

James Daniel - Year 6

I undertake both research and teaching as a lecturer at James Cook University (JCU) where marine science/hydrography and seabed mapping technology features strongly in two courses I teach. Very little of what I have achieved at JCU would have been possible without the practical skills and theory I obtained through my participation in the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program.

My position as a lecturer gives me significant scope for capacity building, through teaching 'marine geoscience' theory and skills to both undergraduate and post graduate students, developing research projects for prospective masters and PhD students, the development of international research or teaching programs to aid capacity building and the provision of expertise and seabed-mapping hardware for future research programs.

Naoto Ujihara - Year 6

I am engaged in the international section of JHOD after returning to Japan. It is very useful that we build a hydrographer's world network through this Nippon Foundation / GEBCO training program.

JHOD has a training program in cooperation with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and I am in charge of this training program using the knowledge obtained from the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO training program.

Saw Nu Sanda Thein - Year 8

I have been promoted to "Lecturer" from "Assistant Lecturer" after all I learnt from the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program. I was also assigned to prepare a Master Course syllabus about "Hydrographic Survey" and "Fundamentals of Ocean Mapping", to start in December 2013. This year (2014), I am trying to take sounding data for cross-sectional profiles in "Hmaw Wom Creek", using some GeoAcoustics equipment donated by Hawaii University as part of final year students' projects. All of the above reflects knowledge gained through the program.

Takafumi Hashimoto - Year 9

The Nippon Foundation / GEBCO training program contributes to hydrographic know-how and helps to build a hydrographic world network. In addition to that, I now work for Tsunami Simulation team after my training, and what I learned in this program and through lab visits is very useful for building detailed DEM models.

Captain Abubakar Mustapha - Year 1

The Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program has given me the requisite knowledge and capacity to contribute effectively on issues relating to navigational safety, marine pollution and maritime boundary delimitation in Nigeria. CCOM/JHC was an ideal place for the program as the faculty is involved in cutting-edge research in ocean engineering, which has a huge impact on students' learning.

Francis Freire - Year 6

I am proud of being part of the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO group. I notice that graduates of the program are now involved in various disciplines all related to mapping the ocean. I gained new and important knowledge about other approaches to ocean mapping and this provided new opportunities for my career.

Lt. Cdr. Felipe Barrios Burnett - Year 5

The course opened the world's doors of knowledge and specialization in this field of ocean mapping, starting with the great opportunity of being part of Nippon Foundation / GEBCO community, but also going deeper and into more detail about ocean mapping and the tools involved, from data acquisition, through the whole process to the final products.

I would like to add that in the same way, being part of this community gave me the chance to be elected as SCUFN member, to take part in the IBCSO project and prepared me the path for finishing my Masters. In addition, all the above has brought me to be highly considered back at the office amongst my colleagues, staff and superiors. My role as advisor and mentor allows me to share this knowledge with other colleagues.

Captain Hugo D. Montoro - Year 1

The Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program was important to me, because it awoke my scientific interest. After being part of the first class of the Nippon Foundation program, I have fulfilled my duties with a "scientific research" scope. Based on the principles of the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program, I cofounded CREAR AMAZONIA (www.creamazonia.org), an umbrella organization to develop educational and research activities in the Peruvian Amazonian Rainforest.

Yulia Zarayskaya - Year 6

Nippon Foundation / GEBCO alumni are the only scientists with certified training of such quality in Russia, which makes a big difference. New equipment and new objectives in deep ocean exploration require proper knowledge and understanding. I share the knowledge and skills that I've gained from the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program with colleagues. I consider my work with the students during our cruises the most important contribution so far.

I got a whole range of new responsibilities on my return, such as the writing of scientific programs and equipment consults. Not only my Institute uses my help, but also different organizations that have echosounders or manage people resources in the field. This part of my career is growing and expanding every year. As a Nippon Foundation / GEBCO alumni and member of IBCAO editorial board I am convinced that it is my responsibility to improve Russian organizations' awareness of each others' and foreign colleagues' work.

Hadar Sade - Year 7

Today, Israel's Maritime and Offshore industries are rapidly growing, primarily due to the discoveries of deep-water Natural Gas reservoirs in 2009. Driven by these rapid changes, and with the vast knowledge gained during the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO program, I am taking active part in supporting operations and national capacity-building efforts across governmental agencies. This year (July 2014) I joined a key IHO technical visit to Israel as a special advisor.

Captain Pepe Gianella - Year 3

The Nippon Foundation / GEBCO training course was important for me because it allowed the Peruvian hydrography to be in a direct contact with the top hydrographers in the world.

Captain Muhammad Bashir - Year 2

The Nippon Foundation / GEBCO role in capacity building is remarkable as the PCOB programme provides the background to professionally train students from diverse geographical regions. Presently, I am lecturing students and conducting field training to the students perusing Cat A certificate in Hydrography.

Cdr. Lic. Walter Reynoso-Peralta - Year 1

Ongoing interaction with bathymetrists and hydrographers from South America, reminds me of the importance of the ocean mapping and the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO goals. I am transferring my knowledge continuously to young people from my Hydrographic Office. We are a small bathymetric team, which I formed to work on ocean mapping and to follow the tasks under my supervision. I am also collaborating with the Naval Marine Science School where I teach Marine Geology and Geophysics as part of Hydrography and Oceanography training program for Navy Officers.

Prasadh Gunasinghe - Year 8

As an Instructor in Surveying Sciences in the Faculty of Geomatics, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, exchange of knowledge was my main duty with knowledge sharing being very important, because there are many students who are interested in working in the ocean industry. Recently I was appointed as Lecturer in Hydrographic Surveying, Faculty of Built Environment and Spatial sciences, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU), Ratmalana, where the interview panel acknowledged my PCOB training. Responsibilities include Lecturer in Hydrographic Surveying along with establishing this new Hydrographic Unit.

