



Dear APRU Presidents and Senior Staff,

We warmly invite you to send faculty participant specialized for a natural disaster field and administrators who are in charge of safety and security on campus to “Workshop on Building Disaster Resilient Universities ~ *Is Your University Ready for the Next Natural Disaster?*~” of the APRU-IRIDeS Multi-hazards Program.

Workshop on Building Disaster Resilient Universities *~Is Your University Ready for the Next Natural Disaster? ~* **Tohoku University, Japan, 2-4 February 2016**

This workshop will focus on **preparedness for natural disasters**. Learn how to develop and maintain an effective university emergency plan that will help your university following a natural disaster.

APRU and Tohoku University launched the APRU-IRIDeS Multi-hazards Program in April 2013. As one of the first projects of the Multi Hazards Program, the APRU member universities self-analysed disaster preparedness capacity and compile guidelines and standards at APRU campuses. While many strengths were recognized, there were also areas identified as needing further development. This workshop aims to discuss common challenges and issues, lessons learned from other universities, and tools to develop an effective emergency plan that will address areas needing improvement and enhance overall university preparedness.

Objectives

- Share common challenges, experiences, and successes
- Identify key components and strategies to develop an effective emergency plan
- Learn how to implement, test and maintain your plan through simulation and table top exercises

Eventually, it is expected that each University will develop a comprehensive disaster preparedness/emergency management plan and will become confident of its implementation in times of crisis.

Program

The Campus Safety Workshop consists of a 2-day session and half-day site visit to the affected area impacted by the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

Campus Safety Workshop topics will include:

- What does campus safety regarding natural disasters really mean?
- Disaster preparedness case studies: Participants share their challenges and successes
- Group work: steps and activities required to achieve campus safety
- Presentation on steps to develop an effective emergency plan
- Developing an effective plan - group activity
- Simulation exercise

Travel Costs

The usual practice for APRU events is for participants to fund their own travel and accommodation.

No registration fee is required for this Workshop.

Confirmation

We hope your university will send representatives to this Workshop and put in place the preparedness measure in case of a natural disaster. Please send the name, title, research interest/experience and contact information of your representatives by email to izumi@irides.tohoku.ac.jp no later than **8 January 2016**.

Additional information

If you have any queries regarding this Workshop, please contact Dr Takako Izumi (Associate Professor, APRU-IRIDeS Multi-hazards Program Coordinator) in IRIDeS, Tohoku University at izumi@irides.tohoku.ac.jp.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Tremewan
Secretary General

The network of Asia-Pacific Research Universities

Workshop on Campus Safety against Natural Disasters

Building Disaster Resilient Universities

2-4 February 2016

Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan

What is Campus Safety? Why Campus Safety?

A “safe campus” has been defined as follows: “A safe campus is one that responds to threats and takes decisive, corrective action to eliminate them. A safe campus is one that is monitored for safety, one where the various dimensions of the environment are routinely evaluated and adjustments are made as appropriate, creating such an environment is an institutional responsibility and one that requires participation and commitment from multiple parties within the institution”. **To implement “safe campus”, Universities are required to maintain an environment where students can continue their studies and research activities even after a disaster occurs and recover as quickly as possible from the impacts.** The Universities must promptly respond to disasters, make regular risk assessments on campus in advance, and try to eliminate and/or reduce risks, if identified. “Campus safety”, in this context, focuses only “safety” against natural disasters, excluding manmade disasters, crime and health issues such as pandemics. In addition, **universities are recognized as a part of the community. Therefore, the preparedness-capacity of universities has a huge impact on the safety and security of human lives and property, even on communities and universities.**

Workshop Program

Dates

2-4 February 2016:
2-day workshop and a half day field visit

Major objectives

- Share experience of disaster preparedness on campus and identify challenges and issues;
- Discuss important elements and topics in preparedness/emergency management plan and its effective implementation;
- Learn and identify necessary preparedness activities through simulation and table top exercises.

Venue

2-3 February 2016: The IRIDeS building on the Aobayama Campus, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan
4 February 2016: Field trip to the affected sites in the Miyagi-prefecture

Program

Day 1: Seminar 1

Opening

Session 1: What needs to be done to prepare for a disaster?

Session 2: Case studies: sharing experience of disaster preparedness by participants

Session 3: Group exercise

Day 2: Seminar 2

Session 4: What means to develop a good plan?

Session 5: Developing the plan

Session 6: Simulation exercise: emergency response

**Session titles are subject to change*

Day 3: Field trip to the affected sites

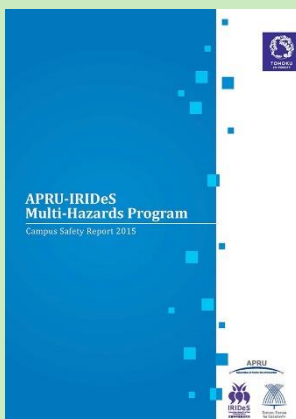
Campus Safety Survey

The campus safety survey was conducted among the APRU member universities and the 22 universities have responded. The results identified the strengths and potentials as follows:

	Area	Strengths	Potential
1	Governance actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countermeasure office Response plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simulation exercise of countermeasure office Information sharing and early warning
2	Risk assessment	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment Strategies and action plan based on risk assessment Assessment result to be shared
3	Disaster preparedness mechanism and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency communication system Disaster-resistant structure Awareness-raising activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance for foreign students Safety confirmation Response handbook and its distribution
4	Response capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency stockpile Building inspection implementation and capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutual agreement with neighboring universities Volunteers list
5	Support system for students, faculty members, and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies for support to students Support for psychosocial assistance needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support system for foreign students Support system for faculty members, and staff, as well as their families
6	Date preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data and information gathering after disasters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archival system for preservation of records and information

As shown in the above table, out of the six areas, the area of **risk assessment** requires more attentions and effort. In addition, **early warning and alert, simulation exercise of response mechanism** as well as the further **support and consideration for foreign students** are required. Many Universities addressed challenges in financial constraints, human resources, understanding risks and safety issues, and a lack of participation by faculty and staff. This workshop aims to discuss the common challenges and issues, learn the experience of disaster preparedness from other universities and gain knowledge on development of preparedness measures on campus.

(Report address: aprumh.irides.tohoku.ac.jp/app-def/S-102/apru/activities/campus-safety)



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CAMPUS SAFETY WORKSHOP

Dr. Takako Izumi, IRIDeS, Tohoku University izumi@irides.tohoku.ac.jp
 Website: apru.org/multihazards , aprumh.irides.tohoku.ac.jp