

IRG Activity Report

Date of Submission: 30 / 10 /2009

1. IRG code and name of IRG

- 1) IRG code: IRG -05 - 2005
- 2) Name of IRG :
Culturally sensitive pedestrian-centric philosophy to advancement of urban form in East Asia

2. List of research members

- 1) Upali Vandebona (Representative)
Senior Lecturer, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
The University of New South Wales, Australia, Sydney
- 2) Hiroshi Tsukaguchi
Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- 3) Hun-Young Jung
Professor, Department of Urban Engineering, Pusan National University, Korea
- 4) Kuang-Yih Yeh
Professor, National Cheng Kung University, Twiwan
- 5) Keiichi Ogawa
Associate Professor, Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- 6) Hao-Ching Hsia, National Cheng Kung University, Twiwan
- 7) Shinji Sugihara, Chuo Consultants Co. Ltd., Japan
- 8) Yuya Tanaka, Graduate student, Ritsumeikan University, Japan
- 9) Yuki Shibata, Graduate student, Ritsumeikan University, Japan

3. Purpose and Mission of IRG

Walking is a vital transport mode and plays an indispensable role in a sustainable society. Development of attractive and functional public space consistent with natural tendencies of the community requires an understanding of relevant attributes of the local culture and the range of applicable planning concepts. This IRG is ambitious in its aim to attempt to supplement the research and planning community with guidelines specific to different East Asian cities to improve socio-cultural acceptance of urban change.

The IRG is formed to collaborate and provide leadership where necessary with researchers in this field in member countries to analyze and disseminate the cultural significance of natural pedestrian behavior with the view of developing meaningful planning guidelines. The inclusion of unique features of the heritage is important to ensure the long term sustainability and efficiency of urban developments. Specific outcomes of the IRG would be (a) the development of the research personal network, (b) holding a dedicated session in EASTS conferences, and (c) development of a planning philosophy that is sympathetic to inclusion of cultural attributes.

4. Achievements of IRG in 2008-2009

- 1) Paper, report and book: (Title, Authors, Year, Name of journal etc.)
(You don't need to attach the files.)

In last 12 months, the team has focused on developing papers for the 2009 EASTS conference.

- 2) Number of submitted papers to the 2009 EASTS conference

Two academic papers and one practical paper have been accepted to the 2009 EASTS conference.

- 3) Seminar, symposium and special session: (Title, Date, Venue & abstract)

IRG Seminar of EASTS in Taiwan on Culturally sensitive pedestrian-centric philosophy to advancement of urban form in East Asia

Date: 3 December 2008

Venue: Auditorium 50102, Department of Urban planning, National Cheng-Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan

Four papers were presented:

Seminar schedule:

Time	Presenters and topics
13:30 ~ 14:00	<u>Opening comments</u> Prof. Kuang-Yih Yeh Prof. Hiroshi Tsukaguchi Dr. Upali Vandebona
14:00 ~ 14:40	<u>Technical Presentations</u> 1. <i>Upali Vandebona</i> -IRG Objectives and Work Plan 2. <i>Kan-Chung Huang</i> -Pedestrian Route Choice Behavior (Taiwan Experience)
14:40 ~ 14:50	Tea Break
14:50 ~ 15:30	<u>Technical Presentations</u> 1. <i>Hiroshi Tsukaguchi</i> -Framework for study of culturally sensitive pedestrian-centric philosophy 2. <i>Hao-Ching Hsia</i> -Survey and Comparison of Pedestrian Needs in 4 Taiwan Cities
15:30~15:50	Closing session

4) Group meeting: (Date, Venue & abstract)

Meeting 1: 02 December 2008 : group meeting was held with Professor Tsukaguchi, Professor Yeh, Dr Vandebona and Mr Hsia in attendance. Discussions related to progress of survey work in Japan and Taiwan. Paper development plan for EASTS 2009 conference was discussed. It was observed that it may be unlikely that South Korean case studies be presented in EASTS 2009.

Meeting 2: 15 September 2009: group meeting was held with Professor Tsukaguchi, Professor Yeh and Mr Hsia in attendance. Development of journal publications was the main point of discussion.

5) Result of application for the research grants: (Name & result)

6) Promotional activities of your IRG: (Home page, Newsletter, Mailing list etc.)

The IRG seminar held in December 2008 at NCKU in Tainan was well attended by graduate students of different universities in Tainan as well as number of interested city officials.

Will you continue your IRG's activity in next term (after November 2009) ? [YES]

→ If "YES", please answer the following questions.

5. Future research plan including time frame with the following items:

- Possibility to hold seminar and symposium in 2010. (Date & Venue)
- Special considerations to young researchers

The short term plan for next six months is to develop journal papers. It is planned for Dr Vandebona to travel to NCKU in December 2009 to finalize a draft paper suitable for journal publication.

It is also anticipated that a seminar with the sponsorship of an ICRA-B grant may be possible in 2010. The details of the seminar is planned to be discussed during a group meeting at the EASTS conference in 2009 November. Tentatively, Pusan National University is proposed as for the venue for the promotional seminar to be held in August 2010 with the local organization overseen by Professor Hun-Young Jung.
