



NEA-JC NEWSLETTER

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NEPAL ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION - JAPAN CHAPTER

Inside this issue:

- Research activities of members **2**
- How to give a short talk - some tips **3**
- NEA-JC activities 2007/08 - a report **4**

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Er. Dr. Surendra B. Tamrakar
Er. Bijay Giri
Er. Dr. Rabin Tuladhar

Layout:

Er. Bijay Giri

Message from NEA Head Office



Er. Kishore Shakya
President, NEA

It is a matter of great pleasure for the XVII Executive Council of Nepal Engineers' Association to send the message to NEA-JC Newsletter.

In the coming years, we expect the same spirit, cooperation and suggestions from all our NEA community to make our Association a model one from contributing our knowledge and skills to build New Nepal.

We look forward to your support for the development of Nepal Engineers' Association.

Finally, we would like to extend our sincere greetings and thanks to Er. Dr. Tara Nidhi Lohani, President NEA-JC, II Executive Committee NEA-JC and all members of NEA-JC for your contribution.



Er. Shambhu K.C.
G. Secretary, NEA

Message from NEA-JC President

Recalling a year of association in NEA-JC



Er. Dr. Tara N. Lohani
President, NEA-JC

A pleasant spring days, cherry blossom at the peak and very shortly, the time to welcome a Nepali New Year, this is a wonderful time for the publication of this second issue of Newsletter. Season's Greetings and Best Wishes to all NEA-JC fellows and well-

wishers.

I am not sure if it was the influence of our great poet, Mahakabi Laxmi Prasad Devkota's words, "Uddeshya ke linu udi chhunu chandra eka", or else, but the unanimous target of this second executive committee, formed about 10 months ago, was to develop all possible sector of NEA-

JC. However, time ultimately dictated; it never waited to check if our limited resources were accumulated or if we could spare free time from our regular jobs! Parts of the goals were achieved and a part left untouched! With the continuous effort of my teams of executives, including sub-committee coordinators, we could lay the foundation stones of many new activities in NEA-JC. Although remarkable for this young Intl. Chapter born five years ago, much more has to be done to meet its noble objectives, such as, developing professionalism and promoting friendly relations among Nepalese engineers in Japan as well as becoming an important bridge between the Nepalese engineering community in Japan and at Home.

Learning by doing is a natural process. I believe that NEA-JC will be able to give continuity to the concurrent jobs, such as

this Newsletter, Research/Seminars and others, in more polished way in the future. The important condition, I suppose, would be to remain committed for the professional development, remain apolitical and develop understanding among the members, as already thought by the creators of its constitution.

Now, along with the publication of this Newsletter, the count down for the remaining days of this executive committee is also going to start. We learned a lot by serving this intelligent community of NEA in Japan and being a part of NEA family at Home. The responsibilities, given to us, were challenging but at the same time, we got an opportunity to share time with our engineer friends. I take this platform to convey my heartfelt thanks on behalf of our executive team to all of you who extended warm support to us.

Sincere Request

We request all the members to encourage the publication by providing useful articles and other relevant information.

We also request to inform us of any achievement or progress gained by our members so as to share with others via this Newsletter.

Message from Publication Coordinator



Er. Dr. Surendra B. Tamrakar
Publication Coordinator

On behalf of Publication Committee (PC), please accept our advance best wishes for coming Nepali New Year - 2065. At the same time, I am sure that this Second edition of NEA-JC Newsletter will find all of you in good health and new spirit.

To improve the quality of each and every work, criticism and appreciation play important role. Balance between these two is unavoidable. On behalf of PC, I would like to thank all the members for their support in both ways regarding our Newsletter publication. At the same time, I would like to thank my committee members Er. Bijay Giri and Er. (Dr.) Rabin Tuladhar for their time and effort in preparing this Newsletter.

We request all of you to more actively cooperate with future PC so that more informative Newsletter will be there. Thank you.

Research Data-Base

Research Activities of NEA-JC Members

Er. Aman Shakya

PhD Scholar, Informatics
National Institute of Informatics



Research Interest:

Social web, Web 2.0, Semantic web and Information sharing

amanshakya@yahoo.com

Er. Badri Bhakta Shrestha

PhD Scholar
Kyoto University



Research Interest:

Numerical modeling and study of natural disasters, debris flow and sediment disasters, check dams, floods, landslide hazards mapping and their countermeasures

badish10@yahoo.com

Er. Bidur Ghimire

PhD Scholar
Kyoto University



Research Interest:

Numerical modeling of multiphase flow, flow forecasting and simulation and water disaster management

ghimireb@hotmail.com

Er. Bijay Giri

PhD Scholar, Biomechanics
Hokkaido University



Research Interest:

Mechanical properties of bone, stress-strain analysis of hard bone tissue from X-ray diffraction phenomena of apatite crystals

bijayji@yahoo.com

Er. Binaya Kumar Mishra

PhD Scholar
Kyoto University



Research Interest:

Development of regional flood frequency relationships for Nepalese river basins

mishra_binaya@hotmail.com

Er. Deependra Kumar Jha

PhD Scholar
Hiroshima University



Research Interest:

Performance evaluation of electricity supply industries, forecasting techniques, Stochastic DP based reservoir operation policy for hydro-electric plants, computational methods in power system planning, etc

dkman1np@gmail.com

Er. Dr. Kaushal Raj Sharma

PhD
Ritsumeikan University



Research Interest:

Sediment flow, sediment and water Induced hazard

sharma_kaushal@hotmail.com

Er. Krishna Prasad Dulal

PhD Scholar, Hydraulics
Hokkaido University



Research Interest:

River meandering, hydraulic construction etc

kpdulal@gmail.com

Er. Dr. Netra P. Bhandary

PhD, Geotechnical Engineering
Ehime University



Research Interest:

Geotechnical aspects of landslides and slope failures

netrapb@hotmail.com

Er. Ripendra Awal

PhD Scholar
Kyoto University



Research Interest:

Water resources, natural hazards (landslide, debris flow, flood), GIS, RS, application of neural networks, genetic algorithms and fuzzy logic, etc

ripendra@gmail.com

Er. Dr. Surendra B. Tamrakar

PhD, Geotechnical Engineering
Hokkaido University



Research Interest:

Slope stability analysis, excavation/trench, centrifuge, tensile strength, suction, FE analysis of embankment and excavation, dispersion coefficient for the flow of contaminants through soil layers

sbtamrakar@hotmail.com

Er. Dr. Tara N. Lohani

PhD, Geotechnical Engineering
Geo-Research Institute



Research Interest:

Study of laboratory stress-strain responses of granular soils with/without cement mixing, DEM modeling.

tnlohani@gmail.com

Hearty Congratulations !!!

We feel honored to congratulate following NEA-JC members for their successful graduation and new appointments.

- **Er. Dr. Rabin Tuladhar**
Newly appointed as a faculty in University of Wellington, New Zealand (March, 2008)
- **Er. Satish Bastola**
Successfully completed PhD in Hydraulics from Yamanashi University (March, 2008)
- **Er. Madhusudan Kayastha**
Successfully completed MSc from Chubu University (March, 2008) and extended for PhD
- **Er. Netra Gyawali**
Successfully completed MSc from Kyoto University (March, 2008) and extended for PhD
- **Er. Suresh Sharma**
Successfully completed MSc from Toyohashi University of Technology (November, 2007)
- **Er. Bhuvan Adhikari**
Successfully completed MSc from Toyohashi University of Technology (November, 2007)

The 'Research Data-Base' section of NEA-JC Newsletter provides the latest update of research activities of NEA-JC members in series. More detail about the respective research will be published in 'Research Digest' as abstracts.

We humbly request all the NEA-JC members to provide short introduction of their career and research activities to be placed in this section.

How to Give a Short Talk

Article

The short talk (<= 20 minutes) is a fixture at most scientific conferences. This note focuses on how to give a good short talk with slides.

If you can give good short talk then you can probably give a good 50-minute presentation because the additional time permits certain flexibility. For example, in a 50-minute talk the speaker can risk losing the majority of listeners for 10 minutes while a technical aspect is embellished for the "experts". In contrast, the short talk requires a more sustained level of clarity if it is to be successful.

Perspectives

It is more profitable to dwell on the positive aspects of the short talk framework than to stew over why you were not given a longer time to speak. Here are some perspectives:

A short talk is a long abstract. If a one-hour talk corresponds to a paper, then a short talk corresponds to a long abstract. It should communicate without distracting detail.

A short talk is a captivating lead paragraph. For a reporter, the quality of that lead paragraph will determine who reads on. A successful short talk will encourage the listener to ask questions, or to buttonhole you outside the lecture hall, or to pursue your literature pointers.

A short talk is a commercial. It is a great occasion to advertise your research accomplishments and/or expository skills. But unlike a prime time spot on network TV, it should give an accurate picture of the product!

The right perspective depends on the audience. Are you speaking to undergraduates, a small group of research friends, visitors from a granting agency, or drop-ins at a large multi-session conference?

Content and Structure

Amount of Material. Resist the temptation of cramming too much into your talk. This is perhaps the greatest pitfall of the short talker and the underlying psychology is clear:

"What I have to say is too important to be edited down to my allotted time."

"If I do not overstock my talk, then the audience will think that I do not have much to say."

The crammed short talk is a negative statement. It indicates that the speaker is incapable of editing for importance. Of course, crammed talks are often the consequence of personal enthusiasm for the material. But recognize that it is possible to edit what you say without chilling your enthusiasm.

Audience Make-Up. If you have a heterogeneous audience, then you may have to make hard decisions with respect to the assumed level of expertise. No one will be

happy if you appease the unprepared with ten minutes of background notation and then placate the expert with ten minutes of rigorous minutia. The best course of action is to peg your talk at a level of expertise that suits your goals. State those goals early on and apologize (once) to the potentially offended parties.

Organization. Like any presentation, a short talk should have a beginning, a middle, and an end. Start with an outline of the problem and why it is important. Then delineate the central contribution with suitable pointers to related work. Do not end with references but with a conclusion. Repeated slides are a good way to emphasize important points. For example, at the end of your talk you may want to display an early slide that itemizes the main points of your talk.

References and Acknowledgements. Be gracious, especially if people in the audience are involved. Vague collaborators can be listed on your opening slide. Specific collaborations and references (by name) should appear "in-line". Stepping through a brief bibliography is one way of outlining related work. There is not much point in giving complete bibliographic information on a slide, but be prepared to provide reference details should there be a question.

Algorithms and Proofs. The presentation of algorithms and proofs requires great care. If a low dimension example captures the essence of an idea, then use it. If you feel that a step-by-step approach is instructive, then be informal enough so that the whole thing fits on a single slide. If the enforced brevity is too disruptive, expand selected details on subsequent slides.

Benchmarks and Data. With respect to benchmarks and other statistical data, remember that facts do not speak for themselves. A few well chosen results can enliven a talk and clarify difficult concepts. Too many statistical results again point to a speaker who is incapable of editing.

Anticipating Questions. After you have finished writing your talk, think of the three most likely questions that might be asked. If any of these are particularly "nasty", then you should revise your talk with an eye towards heading off potential embarrassment. The impression that people have of your work will be more positive if its shortcomings are delineated by you and not by a member of the audience.

The Delivery

How well your short talk is received is as much a function of delivery as content. Here are a few pointers.

- You do not have to say everything that is on a slide. For example, the audience can read an equation faster than you can speak it.
- Concentrate on the audience and not the projection screen. If you must reference an item on your slide, use a laser pen.

- Do not fixate on a V.I.P. who happens to be in attendance. It will bother the rest of the audience and you will appear too eager for approval.
- Avoid the peek-a-boo style of gradually uncovering a slide to force the audience to read along with you. The slide is a different medium than the blackboard and it is better to gracefully accept its disadvantages.
- Give the audience 4-5 seconds to scan a slide before you begin talking about it.
- If you have a dramatic one-liner, then have a slide with just that one-liner.
- Do not hardwire jokes into your talk by placing them on a slide. It is better to let the humor level be established dynamically as your talk unfolds.
- Never apologize by saying "there is not much I can do in such a short talk." If you feel that way, then you have no business giving a short talk.
- Write clear slides. Avoid cutesy icons. It is difficult to imagine a nice slide that has more than 7-8 lines of material. If there is a lot you want to say with respect to certain slides, talk slowly. The slides should not be a verbatim transcript.
- It is fine to piece together slides from different talks. But make sure the styles mesh so as not to telegraph the fact that you are cobbling together material from prior presentations.
- Never use a slide that is a photocopy of a journal article or report. The printing will be too small and it will be a tell-tale sign that you have not sufficiently edited your talk.
- Practice your talk to anticipate time of delivery. It is helpful to identify "dispensable slides" which can be jettisoned without damage should you run out time. Keep a subtle eye on the clock or have a friend in the audience give you an agreed upon signal when it is time to wrap things up.

Of course, you should end with the usual "are there any questions?" Unfortunately, if no one raises their hand then (right or wrong) negative conclusions are reached. The best guard against this is to set an appropriate pace. If you arrive breathless at the end of the talk, then the mood is not conducive to questions. Another trick is to relate your talk to the work of somebody in the audience. That person will often feel obliged to comment.

Conclusion

In the end it takes practice. Expect to blow away a few audiences before you deliver your first twenty-minute masterpiece!

(excerpts from the article by Charles Van Loan, Cornell University)

NEA-JC Activities 2007/08

The major activities carried out by the 2nd Executive Committee of NEA-JC during its tenure are as follows:

1. Execution of tasks with the sub-committees

In addition to the continuation of task committees initiated by the past Executive Committee, additional committees were formed as follows to smoothly execute the activities and facilitate the members, each headed by a Coordinator:

(i) Membership Management Committee (MMC) - Coordinator: Er. Sanat Wagle; (ii) Web Page Management Committee (WPMC) - Coordinator: Er. Ved Kafle; (iii) Publication Committee (PC) - Coordinator: Er. Surendra B. Tamrakar; (iv) Event Management Committee (EMC) - Coordinator: Er. Basanta K. Gautam

The sub-committees performed their tasks independently according to the approved guidelines in ToRs.

2. Membership drive

We gave continuation to the efforts of membership drive by providing new membership, updating the status of members and including new non-member Engineer friends in the common mailing lists of NEA-JC.

1 member was provided with new membership, status of 13 general members was renewed and 5 members updated their status to life membership.

3. Website registration and development

A private domain (www.neajc.org) was registered with two years subscription and website of NEA-JC was established followed by the continuous upload of information. NEA-HO has also been requested to initiate the process of registering another domain name www.neajc.org.np from Nepal.

4. NEA-JC Newsletter and Abstract-Book

With the decision of disseminating information through publication, we aimed to publish two kinds of publication: (i) NEA-JC Newsletter for general activities (2 issues), and (ii) Abstract Book for research activities (single issue).

The first issue of NEA-JC Newsletter was unveiled on November, 2007. The Publication Committee has planned to come up with the second issue of Newsletter and the collection of research abstracts of its members by April, 2008.

5. One-day NEA-JC Seminar

With the target of physical interaction and sharing, a one-day seminar was organized in Osaka as annual main event of NEA-JC. Ten researchers of different fields shared their rich and insightful papers centered on different problems in Nepal and ways of their mitigation. Most of the participants encouraged for such events as regular activities of NEA-JC.

6. Research data-base collection

To make available online of the collection of data-base of our members about their career and research activities, the PC and WPMC were assigned to give a proper shape to this task. The collection of information from the members is under progress and those received so far are available online via NEA-JC website for public access.

7. NEA Elections 2007

With the request of Central Election Committee (NEA), NEA-JC Executive Committee nominated a three-member election representative to conduct the elections of NEA 27th Executive Committee and Nepal Engineering Council in Japan (namely Er. Surendra B. Tamrakar (Election Officer), Er. Bijay Giri and Er. Krishna P. Dulal).

The postal voting system was adopted with physical polling centre at Hokkaido University. The ERs were commended for their untiring efforts on the conduction of transparent and fair election.

8. Others

Regular communication with the head office was maintained on the concerns of members and other related issues. The members were continuously updated with the information made available from the head office.

The Executive Committee is extremely pleased and feel honored having this opportunity to serve the Nepalese Engineering community abroad through the Japan Chapter of Nepal Engineers' Association. The Executive Committee also requests the members for their constructive suggestions and guidelines regularly so as to shape the tasks of NEA-JC in future days to meet its objectives for the welfare of Nepalese Engineers in Japan.

Election Committee formed !!!

A three-member election team has been appointed to conduct the election of upcoming 3rd Executive Committee of NEA-JC.

Chairman:

Er. Dr. Sudip Adhikari, Chubu University

Members:

Er. Binaya K. Mishra, Kyoto University

Er. Pallav Koirala, Yamaguchi University



NEPAL ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION - JAPAN CHAPTER

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We are on the web!

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