

Impression of the 10th International Kuroshio Science Symposium

Hsu-Sen Chen

Department of Oceanography
National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan

The 10th Kuroshio Science Symposium was successfully held by Bicol University Tabaco Campus and Kochi University at Tabaco city, Philippines. My heart is full of excited feelings when I reach Philippines. It's first time for me to join and present my recently work in this great event. The collaborations between Bicol University Tabaco Campus, Kochi University, and National Sun Yet-sen University for 10 years. It's good to see that this symposium encourages graduate students to involve in the relative topics, such as marine protected area, coastal resources conservation, fishery resources management, biodiversity and biological oceanography. Also provides a platform for everyone to share the on-going research progress and to exchange the trend of future development that will provide benefits in marine research.

The most thing that I feel touched, and unforgettable is the friendly people who I have met during this journey. The students from Bicol University and Bicol University Tabaco campus were passionate, friendly and do lots of work to make this symposium being a great and successful one. It was such an unforgettable trip that I had ever experienced, and hope to see you all in the near future.

Takahiro Taguchi

Kochi University, Japan

The twice trials of the landing gave me awakening and thrill over the airport at Legazpi, Philippine. Then, I glimpsed the Mayon volcano with a conical shape from the small window of the airplane and reminisced about my first visit here Legaspi at more than twenty years ago, for research of the parasite *Schistosoma*. At the Bicol University (main campus), we met the president, Prof. Mascarinus and had a short talk about each country and the Kuroshio symposium which would be held for the following two days. After lunch at the local restaurant, we went to see BTC (Bicol university at Tabaco Campus) and then to the Patio de San Jose Resort and Convention Center where we would stay and hold the symposium. Because of rainy season at Legazpi, it was always cloudy and/or rainy during our stay but with suitable temperature. After the two days successful symposium, we enjoyed the closing ceremony and had a sense of fulfillment and a feeling of hospitality. We really thank the people who managed to carry out the successful symposium. After the symposium, we did the fieldwork in Sagurong MPA, San

Miguel Island (Philippines). All things I had in Philippine in this one week trip were memorable in my carrier.

Osamu Miura

Kochi University, Japan

Many scientists from the Kuroshio region, including the Philippines, Taiwan, and Japan, met together in the 10th Kuroshio Symposium held at Tabaco city in Bicol, the Philippines. In the symposium, people in the Kuroshio region discussed about environmental and economic issues shared beyond the boarder of the countries in the region. Kuroshio Current, one of the largest currents on the earth, facilitates the movements of biotic and abiotic components of marine system along the coasts of Southeast and East Asia. Therefore, to understand the marine environments and associated economic implications in this region, it is crucial to consider the connection among the countries by Kuroshio Current. It was a good opportunity for me to know the scientists in the Philippines and Taiwan, and I believe that the Kuroshio symposium provided a great opportunity for the participants to start future international collaborations in Kuroshio region, which open up a promising avenue to resolve environmental and economic issues in this region.

Tran Trung Thanh

Kochi University, Japan

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are presently one of the most active topic in marine science. During the 10th International Symposium on Kuroshio Science in Bicol University of Philippines, essential management along Kuroshio region was addressed such as featuring diverse aspects of MPAs. The discussion on strategic measures and planning were open to all including young researchers that enhances the capabilities to contribute in building a suitable society beyond borders. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the Kochi University for the supports and all Kuroshio Science members for a successful Symposium. During the period of the Symposium, more than just presenting the research, I was very lucky to get more knowledge and experience in MPA theme, which is important to me in future. Moreover, I have a great time with friendly Filipinos and their interesting culture and food. Thank you very much.

Cui Jianjun

Kochi University, Japan

Thanks Bicol University, Philippines for holding the 10th international Kuroshio Science Symposium from 24 to 26 of November in 2016, this is my first time to attend the international Kuroshio Symposium and this symposium brings many scholars whose study on Kuroshio Current from Taiwan, Japan and Philippines together. It also gave me a chance to visit Philippines. New opinions from different participants, kindly and friendly students, teachers of Bicol University, simple local people in Bicol City, delicious local food etc. Those made this trip rich and left me a deep impression. In this symposium, many scholars present their reports on integrated management of coastal resources by Marine Protected Areas, such as the research of seaweed, seagrass, fishes etc. in the marine protected areas. The species richness and abundance in the marine protected areas are significantly higher than marine open areas. and increased sea plants help to improve the quality of sea water, and then attracts more and more sea animals to live and breed in marine protected areas. So, setting marine protected areas is important and a successful measure and this measure contributes to sustainable development and utilization of marine resources. Those broaden my eyes and give me new ideas for making sustainable development and utilization of marine resources in China Sea.

Alvin P. Monotilla

Kochi University, Japan

The archipelagic and tropical nature of the Philippines has been a suitable area for diverse marine and terrestrial

plants and animals. Yet, it has been considered a hot spot area for resource degradation not because of their inability to adapt to changing environments but on the inability of man for preservation. The immense resource provided by the Kuroshio Current through the Kuroshio Science Symposium had offered various perspectives on understanding its ecological and socio-economic contributions through scientific interactions. The Symposium's success once again has been measured on the active participation of the students, researchers including the concerned government agencies and collaborating countries and universities from Philippines, Japan and Taiwan on the immediate call for action on the preservation of ones reserve, the MPAs.

Remarkably, several tools have been set to answer and provide solutions on the continuing problem on the preservation and management on the marine resources with hopes to lead to a sustainable harvest. The results presented by other countries serve as a benchmark for Philippines on MPA management and somehow could improve gaps. The support provided by Bicol and Kochi University and BFAR on coastal management have increased awareness towards the fishermen, the community and the adjacent municipalities of San Miguel Island.

Generally, it is of our best interest, as Filipino and as researcher, to provide and improve a better living for the country. Through the involvement and pioneering efforts made by Kochi and Bicol University, integrating different countries like Taiwan, Japan and Philippines is not an easy task and so with integrating different sectors in the coastal community in establishing a marine protected area, which were realized through participation.