

Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2011

(May 22-27 2011 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

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MTT035-01

Room:203

Time:May 24 08:30-08:45

Fieldnet:Let's link the knowledge among the field researchers

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'Fieldnet' is the network for the academic fieldworkers who often go to various places worldwide for their research. We can share a lot of useful information about field work and technicalities involved, for example about the research permit, how to collect the old data during colonial era, the counterpart and co-researchers in the particular place, and resource persons etc. We can discuss about common topics from a view point of multi-disciplined scholars, so that we may get new ideas and organize new academic research group and new research field to solve academic and social problems. We aim to link together online and offline to activate field science.

Keywords: Fieldwork, Multi-disciplined studies, Field Science

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MTT035-02

Room:203

Time:May 24 08:45-09:00

Field works in the border regions of Russia

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I wrote the useful information for field workers about the border regions of Russia (Russia Altai Mountains and Kamchatka) in Fieldnet website. The information was based on my permafrost researches which were carried out between 2003 and 2008. I show the further information of these regions in this presentation.

Keywords: Fieldnet, Field work, Russia Altai Mountains, Kamchatka, Permafrost

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MTT035-03

Room:203

Time:May 24 09:00-09:15

Field science with a polar explorer

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"Avangnaq" project was established in 2006 in order to investigate natural and living environment in Arctic region with researchers based on experiences of activities in Arctic region of a polar explorer, Tetsuhide Yamasaki. We carried out an observation of "frost flowers" at Resolute, Arctic Canada from January to February in 2011. Several cooperative field investigations with polar explorers and researchers have been carried out at home and abroad. In our presentation, we would like to present our expedition and discuss possibilities of the cooperative activities.

Keywords: Greenland, glaciology, glacier, dog sledge

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MTT035-04

Room:203

Time:May 24 09:15-09:30

Interdisciplinary research project and fieldwork

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It can be said that it is a cross-cultural experience to know the fieldwork of the different research field. One of the reasons for this originates in the differences between the attitudes toward the objects. Social sciences the most frequently use qualitative approaches and natural sciences typically use quantitative approaches. Certainly, even if you discuss the way of interdisciplinary research at the theoretical level, it would be difficult to bury the differences. However, in my field experience, academic boundary between research fields seems to become vague by sharing same phenomenon at the same time in the field. As a part of fieldwork, it is also important to talk across the differences and discuss common issues which can be seen in the field. Thus, such collaborative fieldwork not only requires a balance of qualitative and quantitative methods, but also leads toward the interdisciplinary research.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary research, fieldwork, cultural anthropology

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MTT035-05

Room:203

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Fieldwork in Desert: Possibility of Inter-Disciplinary Research on Yellow Sand-Stone

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This session is aimed to present the research outcome of Anthropological fieldwork in Thar Desert, the barren area around North-Western India, and to grope the possibility of inter-disciplinary research on the relationship between human 'rocks'. In this area, all the scattered fortresses, houses of the people, shrines of Goddesses, the monuments of the dead, and even the commodities of daily life are made of Yellow Sand-Stone quarried around. This restricted materiality has created the specific mode of life, so to say 'culture of rocks'. To reveal the life world of the people in Thar Desert, wholistic approach is needed consisting of several inter-diciplinary domains such as Geology, Archaeology, Architect and so on.

Keywords: Fieldwork, Thar Desert, Yellow Sand-Stone, Inter-disciplinary Research, Anthropology

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MTT035-06

Room:203

Time:May 24 09:45-10:00

Ethnoscience and science in an ethnobotanical fieldwork

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"Ethnoscience" is knowledge or technique when people perceive, categorize and use their environment. Now we can find common fields between ethnoscience and disciplines. But originally, it has been extracted as a different system from "science" based on Western world. On a trend of multi-disciplinary research, is it assimilated with, absorbed in, or contrasted with "science"?

This paper discusses on potential of relation between ethnoscience and various disciplines through describing my experience in a field research with banana cultivators in Uganda, and in an internship at an international research institute.

Keywords: ethnoscience, knowledge, fieldwork, banana

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MTT035-07

Room:203

Time:May 24 10:00-10:15

Fieldwork for Human-Environment Relations Research

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It is increasingly important to understand human-environment relations and holistic approach which integrate various academic fields is now necessary for that purpose. Long-term fieldwork is an opportunity for researchers to study various aspects of the field.

Case 1: The Solomon Islands society's adaptation to geographical conditions by harmonizing traditional subsistence and integration of market economy was studied from productivity, soil nutrients, carrying capacity, land use change, land tenure, and dietary habits.

Case 2: Obesity which is a key health problem in the Pacific region was studied from human genetic and ecological aspects.

Based on these cases, advantages, disadvantages, and future of the interdisciplinary fieldworks will be discussed.

Keywords: Human Ecology

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MTT035-08

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How fieldworks can contribute to environmental problems

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Trans-disciplinary research can not be avoidable in finding resolution of environmental problems.

Keywords: trans disciplinary, environemntal problems, boundary

MTT035-09

Room:203

Time:May 24 10:45-11:00

Towards a consilient Humanity Boundaries framework in the context of futurable agriculture, forestry, and fishery

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Agriculture, forestry, and fishery (hereafter primary industries) have played an integral role in maintaining the existence of human beings. The structure and functioning of primary industries have varied with scales of human activities for the past 10,000 years. A deeper understanding of uncertainties in the production efficiency and environmental capacities, and precautionary principles still needs to be developed. However, in addressing futurability of human-nature interactions (Handoh and Hidaka, 2010), it is a heuristic challenge to design the ways primary industries ought to be.

Rockstrom *et al.* (2009) proposed Planetary Boundaries (PBs) within which we expect that humanity can operate safely. Nine PBs have been identified. They could be considered to be *ad hoc* global and integrated environmental capacities or standards that may critically depend on local and regional primary industries. For example, fresh-water use for irrigation, pesticide-induced chemical pollution, excessive nutrients in aquaculture farms, and loss in biodiversity due to deforestation, are very likely to trigger various environmental risks through atmospheric and oceanic transports and global biogeochemical cycles. However, noting that primary industries themselves reflect regional climate and culture, and regional human-nature interactions, we must seek for region-specific environmental capacities or standards, which we will call Humanity Boundaries (HBs) within which the regional communities with a rich sense of humanity are expected to be futurable.

In the present study, we argue that a consilience, by which region-specific downscaling of PBs into HBs is developed, could provide new insights into designing primary industries in a futurable circulation-type society. It is proposed to develop a crossdisciplinary research group to evaluate environmental capacities in relation to primary industries. We will discuss how to integrate fieldwork-based inductive local-to-global and theory-based deductive global-to-local assessments into a consilient HBs framework in a transdisciplinary fashion.

References

1. Handoh, I.C., and Hidaka, T. (2010). On the timescales of sustainability and futurability, *Futures*, **42**: 743-748.
2. Rockstrom *et al.*, (2009): A safe operating space for humanity, *Nature*, **461**: 472-475.

Keywords: Consilience, Crossdisciplinary research, Agriculture, forestry, and fishery, Planetary Boundaries, Humanity Boundaries, Futurability

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MTT035-10

Room:203

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Online fusion of fieldworks

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I will discuss on the possibility and ability of the internet activities for the fusion between different disciplines, especially for fieldworkers who act in the variety on regions all over the world.

Keywords: Fieldwork, interdisciplinary, Internet

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MTT035-11

Room:203

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Future of inter-disciplinary research from fields

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We will hold a genral discussion on interdisciplinary research based on presentations given in the session.

Keywords: Field, Interdisciplinary research