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Geophysics Distinguished Lecture Series

Report

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Hawaii is one of the most seismically active regions in the world and has been serving as a natural laboratory for studying the interactions between seismic and magmatic processes for the past few decades. The U.S. Geological Survey – Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) operates an extensive seismic network to measure and study the ongoing activity on the Island of Hawaii. Dr. Paul Okubo is a Chief scientist at the HVO who is an expert on volcano seismology and has been collaborating with numerous world-famous scientists on studies of the Hawaiian seismicity and structure. During the SEEDS awarded “Geophysics Distinguished Lecture Series” in 2014, the Division of Marine Geology and Geophysics (MGG), Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) invited Dr. Okubo to give a Geotopics seminar. His presentation entitled “Into the Second Century of Seismology at Active Hawaiian Volcanoes” was very well received at RSMAS, especially by the faculty members and students at the MGG. Students were excited to learn about the world-most-active volcano and volcano seismology in general. Dr. Okubo’s visit also helped to build our collaborative relationships with HVO. It stimulated a submission of our collaborating work on Hawaii to a prestigious peer-reviewed journal, Journal of Geophysical Research and also allowed the initiation of other collaborative projects. Dr. Okubo also made the most exciting and unique seismic data for the entire island of Hawaii available to us. Dr. Falk Amelung and Dr. Shimon Wdowinski at MGG greatly benefited from more productive communication and research idea exchanges with Dr. Okubo. Students on Coral Gables campus also found it helpful to meet with Dr. Okubo on diversity issues and the recent Haiti earthquake.