WELCOME ADDRESS

It is my great pleasure to greet you here in Tainan. My first contact with the Franzius Institute in Hannover went back to 1963, while Professor Hanson was in charge of the Institute and Prof. Fuhrbötter was his assistant, as “wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter” at that time. In 1982, Prof. Partenscky invited me to Hannover as a guest professor. The subject of my research was to compare the wave features between the North Sea and the Taiwan Strait, which was immensely interest. The report was published in Heft 58 of the Institute’s publication “Mitteilungen”.

Also, I am very glad to welcome the coastal and oceanographic scientists from the Mainland China. They are here to carry out the scientific dialog and to visit the research facilities at the Cheng Kung University such as Coastal Ocean Monitoring Center (COMC), Hydraulic Laboratory as well as Hydraulic and Ocean Engineering Graduate School, for which my colleagues and I have continuously worked for half a century. I sincerely hope that your comments, criticisms, and suggestions will give us new and useful ideas.

My entire career has being devoted to the coastal subjects. I did teaching and research on the coastal engineering, the harbor engineering as well as the tidal land reclamation. I worked diligently in establishing the coastal research environment in Taiwan from the ground, e.g., the set-up of the coastal hydraulic laboratory in this campus and the wave measuring in the field. In 1986, I organized the 20th International Coastal Engineering Conference in Taipei. It was recognized as the first such conference ever took place in China.

In addition, I return to Taiwan this time from the United States to remind our coastal engineering colleagues about the coastal erosion issues in the vicinity of Yangtze estuary delta. I was born in the Jiangsu province in the Yangtze estuary delta area. Although my careers were all carried out on this island, I have always cared and interested very much about everything and anything that happen in my birth place. Upon my fifty years of experience in Taiwan, I know quite well that the coastline erosion will occur definitely after the construction of dams as well as forestation progressing in the upstream. The Three George Project on the Yangtze upstream is in her final face. The Dam prevents the sand from moving downstream-ward, which may cause coast erosion in the estuary area. I do hope that our coastal engineer community will make serious efforts on this issue and find out a way to prevent the coast from erosion so that the current and future generations can live in a safer environment.

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