# Urban Design Lab Magazine Chief aditor: Purole Chief aditor: Pur

Urban Design(Nishimura & Kitazawa) Laboratory,

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## Our lab has begun touring interesting sites around Tokyo.

Coca Cola Factory Tour

D1 Kumi Eguchi

Our first tour was of the Coca Cola factory in Higashikurume. On May 29th, members first were treated to a bottle of cola cooled to four degrees Celsius. After everyone asked questions having listened to an explanation of the workings of the factory, we had a chance to see the manufacturing process and recognized just how much is necessary to satisfy the huge demand of Tokyo..



#### The Metropolitan Area Outer Underground Discharge Channel Tour

text\_Kakibaya



On July 4th we visited what is called the "Underground Parthenon". The system of drains for emergency drainage of the Tokyo metropolitan area was built to handle times of heavy rain and the typhoon season. The biggest of its kind in the world, the 6.3 km-long tunnel can redirects water into the Edo River and includes a drainage pump that can move the equivalent of an elementary school swimming pool every second. Most recently it was used during the heavy rains of this past June. When it's dry, however, the tunnel is often used in filming television commercials and the like. The scale of it really impressed us and everyone enjoyed the unusual scenery.

### **Tomo and the Landscape Symposium**

D1 Kumi Eguchi

A symposium was held at Keio University's Mita Campus on July 1st that included a panel discussion about the responses of Koreans to the Japanese landscape. Professor Miyake of Keio and Alex Kerr, a researcher on Oriental cultures gave presentations. Mr. Kerr criticized Japan's mountainside public works projects that the government reasons are good for the environment. He indicated that this shows a lack of awareness and respect for the landscape among the people of Japan.

Due to the historical connection of Tomo to Korea, much of the discussion could be related to efforts to have Tomo designated as a World Heritage Site.





The first hearing in the case of the residents of Tomo have against Hiroshima Prefecture calling on the prefecture to call off plans to reclaim land to construct a bridge was held at a Hiroshima district court on July 2nd. Mr. Oi spoke on behalf of the Tomo residents. At the moment, you may submit statements to the Tomo NPO via their website: http://npo-tomo.jp/jyumin/iken.html. A second hearing was set for September 6th.

## Landscape Administration in Shinjuku -Shinjuku project

D2 Shin Nakajima

With Professor Nishimura as a committee member, the Community-based Landscape Planning Council held a meeting at the Shinjuku Ward Office on July 23rd regarding the direction of landscape planning for all areas of the ward.

Both Naoto Nakajima and Taku Nohara presented findings from our lab's Shinjuku project and then discussed them with the committee members. Additionally, a report of over 80 pages from Waseda University's Goto lab and Kogakuin University's Kubota lab was also presented. The overall reaction to the information was good and it will be used as plans for landscape administration are drawn up for Shinjuku.



#### Lectures by Professor Liebs

text\_Shiozawa

In this semester Professor Liebs will give four lectures relating to giving presentations in English.

Students are given advice about making themselves clear when presenting

information in English as well as how to effectively use visuals.



Students learned how it is important to think about any presentation from the point of view of the audience, but also to speak slowly and clearly. After each participant gave a practice presentation, everyone discussed not the content, but the

presentation style.



The lectures gave all the participants a good opportunity to practice for future presentations.

### Final Presentations at the Kashiwanoha Urban Design Studio

text\_Yahara

On June 30th local residents, students visiting the Urban Design Center at Kashiwanoha, Professor Matsunaga, Professor Dan, and others attended the final presentations at Kashiwanoha Urban Design Studio relating to proposals for "new public space" for six areas.



All the groups presented using models of their ideas. While some of the groups' proposals were severely criticized by the attendees, others were praised for their practicality.

After the presentations, participants and attendees gathered outside UDCK for a party. Additionally there was also a surprise birthday party for Professor Kitazawa.

As he is constantly on the move between Yokohama and Hongo, Professor Kitazawa received a portable umbrella. Appropriately it began raining and all the participants were able to see the new umbrella in use.



#### **Everyday Landscape Workshop**

M1 Nagisa Yamada

A kick-off meeting for a workshop on everyday landscape was held in Mita in June by the Committee of City Planning and Architectural Institutions of Japan. This year's theme is "How to preserve and encourage growth of everyday landscape".

Twenty-two students seven universities participated. University of Tokyo lead the event along with Waseda, Shibaura Engineering, Hosei, Chiba, Nihon, and Kogakuin Universities. The students divided into groups and made proposals. Among the participants were first year Masters students from our lab, Nagisa Yamada and Hisahiro Kamenaga. After all the introductions were over and Professor Goto of Waseda University had given the opening address, Waseda, Todai, and Kogakuin students reported on landscape planning in Shinjuku Ward. Naoto Nakajima and Taku Nohara gave lectures about the characteristics of the landscape in the six areas of Shinjuku. After dividing into groups, participants headed to a bar and discussed what exactly is "everyday landscape" and about the possibilities of the proposals that they had heard.