



7 June 2012

Dear APRU Presidents and Senior Staff:

**8th APRU Research Symposium on Multi-hazards around the Pacific Rim
Tohoku University, 20 – 22 September 2012**

"Towards Disaster-Resilient Societies: The Role of Universities in Reducing Risks of Catastrophic Natural Disasters"

The APRU symposium series on *Multi-hazards around the Pacific Rim* will hold its eighth symposium from 20 to 22 September 2012 at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan.

Organized by Tohoku University's newly-established [International Research Institute of Disaster Science \(IRIDeS\)](#), this year's symposium aims to foster an in-depth understanding of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and to facilitate research exchange on the latest advancements in disaster science.

Program

The proceedings and discussions at the symposium will cover key areas and challenges in disaster mitigation, management and recovery under the general theme, *"Towards Disaster-Resilient Societies: The Role of Universities in Reducing Risks of Catastrophic Natural Disasters"*. Symposium topics will include:

- hazard mechanisms, monitoring and sensing;
- warning procedures, damage estimation;
- disaster response and management;
- post disaster recovery and reconstruction;
- social vulnerability, disaster medicine and public health preparedness;
- economics of disasters, disaster law and policy;
- urban planning, disaster historiography; and
- other related topics on natural disaster mitigation.

The preliminary program can be accessed at <http://www.misocream.org/apru2012/info/program>.

Abstract Submissions

We invite interested faculty, research fellows and doctoral students from your university to submit their abstracts online at <http://www.misocream.org/apru2012/info/abstract-submission> no later than **20 July 2012**. We hope to attract one or two participants from each member university on a self-funded basis.

Additional information

More information on the APRU Multi-hazards Symposium 2012 is available at <http://www.apru.org/activities/symposiums.htm>.

If you have any queries regarding the symposium, please contact the Multi-hazards Symposium 2012 Organizing Committee (Tohoku University) at apru2012@irides.tohoku.ac.jp.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Tremewan
Secretary General

The network of Asia-Pacific Research Universities