

4th Annual Conference of Japan Association for Human Security Studies (2014/9/6-7)

Venue: Tohoku University, Sendai Japan

Topics: Human Resource Development in Disaster Medicine

On Sep. 6-7 (Sat.-Sun), Prof. Shinichi Egawa was invited to lecture in the 4th Annual Conference of Japan Association for Human Security Studies. The concept of Human Security was developed in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1994. It was a conception change of UNDP from member state's security to the human security. Three important concepts are free from want, free from fear and right to live with dignity. Japan Association was established in 2011 to promote Human Security Studies and the forth conference was hosted by Prof. Dinil Pushpalal, Graduate School International Cultural Studies, Tohoku University. Prof. Pushpalal is the current director of Human Security Course in Tohoku University, which is consisted of Graduate Schools of Agriculture, Medicine, International Cultural Studies and Environmental Science.

Opening Session I was a symposium by Mayor Jin Sato of Minami-Sanriku Town, Mayor Yu Baba of Namie Town and Dr. Volodymyr Tykhyy, Ukraine. Simultaneous translation was available for participants. Mayor Sato described the current situation of reconstruction and the importance of women and children as a light holder in the disaster response. Mayor Baba described the tragic accident of Fukushima nuclear power plant and the response and translocation of the town itself. The residents of Namie Town are forced to leave their own town and dispersed throughout the nation. The reconstruction process is a severe challenge to the human security.

The precise information and decision making by national government is critically important. Dr. Tykhyy presented the Chernobyl accident and the unavailability of information about the radiation dose and the epidemiology of the radiation-related disease.

In the Opening Session II, Prof. Craig Murphy, University of Massachusetts, Boston presented the history of UNDP and concept of human security including his own experience. From the panelist, the current situation of human security in Japan and the world was presented including hate speech problem.

Prof. Egawa lectured in the second day morning about the development of human resource in disaster medicine in Tohoku University Human Security Course. He described the learning process and the curriculum planning in disaster medicine. Several graduate students presented their own research. Especially, the presentation about the difference of reconstruction phase between 2004 Indonesian Tsunami and Great East Japan Earthquake was impressive. From viewpoint of human security, free from want in Indonesia as a developing country and free from fear in Japan as a developed country may have caused the difference in the speed of reconstruction.



Goal of the curriculum of disaster medicine and graduate students in Human Security Course in Tohoku University



Audience in the conference

Shinichi Egawa (Disaster Medicine)