

# Urban Design Lab. Magazine

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interpreted by Yahara,  
thanks to Chris, Nattapong

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Faculty of engineering / Department of Urban Engineering  
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## Infrontier

exchanged with New Mexico University

On May 17th and 23rd we arranged a workshop with students and teachers of Professor Liebs' home institution, New Mexico University. On the first meeting our American guests and the students of our laboratory presented their respective research projects. At this occasion we were astonished to see how broad the range of research topics were reaching from archeology to landscape planning. After the presentations were held, we arranged a dinner party where we had ample opportunity for interesting conversations and exchange of ideas. After having traveled Tokyo for nearly a week, on May 23rd a second discussion round was held, where the newly gained impressions were debated. The American visitors commented for example that the *System of registered Cultural Properties* is not as strong as it should be, or that the new representative brand shops at Omotesando seem not to respond well to their urban context. Also the students of our laboratory took actively part in the discussions. Although the shared time was short, we had interesting conversations and could establish some fruitful future relations.



## Review lab. by magazine 2005-2007

Since our lab. magazine Japanese version counted 50th edition, we'll introduce activities of our lab.

### Machizukuri activities spreading widely

As you all might have experienced already, in various 'real' projects we have the opportunity to show our real abilities. Following the motto 'learning in the field', the Yatsuo project was initiated in 2005, followed by 'Shinjuku' and 'Imagination of urban spaces' in 2006, notwithstanding the long run projects in Kitakata, Tomo, Ohno and the Keihin project.

As you see, the number and intensity of the projects has rapidly increased in the last two years and we could spread our ideas of machizukuri over many places in Japan.

We also traveled to Hanoi in 2004 and Bangkok in 2006 where we sought the dialogue with local universities, involved in grass-root planning projects. Furthermore, numerous students of the first year master course took part in the international planning workshop in Italy for two weeks.



### three doctors 'Produced' in 2006

After Niramon was awarded her doctorate in 2005 and became a teacher at Chulalongkorn University, in 2006 Nakajima Naoto completed his opus magna about the city beautiful movement, Abe Daisuke about urban design in Barcelona and Sakamoto Hiroshi, about the early skyscrapers of Chicago.



### Activity of old boys and old girls

These two years were fruitful that graduated students involved in various fields. Those who related to our lab. published many books related to machizukuri. We noted not only the activities of old boys and old girls but also the private information such as marriages or child birth in magazine.



Gathered in Ohno mura

During 19th - 26th April, I had a chance to participate in 4th Borobudur Field School (BFS), which is co-organized by Universitas Gadjah Mada, UNESCO-Jakarta, Takada-Kanki Lab-Kyoto University, Wakayama University, Indonesia Heritage Trust, and Jogja Heritage Society. The theme of this BFS is Regional Conservation Planning for Borobudur Cultural Landscape. The field school has drawn attention of people from various fields, including architect, landscape planner, urban and rural designer, geologist, etc.

Borobudur is a ninth century Buddhist Mahayama monument in Central Java. After several centuries hidden under layers of jungle growth and volcanic ash, it was rediscovered in 1814 by Sir Thomas Raffles. Several restorations has been undertaken here, especially the largest one conducted by Indonesia Government and UNESCO from 1975 to 1982. This monument was listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991. In 2003, Borobudur UNESCO Expert Meeting stated that a study on Borobudur cultural landscape is urgent to be conducted. The Management Paradigm of Borobudur has shifted, especially in term of concept, saying from death monument to space and living. In order to response it, BFS has been held annually.

During 8 days program, the participants experienced 3 main activities, including International Symposium, field survey, and studio work. The area surrounding Borobudur temple has beautiful landscape with terrace field, water fall, fantastic view spot to enjoy large-scale topography, and various traditional villages with both tangible and intangible heritage. However, this area has not been included in tourism development program. Therefore, the task of 4th BFS is to discover the potential of this area and to give proposal for sustainable tourism.

The studio work was divided into 2 groups: one deal with macro level management, and the other with micro one. My group is the second one, focusing on heritage trail program. Our basic idea for sustainable tourism is promotion the interaction between tourist and local people in order to help villagers realizing their potential and tourist adjusting behavior to be polite. By analyzing our impression on trip as tourists with different backgrounds, we proposed several ideas, stress on keeping "normal, daily" things. At last, I would like to say that BFS gave us a valuable lesson on cultural landscape management in Indonesia. Terima kasih!

4th BTF participants



Borobudur temple



Terrace Field



Traditional House

## Participated in urbandesign workshop in Melbourne University

M1 Junya Suzuki

I decided to study English in graduate school because I was said at entrance examination that I should study English.

All I saw in Melbourne were interesting for me.

I have been to only Korea before this workshop.

The students of Melbourne propose many new ideas in all seriousness.

In this workshop, I experienced what Prof.Nishimura said "The common sense of Japan is not common sense in the world."

I am sorry to be absent from several meetings.

I could get large experience. Thank you.

But some of you would feel that I had done nothing in Melbourne because I was so poor at speaking English.



So I would like to participate in another workshop like this, please tell me if you know

## Visiting foreign students' house

D1 Hui-hsuan Yang, Taiwan

Three years have passed since Ms. Yang come to Japan. Not only enjoying her life but she also won the 'Realestate Institute prize.'

To find the key of her life, Interviewers visited her house of Kichijouji.



### Q&A

Q. What did you do before you come to our lab.?

A. I'm from Taipei. I majored in department of landscape gardening .

I watched Japanese dramas in Taiwan and it helped me in studying Japanese. But the particle is difficult in Japanese.

Q. Where are your favorite places in Japan?

A. I went to Kamakura these days and liked its mountains. And maybe because it is common we live in high mansions in Taiwan, I also like Japanese traditional houses.

Q. What are strange points in Japanese cities?

A. Houses are so small. Rent for houses and fare for buses costs much.

Q. What are good points in Japan?

A. Delicious cakes!!

Q. Give message for our lab., please?

A. I'd like to graduate within three years. I'd like to marry before I become 30 years old.

interviewed Hiraoka, Yahara