

## Local High School Students Enjoy ICHARM Open Day 2013

4月のつくば科学技術週間に開催された土木研究所の一般公開に合わせ、ICHARMは今年も「ICHARM Open Day」を4月19日に開催しました。

今回は、博士課程の外国人学生とICHARM外国人研究員が丸となり、つくば市の茨城県立竹園高等学校・茨城県立並木中等教育学校から前年度とほぼ変わらず計59名（竹園39名、並木17名、先生方各校よりあわせて5名）の生徒の皆さん、そして国総研から10名の合計71名の皆さんを招待しました。

まずICHARM講堂において、田中グループ長挨拶の後、博士課程学生2名（カリーナ（オランダ）、ロドリゴ（グアテマラ））による母国の文化、水災害、自然災害、歴史に関する幅広い講演を行い生徒の皆さんの興味を引きつけました。

続いてICHARM 2階に移動し、アメリカ・ウクライナ・オランダ・韓国・グアテマラ・ネパール・バングラデッシュからの7カ国の各国研究員制作によるポスターセッションを行いました。

質疑のために設けた時間を利用し、生徒の皆さんはそれぞれ英語を駆使しとても熱心に研究員達に質問されていました。参加者をお願いしたアンケート結果にも充実していたという意見が多く生徒の皆さん、そして研究員の双方にとってとても有意義なイベントになったと思います。

次世代の水文学研究者を輩出すべく「ICHARM Open Day」は来年も行う予定です。

ICHARM held the annual event, "ICHARM Open Day," on April 19, 2013. This is part of the open house event organized by the Public Works Research Institute during the Tsukuba Science & Technology Week.

ICHARM doctoral students and researchers did a great job to hold an enjoyable and informative event. A total of 71 people participated in the Open Day; 39 students from Takezono High School, 17 from Namiki Secondary School and 10 from the National Institute of Land and Infrastructure Management.

The participants were first led to the ICHARM auditorium. There, following the welcome speech by Deputy Director Shigenobu Tanaka, they listened to two doctoral students, Karina Vink of the Netherlands and Fernandez Reynosa Rodrigo of Guatemala, making interesting presentations on their home countries including brief history and water-related and other natural disasters.

After the presentations, they moved to the second floor of the ICHARM building, in which researchers from seven countries (US, Ukraine, the Netherlands, Korea, Guatemala, Nepal and Bangladesh) were waiting to make a small presentation on their countries. The participants were divided into small groups for better interaction with each presenter and visited one researcher after another who prepared a poster to explain about their home countries.

All students were very active asking the researchers many questions in English. Their comments in the post-event questionnaire were very positive about the event, suggesting that they enjoyed themselves very much. It was highly rewarding for both the participants and the ICHARM staff.

We are planning to hold the ICHARM Open Day next year, too, for future hydrologists.

*(Written by Seiko Tanaka)*

