

Action of the Education on Mitigation of Earthquake Disasters with Non-Academic Members in Shizuoka University

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Shizuoka University had taken some countermeasures against earthquake disasters, such as increasing earthquake-resisting capacity of the buildings and training of students for mitigation of earthquake disasters, but academic education had not been enough for the students to mitigate the disasters. It had been discussed that the volunteer activity of the students is very important to mitigate earthquake disasters, but there had been little education to promote such activities in Shizuoka University.

Working group to reconsider the system of the mitigation of earthquake disasters was organized in 2001, and the method how to promote the voluntary activity of the students were discussed in the group. The report showed that it was important to build up a closer connection with the local inhabitants and volunteer group against natural disasters.

The Mitigation of Earthquake Disasters and Volunteer Network of Shizuoka University was organized by consisting of professors, students, local inhabitants and volunteer group members against natural disasters. The Network planned a training program for disaster mitigation and performed its training including staying a university gymnasium in 2002.

The Network performed another training program for freshmen of the university just after the entrance ceremony, and some students who joined the training made the Student Network for Disaster Mitigation of Shizuoka University. This Network of Students was so active that it planned many training programs or events and performed them. The University made the Disaster Prevention and Volunteer Center in response to such activities in 2004.

New general education subject which named Mitigation of Earthquake Disaster was open in 2004, and it consists of not only natural sciences such as seismology, earthquake engineering and medical sciences, but also humane and social sciences such as administration, history, and economics. Coordinators for volunteer activities are also added in the teaching members. The response to this subject of the students is good especially to the lectures of non-academic members.

When the Chuetsu Earthquake occurred in October 2004, Shizuoka University raise volunteer students to help the sufferers, and about 70 students were applied to the invitation within a week.