

1. Workshop: I was really impressed with the quality of technical presentations and posters at the meeting. I particularly enjoyed learning about the *geological record of slow-slip earthquakes*. Whitney Behr's keynote talk was excellent and helped me solidify and mesh together many of the related concepts. The workshop venue and Nara itself was idyllic and beautiful. It was a real pleasure to be there and such a great place to interact with many new colleagues and some old friends. The meeting was well-organized. The organizers were on top of all the details and available when even small items needed attention. This was a 100% professional operation. Thanks to Nami Tonegawa and her crew!
2. Field Trips: Like the workshop itself, the field trips were 100% professionally organized and run. Kudos to Asuka Yamaguchi for his hard work, organization, and great communication. The rain on Day 1 came as a deluge and was relentless. (See photo 1 below.) Nonetheless, participants were treated to some great geology. It was a pleasure to be able to see and learn about the MTL. We all made it to our hotels, got dry and warm, and had an excellent group dinner that revived our dampened spirits. On Day 2 we were treated to sunny skies and again some excellent geology. We examined and discussed beautiful coastal outcrops of the Sambagawa rocks. It was a pleasure to see these two classic Japanese geological localities with such an august group of geoscientists. This was a great learning experience that I truly treasure.



Day 1 weather conditions were not great, but the geology and leadership were!



Day 2. Interpretation of mesoscopic structures (possibly related to slow-slip?) as seen in well-exposed coastal outcrops of exhumed Sambagawa metamorphic (subduction zone) rocks under a sunny sky!