double/triple layer(Juan)

Others: **Winter hibernation** (Guizani)

/ **Eat hot foods like Ramen or miso soup** (Tomoo)

/ **Hide between a lot of big people** (Nikol)

•Your original way to get up early

→No.1: **Using alarm clock or phone alarm**

Reasons: it's easy and very loud (Dream)/

No.2: **lots of liquids before going to bed**

Reason: The need for alleviating will wake you up.  
The amount of water depends on your body and the number of hours you want to sleep (David)

Others: **Searching for solutions** (Sochan)

/ **Put the alarm beside my ear**

(Indra)

/ **Think about research/an**

**upcoming meeting** (Lec)

•Your original way to diet

→No common answer,

Several opinions: **Do a lot of experiments** (Lec)

/ **Eat more protein and less carbo**

(Tolits)

/ **Avoid meat as much as possible,**

**eat fish and vegetables** (Guizani)

•The important thing you cannot live without

→No common answer,

Several opinions: **Water** (Tolits)

/ **Eye glasses**(Werawan)

/ **Good sleep, Delicious food and**

**love** (Tomoo)

/ **Me** because without Me, I am just me (Dayway)

LOVE

•A good way to get a Boyfriend/Girlfriend

→No.1: **By luck**

Reasons: something or someone destined for you will never escape (anonymity)

Other opinions: **I want to know** (Hide)

/ **Have confidence in yourself** (Werawan)

/ **Lose the feeling of "need a boy/girlfriend** (Dayway)

•Place to go on a date

→No.1: **Café or restaurant**

Reasons: the Café to have long conversations, the trip for the unexpected!(Karo)

/ Any café or place where music is soft and you can talk freely (David)

No.2: **Park, around Hokudai**

Reasons: Close, naturally a beautiful place especially around this time.(Dayway)/

•What characteristic do you like best in the opposite sex?

No.1: **Smart, Intelligent, and Funny**

No.2: **Smile**

Reasons: Almost all people don't have the reason



# REPORT FOR “WARUNG JAWA”



WARUNG JAWA

LUNCH (INDONESIAN CURRY)

I; M HUNGRY YAHHHH



## Pictures

Super  
Richard!!



WE (RICHARD, PEET, TOMOO AND KANGO) WENT TO WARUNG JAWA, NO.1 RESTAURANT AMONG E3 STUDENTS, TO LOOK FOR THE SECRET.

Q1) WHAT KIND OF SHOP OR WHAT KIND OF FOOD DOES THEY SERVE?

**W**arung Jawa is the only restaurant serving Halal food in Hokkaido.

Warung Jawa is separated in two parts, restaurant and food items.

### < RESTAURANT MENU >

- Lunch(¥ 650)
  - Indonesian curry with rice.
  - It's delicious and very popular in this restaurant.
- Nasi Goreng(¥ 550),  
Mie Goreng(¥ 550)
  - Nasi = Rice and Goreng = frying.
  - Mie = noodle .
  - It's a kind of fried rice and of fried noodles with Indonesian taste

### <FOOD ITEMS>

Food items are from not only Indonesia but also Philippine and Thailand, spices are from Pakistan, meat are from Australia,



- Hungry Tomoo

More Richard!!!



## TURPIS MASSA VOLUPTATUM DONEC



Q2) WHY DID THE OWNER DECIDE TO HAVE THE SHOP IN SAPPORO?

One Indonesian beautiful lady, Widya, is the owner of the restaurant.

9 years ago she started an import goods store in North 28jo.

The reason is just for herself because it's difficult to get Halal food during that time.

And sometimes she delivered goods for the mosque in North 14jo. But the location of North 28jo is so far from the mosque that she moved the store near to the mosque.

The current 3rd store opened in 2009 with a lot of help by foreign students.

Q3) WHY DO SO MANY E3 STUDENTS LOVE THIS PLACE?

It is feels like the "Home" for Muslim and people can release their stress here.

Of course the food is nice but the ambience or the relaxing atmosphere of Warung Jawa that attracted more people.



- Research members

Q4) COMMENT FROM WIDYA TO E3 STUDENTS

Do your best on your work and please come to Warung Jawa if you have some troubles!



- Lunch(Indonesian Cury) , Nasi goreng and Mie goreng



- Shop for selling food items

## WARUNG JAWA

Adress: first basement of Zeus building, North 14 jo and West 3 chome, Sapporo

Tel: 011-708-6880,  
Fax: 011-788-2365

Opening hours: 12:00-20:00  
except Sunday and public holidays

Shop Owner  
Widya





## Alumni Updates

# Looking Back and Moving Forward

By Richard Diaz Alorro, D3

The English Engineering Education program or e<sup>3</sup> was born in 2000 as English Graduate Program in Socio-Environmental Engineering (EGPSEE). One decade after its birth, e<sup>3</sup> has continued to serve non-Japanese and even Japanese speaking students with a study program conducted entirely in English. The program serves as a haven to many engineering graduate students who want to hone further their academic, research, professional and personal skills in an international environment. Since its inception until September of 2009, e<sup>3</sup> has awarded 73 Master of Engineering and 41 Doctor of Philosophy degrees to students from 27 countries. After 10 years of existence, e<sup>3</sup> is proud to have molded about a hundred engineers, scientists, academicians, and researchers who are now backbones of some universities, institutes, and companies around the world. To celebrate this commendable accomplishment, let us all pay tribute to some of our alumni and join them as they look back to their memorable Hokudai days. May their experiences and exemplary achievements serve as a guide and a challenge for us as we move forward in making our distinct marks under the sun.

## DR. JIAN-GUO DAI (Dai) - China

Assistant Prof. Jian-Guo Dai finished his PhD in Structural and Geotechnical Engineering under the English Graduate Program in Socio-Environmental Engineering (EGPSEE) in September 2003. He was among the pioneering batch of students who joined EGPSEE. Dr. Dai completed his studies at the Laboratory of Engineering for Maintenance System of the Division of Built Environment under the supervision of Prof. Tamon Ueda. Now an Assistant Professor at the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering

of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in China, Dr. Dai is happily married and is blessed with a 6 year old son.



2003 in Hokudai

## How did EGPSEE (now e<sup>3</sup>) contribute in one way or another, to your current status in life, chosen profession?

I spent 5 years at Hokkaido University, including three years of PhD study in EGPSEE and two years of post-doctoral research.

These years provided me precious time and energy to absorb broad knowledge and to conduct research relevant to strengthening of concrete structures using fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) composites, life cycle management of concrete structures, structural use of cementitious composites, etc.

During my stay at Hokudai, what had deeply impressed me were the invaluable advices and continuous support of and nurturing by my supervisor, Prof. Tamon UEDA, who also provided me many opportunities to have extensive international exposures. The three years of PhD study laid down a solid foundation for my research career, and the following two years research as a post-

doctoral fellow further developed my independent research capability, which is indispensable to my current position. Many thanks to Prof. Ueda and to the EGPSEE of Hokudai! Thanks also goes to the members of Laboratory of Engineering for Maintenance System and Division of Built Environment for sharing with me many pieces of sweet memories. Last but not least, thanks to Dr Werawan for

her irreplaceable role in creating a warm family atmosphere for all EGPSEE students.

## Message for the current e3 students

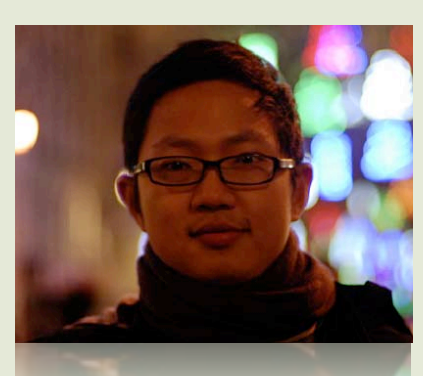
I hope that today you are proud of Hokudai and tomorrow Hokudai would be more proud of you.



2009 in Zhengzhou, China for an FRP conference



Pipat with other EGPSEE students



Dr. Pipat now

## DR. PIPAT TERMKHAJORNKI T (Pipat) - Thailand

Pipat, as he is fondly called by his closest friends, is a cement and concrete specialist. He came from Thailand and joined EGPSEE in 2000 as a master student. He finished his PhD in Environment and Resources Engineering in September 2005 under the supervision of Prof. Toyoharu Nawa. Dr. Pipat is now working as a Research Engineer dealing with cement and concrete

at the Lafarge Centre de Recherché in Saint Quentin Fallavie, France.

communication skill recognized by my boss and technician under my responsibility.

## How did EGPSEE (now e<sup>3</sup>) contribute in one way or another, to your current status in life, chosen profession?

From an academic point of view, I am now working in the same area with my doctoral studies while I was in EGPSEE. From a social and inter-personal point of view (provided by EGPSEE activities) - high



## Message for the current e3 students

In EGPSEE (now e<sup>3</sup>), we have students coming from different countries with different cultures and backgrounds. For sure, to do an activity together, it is not so easy. We have to be more or less flexible, have a positive attitude and be active. From my experience, I learned a

lot from such international activities.

Now, I live in France which has again a completely different culture, language and working style. Nevertheless, it does not cause me a lot of trouble. I got compliments from my colleagues and boss about my communication and management skills. I would say that without my experience with EGPSEE activities, I might not be able to adapt myself so fast in France.

EGPSEE activities helped me improve my EQ (Emotional Quotient) a lot.

For me, a diploma is like a key to open a door that normal people cannot open. However, if we only have the key, we can surely open the door but we may not know how to walk to reach the goal once inside. We need more skills that sometimes are not written in any text book but can be learned from such international activities.

## DR. ROFIQ IQBAL (Rofiq) -Indonesia

For Dr. Rofiq Iqbal, joining EGPSEE is one of the best decisions he made in his entire life. Dr. Iqbal was also among the first batch of students who joined EGPSEE in 2000. He finished his Masters in September 2002 and his PhD in Hydrosience and Environmental Protection Engineering in September 2005. He was an adviser of Dr. Harukuni Tachibana of the Laboratory of Water Environment Protection Engineering, Division of Environment and Resources Engineering. Currently, he is the head of the Water Treatment Engineering Laboratory and a member of Water and Wastewater Engineering Research Division of the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering of Institut Teknologi Bandung in Bandung, Indonesia. He is happily married and is blessed with 2 sons (10 and 8 years old)

and 2 daughters (4 and 2 years old).

### How did EGPSEE (now e<sup>3</sup>) contribute in one way or another, to your current status in life, chosen profession?

Joining EGPSEE is one of my best decisions in life. Since I was a new staff member in the university at that time, obtaining a higher degree was a must, and EGPSEE had given me the chance to fulfill the requirements. And today, as a graduate of a big Japanese university like Hokudai, it created a lot of benefits and good circumstances in my workplace.

## Message for the current e3 students

Ed Summa, Ed Astra.  
Reach for the highest stars, and you will achieve the highest place.



Dr. Iqbal with his supervisor and senpai during his supervisor's retirement day, May 2007.



Rofiq during a seminar in New Orleans, 2005.

## DR. SANJAY GIRI (Sanjay) - Nepal

Dr. Giri spent five years of his life at the Hydraulic Research Laboratory of the Graduate School of Engineering of Hokkaido University. He joined EGPSEE in 2001 and after finishing his PhD studies in River Engineering (river flow and sediment transport) in 2004, he worked as a JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) research fellow from 2005-2007. Sanjay, as he is known to his friends and colleagues, is now affiliated with an Independent Research Foundation - Deltares ([www.deltares.nl/en](http://www.deltares.nl/en)), located in Delft, the Netherlands as a researcher/advisor (a permanent position) at the River Engineering and Water Transport Department (Unit of Inland Water System), particularly dealing with research, consulting and advisory activities related to river engineering and morphology. He is happily married to Ms. Olga Giri and is blessed with three children, Anish (15), Natasha (11) and Ayusha (5).

***How did EGPSEE (now e3) contribute in one way or another, to your current status in life, chosen profession?***

EGPSEE, in essence, has a big contribution to my current professional life. After finishing

my master's in the field of hydropower engineering, I worked for 5 years in this field, and then decided to continue with the academic activity. I got an opportunity to pursue doctoral studies as a PhD scholar at the Hydraulic Research Laboratory under the EGPSEE program. I had an immense opportunity to be involved in the research activities of one of the most advanced research laboratory in the world under the guidance of Professor Yasuyuki Shimizu. During my Phd and Postdoc research, I became acquainted with a number of cutting edge research topics and tools in river engineering field, and got rather significant exposures in the international arena associated with this field. This eventually led to the continuation of my professional activities in one of the world's leading organizations - Deltares.

I feel myself very lucky in this regard.

### ***Message for the current e3 students***

During my affiliation with EGPSEE program, I 'grew up' not only in terms of academic and/or professional aspects, but also in terms of social awareness. I had a great opportunity to be involved in a number of social activities carried out together with EGPSEE family. I got big support and encouragement from Ma'am Werawan (I should always mention this!).

I am more than sure that a great future is waiting for you all involved in different academic/research activities under e<sup>3</sup> program. I heartily wish you an enjoyable time out there and a successful future in both professional as well as social life.



Winter in Hokudai



Dr. Sanjay Giri







# e<sup>3</sup> by Numbers

by Richard Diaz Alorro, D<sub>3</sub>

If you were asked to describe our English Engineering Education (e<sup>3</sup>) program quantitatively, how would you answer? We would be glad to assist you on this matter! Here are some important statistics that would help us know better our e<sup>3</sup>. The data presented herein represents the e<sup>3</sup> student population as of the Winter Semester of 2009.

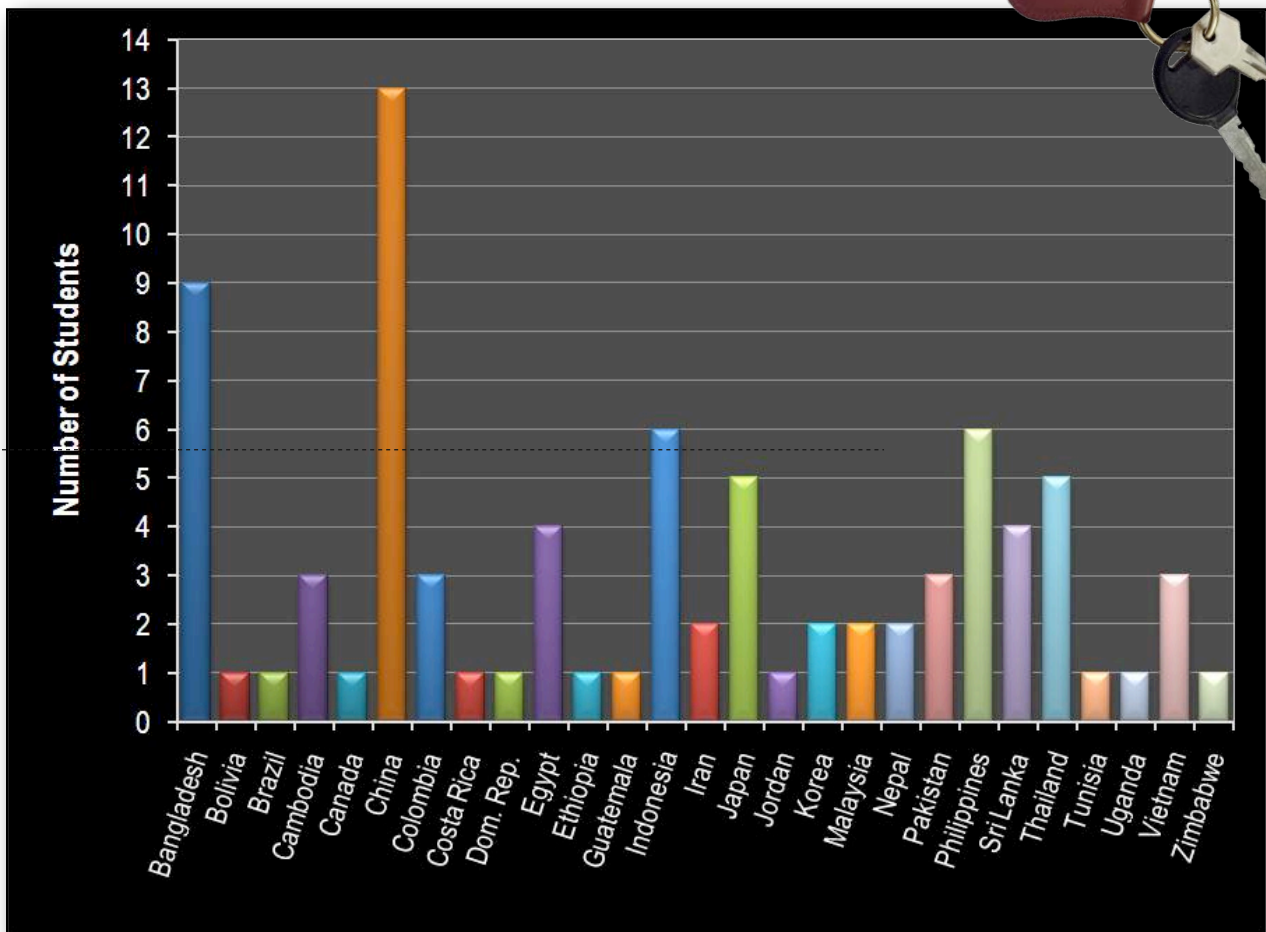


Figure 1 – e<sup>3</sup> student population by country.

China tops the rank with 13, followed by Bangladesh with 9, and by Philippines and Indonesia with 6 students each.

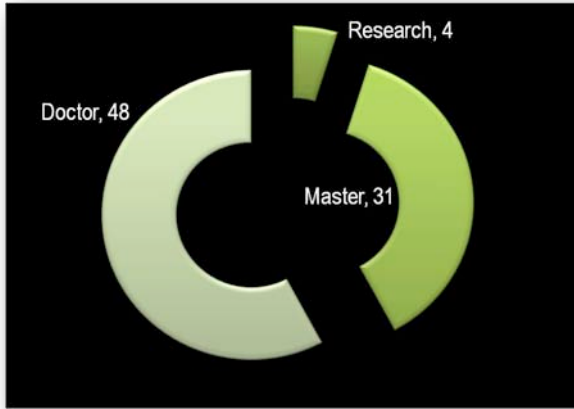


Figure 2 – e<sup>3</sup> students by academic level.

As of Winter Semester 2009, e<sup>3</sup> has 48 doctoral, 31 master, and 4 research students.

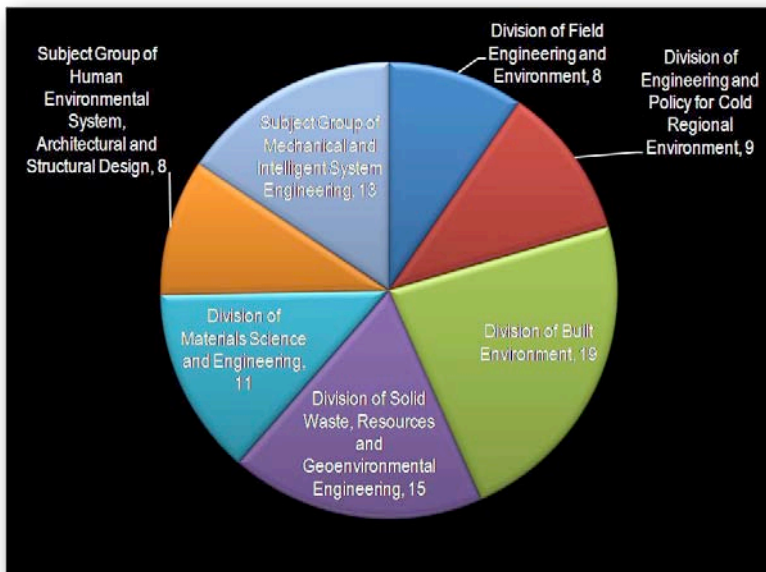


Figure 3 – e<sup>3</sup> students by division or subject group.

The divisions with most number of e<sup>3</sup> students include the Built Environment (19), Solid Waste, Resources and Geo-Environmental Engineering (15), and Subject Group of Mechanical and Intelligent System Engineering (13).

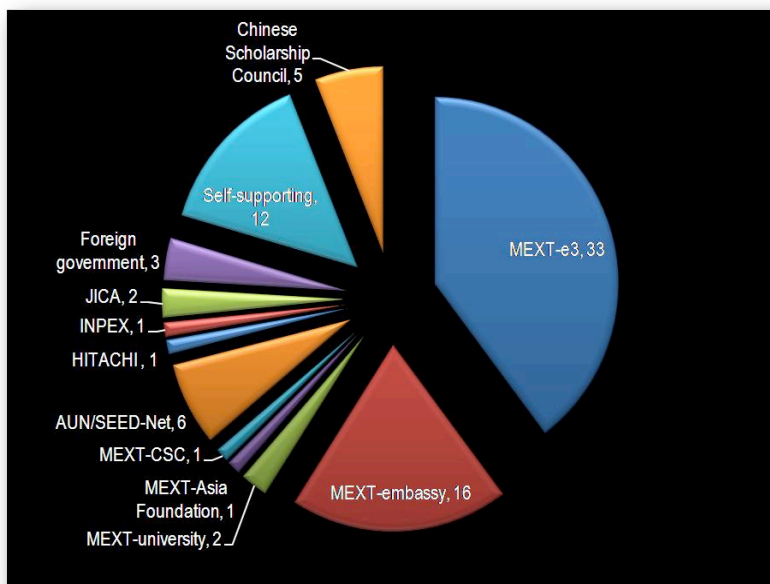


Figure 4 – e<sup>3</sup> student population by scholarship.

The top three scholarships awarded to e<sup>3</sup> students are MEXT-e<sup>3</sup> (33), MEXT-Embassy (16), and AUN/SEED-Net (6). e<sup>3</sup> has 12 self-supporting students.



Source: English Engineering Education (e<sup>3</sup>) Office through <http://www.eng.hokudai.ac.jp/e3/notices.htm>  
(Special thanks to Dr. Werawan Manakul-Ueda for the information)

# LET'S LEARN JAPANESE!

BY TOMOO TSUYUHARA



**In this corner, we'll provide you with some Japanese slang that is very common among Japanese youths, and you cannot find from the dictionaries.**

## Ikemen

It means “good looking guy”. However, the application of this word is very wide. You can use ikemen to those who are not so cool, but have very fashionable styles. But if you are called ikemen by Japanese girl, you should feel delighted.



## KY

KY is the capital letter of Japanese sentence “Kuuki Yomenai”. It means “cannot read the situation” or “cannot sense the atmosphere”. In general, Japanese culture puts emphasis on cooperativeness, so Japanese tend to behave similarly with others. If your behavior is outstanding and very characteristic, your behavior will be called “KY” and regarded as strange in some cases.

## Ukeru

Ukeru means interesting, funny, fascinating. It has the same meaning as omoshiroi, but more informal. If you hear some interesting story from your friends, just use “sore ukeru!”



## Samui

The meaning of itself is “feel cold”. But sometimes it is used against boring jokes. Sometimes when someone tells boring jokes, everybody stop talking and give him a cold look, this is a chilly atmosphere (samui).

Let's speak Japanese!!



# The “ECO Experiment” Report

By Carlito Tabelin

Laboratory of Groundwater and  
Mass Transport

The “ECO experiment” masterminded (or should I say initiated?) by our dearest mother, Ma'am Werawan to replace the existing organizational structure of officers in e<sup>3</sup> was a success. The first “lab-rats” used in this “experiment” were from various nationalities: Nikol of Canada (the name looks Russian right?), Alexander of The Dominican Republic (named after the greatest general of all time, I guess...), Lek of Thailand (her name is longer than this and I am sorry I could not even pronounce it...), and Adriano of Brazil (his name sounds familiar if you are into Mexican telenovelas) who replaced Sayem from Bangladesh about a quarter into his term. This team steered all the task groups composed of the students throughout the year in activities ranging from parties to field trips and sports festivals. Hats down to these guys for sacrificing their precious time to oversee all these activities. If they were not around, all those activities may not have been possible, that means, NO PARTIES.... (Can you imagine that...) CONGRATULATIONS again to all the officers and task groups who participated in the success of all the activities of ECO.

With the New Year, new officers came in to fill up the shoes left behind by the previous ones. As a small tribute to these extraordinary people who will sacrifice their time for us, we are dedicating one article in E-Vision especially for them. I am in Bali, Indonesia at the moment attending a conference. It is very hot here (32°C) when only a few hours ago I was in the dead of winter in Sapporo. I am free today so I am looking in front of my laptop thinking of words to best describe the people whom I am going to introduce later on. But before that, let us first look back at why this “ECO Experiment” happened. The old ECO officers were composed of a President, two vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, a PRO and the E-Vision in-charge. About three years ago, the multicultural differences of the officers got the better of them resulting in problems too complex to be solved. These

had always been a big challenge on the officers even before that time, but the more lenient and cool-headed approaches of the previous presidents were most of the time enough to put the group back on track. In my opinion, the previous structure of ECO in which all activities had to be organized by the officers, was too hard (just imagine organizing at least one party once or every two months on top of your experiments, classes, and other activities). So basically, the officers will be overworked and have low enthusiasms in their job, add to that the frustrations brought by negative comments from students after a particularly bad party and a meeting between the officers will surely turn ugly. Our adviser, Ma'am Werawan, saw this coming and devised a more officer-friendly approach to the problem, that is, to elect a steering committee composed of a chairman and 3 vice chairmen that will oversee the task-groups that will be put in-charge of each activity. This will also ensure that all the students have a hand in the organization and conduct of the activities.

Now let's meet the new officers of ECO.



## CHAIRMAN

**Juan** – Juan is a second year doctoral student of the Laboratory of Structural Analysis. He loves to go ice or rock climbing and mountaineering (this guy loves the outdoors obviously). His research is about reinforced concrete with hysteretic dampers. Juan is a family guy who loves to hang-out with his wife, Ana, and their baby. His most unforgettable experience in Japan is that he became a father here. He hates winter because it's cold but nonetheless loves to play with snow which is not found in his country, Colombia.

# The "ECO Experiment" Report



## VICE-CHAIRMAN ACADEMIC



**David** - David is a first year doctoral student from Colombia. He is a member of the Laboratory of human environmental systems. His hobbies include reading (We all love reading, right? Especially those scientific articles from science-direct), watching movies and going out with friends.

If you're interested in ground source heat pump, desuperheater and subcooler systems then David is your man. He is "soft" when it comes to touching movies because he said he cries a lot while watching them (don't worry David, we all do that sometimes...). He said one of the most unforgettable experiences he had in Japan was when his Sensei finally said "Anshinshita" which translates to "I am relieved". He also loves the winter of Sapporo because it's the time for snowboarding and skiing but he hates it also because it's too long and he said he could not breath air at normal oxygen proportions (whew... that was something...)



## VICE-CHAIRMAN FINANCE



**Reyna** - Reyna is a first year master's student in the laboratory of Eco-processing. She has only one hobby and that is to watch anime (Maybe this is the "real" reason she chose Japan for her studies...). Her research is about the reduction of metal oxides by molten salt electrolysis (whew... salt means sodium chloride, right?..) She describes herself as being shy with her free time usually "wasted" on internet surfing and of course, the one everybody loves, Facebook. Her most unforgettable experience in Japan was eating raw horse meat during the Bonenkai of their laboratory (Wow...sounds tasty...).

She loves winter because she said "I have an excuse not to wake up early". What a nice excuse indeed.



## VICE-CHAIRMAN SOCIAL



**Aguru** - Aguru is a first year master's student in the Laboratory of Sustainable Sanitation. His hobby is reading (I told you all e3 students love to read...). His research is about wastewater treatment. During his free time, he loves to go to Starbucks, drink brewed coffee and watch beautiful ladies passing by (Wow... I didn't know you could do this in Starbucks...). Aguru loves to sing and does this often in his room (I guess everybody do this especially in the shower...). One day, his apartment manager came and told him that his neighbour is complaining about his singing (Aguru, you are still lucky your neighbour did not call the police...). He doesn't like winter because it's cold but loves the winter scenery (I also agree with the scenery especially at night after a snow storm...breathless...).

So here are the guys who will man the executive chairs of ECO for this school year.

To all of those who have problems and inquiries especially the new students, please feel free to approach the ECO officers.

Good luck to them and がんばってください!





by Carlito Tabelin



by Carlito



by Zheng Meng



by Mokhtar



by Mamun



by Mokhtar



by Werawan



by Anh



by LiHuai



by Cheng

## E-vision

E-Vision is the magazine of the English Engineering Education Student Organization (ECO), and is published twice a year on-line.

E-Vision stands for English and the vision of the e3 students of the Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University, Japan. It is the vision of facing academic challenges in the global context.

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