My JpGU: a social network service for Japan Geoscience Union members

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The Japan Geoscience Union (JpGU) is an alliance of 50 Japanese associations related to geosciences. It is one of the large-scale scientific associations in Japan, with more than 9,000 members. In 2014, 7,046 people registered for the annual meeting, in which 2,428 oral presentations and 1,378 posters were presented in 194 sessions over five days. Communications between participants tend to be less active in such a large-scale conference in comparison to a small-scale one (with less than one thousand members typically). To address this, JpGU created its Twitter and Facebook accounts in 2011 and launched a smartphone app for the annual meeting in 2013, but those were used for unidirectional announcements from the union office to members. However, there seemed to be a latent demand for a social network service (SNS) to facilitate bidirectional communications between members, particularly during annual meeting and pre-/post-meeting periods.

JpGU also launched a full open-access peer-reviewed online journal titled *Progress in Earth and Planetary Science* (PEPS) in 2013. In order to encourage JpGU members and international researchers to read articles and submit manuscripts to it, it was necessary to implement an online service to publish the latest information about PEPS articles.

To fulfill this goal, JpGU developed My JpGU (http://mypage.jpgu.org), an SNS and scientific communication tool for union members to share research topics and interests. A My JpGU account is given to every union member, who is allowed to edit a personal profile page, to which links to related websites?affiliated laboratories for instance. Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Researchmap (an SNS for researchers in Japan, hosted by Japan Science and Technology Agency at http://researchmap.jp)?can be made. Personal information is disclosed to the public, My JpGU members only, or noboody, by the member’s own choice. Current fields of research, as well as research topics and interests, books, papers and other academic records, documents, images, and video links can also be added to a personal page. For the list of academic records, a mutual batch data exchange service between My JpGU and ORCID (http://orcid.org), an international unique identifier for researchers, was implemented. Using My JpGU, members can share presentation files, such as documents, images, and videos, used at annual meetings. My JpGU is also featured by (1) the retrieval of PEPS articles and (2) personal bookmarks to other members of interests.

In the first ten months since its release in March 2014, 2,762 unique users have visited the My JpGU website; 93% of those came from Japan, while others came from the United States, Russia, Brazil, Germany, The Netherlands, China, and other countries. Only 55 My JpGU members edited their personal page, and only 26 members synchronized their bibliographic data with ORCID. These numbers are quite low, and therefore the JpGU Information System Committee will promote and improve My JpGU further.

Keywords: Japan Geoscience Union, social network services, scholarly communication
Use of social media in geoscience to correct widespread misunderstanding

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Misunderstanding on geoscientific issues affects not only geoscientists but also general education. Social media is effective to correct such misunderstanding particularly when it has been widespread. This paper discusses such a role of social media, using an example concerning the cause of alluvial-fan formation.

Keywords: science, misunderstanding, social media
How Can You Check If Your Home is Fine? : A Solution Offered by CSN Linked with Social Media

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Kim et al. (2015) constructed a citizen seismic network (CSN) in Yokohama utilizing MEMS accelerometer and Raspberry Pi. To make the network denser, since the network largely rely on people who put the sensor unit in their house, it is important to make sensor unit useful for them not only when earthquake occurs but also in daily life. For this purpose, we developed various applications for the network linked with social media. In the daily life, utilizing a camera module, the sensor unit can for security and/or pet monitor, and when earthquake occurs people can check inside of their house through the internet. Once the unit detect quake it will tweet to let them know that their house felt it. However, if it does not tweet anything even there are earthquake nearby, people might wonder what happened to their house. So we let sensor units make conversation to figure out who felt and did not felt using the network. Utilizing this application, we believe our sensor network enhanced its value. We will keep developing such applications so that make it more useful and let people welcome to put the sensor unit in their house.

Keywords: MEMS accelerometer, Sensor network, Twitter, Facebook, Raspberry Pi, earthquake
Use of social media in Geopark

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We report the use of social media in Geopark.

Keywords: Geopark, Social media
Effects of information transmission using the social media in a large active geopark

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The San’in Kaigan Geopark is located in the west of Japan, spanning approximately 120km from its easternmost point, at Kyogamisaki Cape in the city of Kyotango, to its westernmost point, on the Aoyakaigan Coast in the city of Tottori, and measuring a maximum of 30km from north to south.

In terms of administrative jurisdictions, the Geopark spans a total of three cities and three towns in 3 prefectures (Kyoto Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture).

Sharing and generating information is difficult in such a large active geopark. Then, we decided to use a social media to share and generate information smoothly. We created fan page of the geopark to Facebook. We have established an administrator in each area to generate regional information.

Keywords: geopark, facebook, San’in Kaigan Geopark, social media
Results of utilization of facebook for working groups in North Ibaraki Geopark

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Facebook is very useful for the exchange of information because it has many capabilities such as file upload and event planning etc. Since 2012, utilization of facebook for management of four working groups in the North Ibaraki Geopark is carried out. We will present the results of the working groups for geotuor and product development.

Keywords: geopark, North Ibaraki Geopark, facebook