

2nd Annual Scientific Conference, Mae Fah Luang University School of Medicine (2015/9/2-3)

Topics: Collaboration in Medical Education & Healthcare in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
Venue: Mae Fah Luang University School of Medicine, Chang Rai, Thailand

On Sep. 2-3, Prof. Shinichi Egawa was invited to the 2nd Annual Scientific Conference, Mae Fah Luang University (MFLU) School of Medicine and gave a lecture “Tsunami 2011, Experiences in Disaster Management”. MFLU was donated by Princess Mother Mae Far Luang as a central university in the most northern part of Thailand where people suffered from poverty. The symposium is celebrating the Day of Mahidol (Sep. 24). Prince Mahidol “Father of Thai Modern Medicine”, who dedicated his life to improve the people’s health in Thailand. ASEAN countries is developing a new collaboration in medical practice and education to deal with the emerging problems like infectious disease across the borders. Greater Mekong Sub-region is experiencing disasters including earthquake, flood and drought. High level of medical education is vital for high level of collaboration.

The first day was the symposium on 21st century medical education. Speakers from Thai, Australia, Nepal, Myanmar and China presented their situation and discussed in a panel. Regardless of national situations, the importance of adult education, evolution from disciplinary-oriented curriculum to the needs oriented curriculum and the importance of prioritization of learning, not educating were emphasized. These are the important concept in medical education in Japan. Since Prof. Egawa is organizing the seminars for mentors of medical residents, the discussion was very fruitful.

The second day was the symposium on disaster medicine. Speakers from Japan, Nepal, Myanmar and Laos presented the recent mega-disasters in each country and the medical systems in preparation for disaster. Prof. Egawa talked about the medical and public health response in Great East Japan Earthquake and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and emphasized the importance of collaborations between countries, clusters and health care providers. The experiences from Nepal Earthquake, Myanmar Cyclone Nargis and floods in Laos. There are questions about the leadership in disaster response and the hospital preparedness and drills before disaster.

The Greater Mekong Sub-region was once called as the Golden Triangle that produce illegal opium. The government effort, promotion of education and civilization greatly reduced the opium production and Thai is not regarded as the opium producing country anymore. These areas are now rapidly growing and developing areas in economy and health.



Health care providers and students in MFLU School of Medicine



Dean of Mahidol University School of Medicine, talking about the 21st century medical education
Shinichi Egawa (Disaster Medical Science)