

Dear Fellow IACIS Members,

I am writing to let you know that we continue with our plans to hold the next IACIS meeting in Sendai, Japan during May 13-18, 2012. The meeting website is

<http://res.tagen.tohoku.ac.jp/~iacis/>

You have undoubtedly seen videos of the destruction caused by the massive earthquake of March 11 and subsequent tsunami. In two months which have passed, much progress has been made in restoring services. Sendai airport is now partially open for domestic flights; full service (including international flights) should return in a couple of months. The Shinkan-sen (high-speed train service) between Tokyo and Sendai resumed on April 25. Most hotels in central Sendai have re-opened. The Sendai International Center (where the IACIS meeting will be held) re-opened April 18.

In response to concerns related to the events at the Fukushima power plant, faculty from the Physics Dept. at Tohoku University have been monitoring atomic radiation levels in Sendai and posting their measurements online at

[https://sites.google.com/site/radmonitor311/sendai\\_aobaku](https://sites.google.com/site/radmonitor311/sendai_aobaku)

Readings have been steadily declining and are already below the natural radiation level according UNSCEAR (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation):

<http://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/faq.html>

We have posted recent photos of the International Center and the surrounding areas (see <http://www.iacis.nl/>) to reassure members that the conditions in Sendai are returning to normal and are expected to be fully normal by the time of the meeting in May 2012.

I personally plan to attend this meeting and I hope to see you there also.

with best regards,  
Dennis Prieve  
President of IACIS