

The International Joint Workshop on Slow-to-Fast Earthquakes took place Sept. 13-15 in Ito Hall on the University of Tokyo campus. Ito Hall was a perfect venue, an impressively designed high-ceilinged building fit for an award ceremony. Among the roughly 150 participants was a good mix of scientists, mostly several students and early career researchers, along with some very prominent and well-respected leading scientists. The meeting itself was quite well structured, with longer keynote talks for invited speakers and shorter more “standard” length talks. There was ample time reserved for poster viewing, and the poster hall was well populated and the science was high quality. Thematically, there was a good mix of observational geophysics, numerical simulations and laboratory studies, but the tremendous amount of seismologic and geodetic observations was impressive and clearly the current driving force of slow-to-fast earthquake science. Highlights for me personally were the core-and-corona pattern of seismicity presented by Ross Stein, the in-depth analyses of high-profile recently published studies by Anne Socquet, extremely high resolution laboratory stick-slip observations by Alex Schubnel, and to bring us back to geology a report on paleoseismology studies in the Japan Trench by Michi Strasser. An organized set of breakout sessions to discuss other topics, such as machine learning, social aspects of slow-to-fast earthquakes, the state of earthquake prediction, and current knowledge gaps in slow-to-fast earthquake science was a welcome part of the program, and I believe that this aspect of the workshop should be built on for workshops in the future. The meeting was a fantastic blend of cutting edge science from leaders in the field and new developments driven by young researchers, and all conversations were enjoyable.



On Sept. 16, the workshop field trip was fantastically conducted by Junki Komori, Ryo Ando and Asuka Yamaguchi. The excursion led us down the Boso Peninsula, where uplifted terraces from previous large magnitude earthquakes can clearly be seen. The sedimentary structures of some of the exposures lead to enthusiastic impromptu discussions led by Michi Strasser. Despite some very hot and sweaty weather conditions, the field trip was a well worthwhile expedition to see clear evidence of earthquake activity in the region.



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