

DECISION SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

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Integration | Kasuri
Deer | Enomoto
Risk management
Fukahori | Grameen



EDITOR'S NOTE

The Decision Science Newsletter aims to promote IDS3 and its recent activities. The theme of the eighth issue is "INTEGRATION." Integration is important for tackling transdisciplinary issues and multi-stakeholder participation. In this issue, we cover recent travels and an interview by a member of the IDS3 Integration Team.

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FEATURE

Sudo-San sweats over Sudoku

♣ *Andrew Rebeiro-Hargrave*

Kasuri is a Japanese name for a fabric woven with fibers dyed to create patterns and images. IDS3 student Mr. Sudo, squatting over a game of Sudoku and sporting a pair of modern 'monpe' makes the connection "Kasuri textile is normally bought by middle-aged females who make clothes and accessories, however, my farmers' trousers are also made by Kasuri textile and these are getting trendy with young people when branded as Japanese Jeans". Scanning the Sudoku rows and column, he wipes dripping sweat from his brow and continues "Kasuri patterns are based on traditional Japanese

icons, I prefer the 'Ya-gasuri' arrow design, which means going far away when once released, and never return". After eliminating Sudoku candidate pairs, he awkwardly shifts position and concludes, "In decision science, we learn that using traditional dye techniques such as 'ikat' in the production of Kasuri creates employment for all ages and cultural identity for local and remote communities but sadly these works are in decline. We need cooperation beyond the local areas among craftsman, seller, and consumer to preserve unique Japanese home weaving and revitalize farming cooperatives". Now back to the numbers game.

PROJECT | Tackling Deer and Boars



♥ *Yuki Kubo*

Agricultural losses caused by wild deer, monkeys and wild boars have increased in Japan. Local people are beginning to pay attention to the increasing abundance of these animals. In the Decision Science Program, the Envi-

ronment team has set up strategies to tackle wildlife conflict problems. In the Yakushima research stadium, we interview local people, organize workshops, observe hunting practices, and collect data from insects and plants to understand the impact of a deer population explosion on the island. At our home stadium - Ito Campus, Kyushu University, we investigate the seasonal population growth of wild boars in biodiversity conservation zone and use hunting controls to suppress damages for the surrounding areas. Dr. Hoso-ya is coaching our team and has support from the overall manager Dr. Yasuda. Our winning goal is to 'eat the excess wild ani-

mals' by promoting game meat in Fukuoka. Young players, Ms. Sato, Ms. Song, Mr. Sudo, Mr. Tagawa and Kubo will host a food stand of "Gibier (meaning wild animal hunting in Japanese)" cooking at the 70th University's Festival on October 7 and 8, 2017.



SEMINAR | Simulating risk management for field training

♥ *Kazuki Tagawa*

The safety of students is a constant priority for field studies, and proactive, detailed risk management should be an integral part of all IDS3 training. Accordingly, a safety study seminar that included 8 teaching staffs and 5 students was held on May 31st to discuss topics of risk management. Prof. Araya, from the Environment module, started the seminar with a sober example of a fatal accident on Yakushima Island. In the accident, an under-

graduate student drowned when swimming in the river. The students and teaching staff role in the seminar was to root out problems, such as the loss of information gathering about the condition of the river, and the loss of communication between teaching staffs. They then presented plans how to prevent such sad accidents from occurring. Students and teaching staffs will continue to discuss the safety measurements and examine the contents in safety manual about the field training.



FIELD TRIP | Enomoto immigration and spicy food



♥ *Feifan Xu*

Japanese immigration to Mexico began in the late 19th century, to found coffee growing plantations in the state of Chiapas. Currently, there are an estimated 30,000 people who are Japanese or Japanese descent in Mexico. To investigate human movement

further, four students and three IDS3 staff visited Mexico on May 28th - 30th. They first stopped at 'Kong Zi' and discussed 'who likes spicy food' with an 86-year old Chinese immigrant from Hong Kong who has been running the Chinese restaurant for 18 years with his wife and son. They met Mexican born Japanese who were very hospitable. The next day, the group visited the Tecmilenio University and participated in 120th year anniversary of Enomoto immigration and settlement project. They interviewed local Mexican people, immigrants, and Japanese people who came to the event - it was quite exciting. According to the organizers, exchange events between Japan and Mexico in Mexico City

and urban areas are often but in rural areas to hold such events are rare. In the future, they would like to do such activities outside cities as well. For training, the group members were divided into two groups to do 1) field studies of Ikat (rebozo in Mexico) which is traditional textile technique and 2) field studies of Lerma Salamander (*Ambystoma Lermaense*) individually.



PROJECT | Fukahori Square opened by Major of Nagasaki and Ja-odori



◆ Reona Sumi

The Fukahori Project cooperation project between IDS3 and Nagasaki City, organized by Dr. Takao and designed by Mr. Sumi was completed on April 9th. The mayor of Nagasaki city and neighborhood leaders opened the square to the public and celebrated the proj-

ect completion. Ja-odori, a traditional music program of Nagasaki was played with vigor. The Fukahori square project started with co-design workshops with residents in September 2014. IDS3 personnel Dr. Takao, Mr. Sumi, Ms. Nakano and Ms. Furuhashi facilitated the workshops. Mr. Sumi became

the square designer, and with a fellow student, Mr. Itokazu worked on the basic plan from summer 2015 to spring 2016. In the design plan, Sumi and Itokazu characterized the square with historical materials and used stone walls, commonly constructed around houses in Fukahori during the Edo era, to create a historical resonance. They submitted their plan to Nagasaki City and constructors Kyushu-Orient Corporation and it was accepted. Construction started in September 2016 and completed in March 2017. The new Fukahori Square is surrounded by a stone wall which makes the facade of the square and is also the barrier between pedestrians and the motorway. It realizes the historical scene that residents hold, and from this year community activities such as Natsu-Koshi-Sai, Okunchi, and Jinja-Matsuri and will be unrolled on and around this square.

PROJECT | Dialogue challenges with High School pupils



◆ Qirui Yao

A robust team of Governance Module students went to Kamitsushima High School, Nagasaki Prefecture, and participated in the seminar on town planning on June 12th -13th. The first day lecture was held at the high school because the pupils are not used to hearing directly from local residents. It was difficult for high school students to start fro-

m casual conversations, and gradually move closer to the core of the issue. A fellow student, Shota Tokunaga commented "I hope that high school students will get the communication skill to become active citizens". On the second day, high school pupils supported by the IDS3 team interviewed the local residents.

FIELD TRIP | Bangladesh travel log

◆ Hasan Mebdi

To acquire the field-based experience on the Portable Health Clinic (PHC), in April, I went on a field trip to Bangladesh. I went to the University of Dhaka, to explore a telemedicine project in Dept. of Biomedical Physics and Technology and learned that they have served more than 5000 patients at 22 points around the country using a customized medical device. I went to Grameen GC Eye Hospital to learn how medication error

occurs in different stages in PHC service. I participated in the PHC Urban Service with PHC operation team in Dhaka. I discussed the PHC service at Computer Science and Engineering Department of Bangladesh University of Health Science and explored common points for joint research. Finally, I met the technical team in Global Communication Center and discussed a medication error reduction algorithm for the PHC application.



INTERVIEW with
Assoc. Prof. Takahiro Murakami

Using integration to tackle big problems



♠ Brian K Iwana & Yirong Zhao

Dr. Takahiro Murakami is an Associate Professor at IDS₃. He is a representative of the Integration team and his research interests include entomology, behavioral ecology, and sociobiology.

Q. Can you introduce yourself and your research interests?

A. Besides entomology or the study of insects, I am very interested in social structures, including human beings. For example, ants have a very evolved society. I hope to learn how to evolve human society and the knowledge of ants helps us understand how.

Q. What role does the integration team play in IDS₃?

A. The Integration team role is to integrate the wide varieties of activities in IDS₃. We have five modules and each module has at least two Project Zs. If the activities are only conducted within each module, it is only single disciplinary. We aim to combine and integrate all of the disciplines from science, arts, history, math, and others to transdisciplinary

activities to encourage students to become global leaders.

Q. Would you like to see more interdisciplinary activities?

A. Right now, we have the Future Earth activity. It's a very international activity to do scientific change for a sustainable society. And, currently, several modules collaborate with each other. For example, the Disaster module asked to join the Environment module's activities. So, we have these small steps, but we would like to incubate much more activities, not just for discussion, but for real collaboration. It's very easy to participate in each other's activities, but it's not enough for effective problem-solving. We need to determine the critical topics and effective solutions.

Q. What is the difference between IDS₃ and other programs?

A. One big difference between our institute is that it includes a wide variety of specific fields. Other universities have tried to establish institutes for one purpose or with one local company. However, IDS₃ has many different topics and many different staff members. We collaborate not only with one private company but local government, NGOs, and NPOs. Multi-stakeholder versus multi-stakeholder. Right now, we are working to have a real way to integrate them.

Q. What role does integration have in leadership?

A: Integration between stakeholders is a hot topic all over the world. For example, the Fishery Resource Management Project. In one paper, they investigated factors most important to manage fisheries. They found that the most important factor is leadership, not scientific knowledge. Leadership is very

important for management all over the Earth. However, it's very difficult to educate leadership. In my personal opinion, collective intelligence is more important than educating global leaders. In university, we provide students with knowledge. As their knowledge level gets higher, they can decide the best choice using collective intelligence to solve problems. One powerful leader is not necessarily the solution. We try to give students opportunities for team building. We try to educate using the active learning system. We provide opportunity, time, and money for students to tackle problems. For instance, as the first step, we go to other places as a group, such as Saiki city, and discuss the critical points to solve problems in the area. It's a good start to educate leadership.

Q. What is your vision of decision science?

A. Personally, I would like to establish a new institute. Not only at university level, but also a collaboration with private companies, local government, other countries, NGOs, and NPOs. To combine scientific knowledge and shared real world experience in order to create a new world of sustainable society. It's my dream. When I was an Associate Professor in Hokkaido, I did academic activities, but it wasn't enough. The role of a university is not only academic activities but also to change society.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- July. 8-9, Ito Campus of Kyushu University, **Boot Camp Training Program, Human Module.**
- July. 18-23, Yakushima, Japan, **Decision Science special exercise, Environment module.**
- Aug. 26 - Sep. 2, Thailand, **Entrepreneurship field survey, QREC, SBRC and Health module joint trip.**
- Aug. 3 & Sep. 22-23, Yame, Japan, **Survey on building a sustainable local community, Governance module.**
- Sep. 7-10, South Korea, **Survey on building a sustainable local community, Governance module.**
- Sep. 28-29, Kyushu University, Japan, **All-Round Seven (AR7) University symposium, Integration team.**

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