

International Conference on Conservation of Stone and Earthen Architectural Heritage

The ICOMOS-ISCS International Conference was held in Kongju National University, Gongju, Republic of Korea from May 20 to 23, 2014. This conference was organized by ICOMOS-ISCS and The Graduate School of Cultural Heritage, Kongju National University. The number of attendants was 200 in total.

This conference started 10:30 on May 20. Opening address was given by Prof. Yong-hyuk Yoon, Dean of the Graduate School of Cultural Heritage, Kongju National University and Prof. Stefan Simon, President of ICOMOS-ISCS. Welcome address was given by Dr. Lee, J.W., Mayor of Gongju City and congratulatory message was given by Prof. Rii, H. U., President of ICOMOS-Korea.

At the beginning of the conference, two keynote talks were given by Prof. Stefan Simon and Dr. Yong Han Kim, Director of Cultural Heritage Conservation Science Center, Korea. Title of keynote talk of Prof. Stefan Simon was "Proposal to create an ICOMOS Interdisciplinary Team to Study the Stability of Stone and Earthen Structures of Architectural Heritage". Title of keynote talk of Dr. Yong Han Kim was "The Conservation of Cultural Heritages in Korea".

In the afternoon, the 12 oral presentations were given in two lecture halls.

A very nice reception party was given by the Korean organizers. There were remarkably nice Korean food and Korean traditional dances and songs at the party. All participants enjoyed the food and dance and got acquainted each other.

On the second day, 9 oral presentations were given in one lecture hall. During this conference, 15 poster presentations were given in a seminar room. After the oral presentations, special session of introduction of ISCS, ISCEAH and ISCARSAH activities was carried out. Dr. Jean-Marc Vallet of CICRP acted as a moderator in this session. Prof. Stefan Simon introduced ISCS activities. Dr. Ann Bourges of LRMH introduced ISCEAH activities. Prof. Hanazato of Mie University, Dr. Iwasaki of Geo Research Institute and Milos Drdacky of Centrum of ARCCHIP of ITAM AS CR introduced ISCARSAH activities. After their presentations, the necessity of the further interdisciplinary studies for the heritage constructions of stone and earth was discussed.

On May 22, participants visited Royal Tomb in Songsan-ri, Gongju National Museum, Rock-carved Buddha Triad in Seosan, Bowen Temple Site and Haemieupseong Town Wall in Seosan as excursion.

On May 23, participants visited Jeongnimsa temple Site, Bueyeo national Museum, Muryansa Temple and Bakje Cultural Land.

I was very impressed by the hospitality of Korean organizers who made this conference quite successful and fruitful. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Suh Mancheol, the former president of Kongju National University to accept our proposal to organize ICOMOS-ISCS International Conference in Korea which is first time in Asian countries.

Takeshi Ishizaki (Vice President of ICOMOS-ISCS)

Photos are shown below.



Prof. Lee Chan Hee and Dr. Kim Jiyoung chair the opening session



Opening address by Prof. Stefan Simon



Welcome address by Dr. Lee, J. W., Mayor of Gongju City



Participants listen to the lecture in lecture hall



Introduction of ISCARSAH activity by Dr. Milos Drdacky



Korean dance in reception party



Excursion bus



Tomb of King Muryeong in Songsan-ri



Attendants in Gongju National Museum



Rock-carved Buddha Triad in Seosan



Five Story Stone Pagoda in Bowon Temple



Haemieupseong Town Wall in Seosan



Korean lunch in traditional house



ICOMOS-ISCS members in Korean pub.