

## Country Visit to Vietnam

January 31, 2013

We were warmly welcomed by Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST) led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hoang-Luong Pham, Vice-President of HUST. We were also joined by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ngo Chi Trung Vice-Director of HUST International Cooperation Department, Prof. Dr. Nguyen The Mich, Head Department of Department of Aeronautical Engineering Hydraulic Machines and Automatic Systems, Dr. Nguyen Thuy Nga, Vice-Director of Institute of Energy Science (IES) under Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology and Mr. Ngo Kha of IES as well.

We were also privileged to visit the office of Institute of Energy Science by the invitation of Dr. Nguyen Thuy Nga and Mr. Ngo Kha. We met with Mr. Nguyen Binh Khanh MSc, Director of Consultancy Center for Energy Development (CCED) and Mr. Duong Duy Hoat, Senior Expert, Director's Advisor.

During the meeting in HUST, it was discussed that Vietnam is keen on developing renewable energy technology and HUST as a university has been active in renewable energy R&D. It is also linked up with government agencies like Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOIT). Dr. Pham mentioned that in terms of ocean renewable energy, there has been assessment of tidal and wave energy and recent studies found out that there is potential on these kinds of ORE. OTEC has yet to be studied. He also recognized the importance of including government, academe and industries on these regional initiatives like SEAcORE. He also raised the issue of funding which should be looked upon as resources and activities depend also on financial strength of the organization. Dr. Abundo clarified that international funding would be more accessible for SEAcORE if it has the strength already of a regional collaboration/organization. In terms of intra-regional activities, in-kind contribution among SEA countries could be exchanged for collaborative projects (like manpower, technology, R&D sites, etc)

In our meeting with IES, there was a positive response as well and we concluded to draft a MoU with them so that collaborative projects could be proposed already. CCED particularly looks at research in "transferring electric generation technology from low water column and wave energy and tidal energy." They do resource assessment and modeling on both wave and tidal energy.



With the Institute of Energy Science Team



HUST Team with Dr. Abundo and Ms. Mary Ann