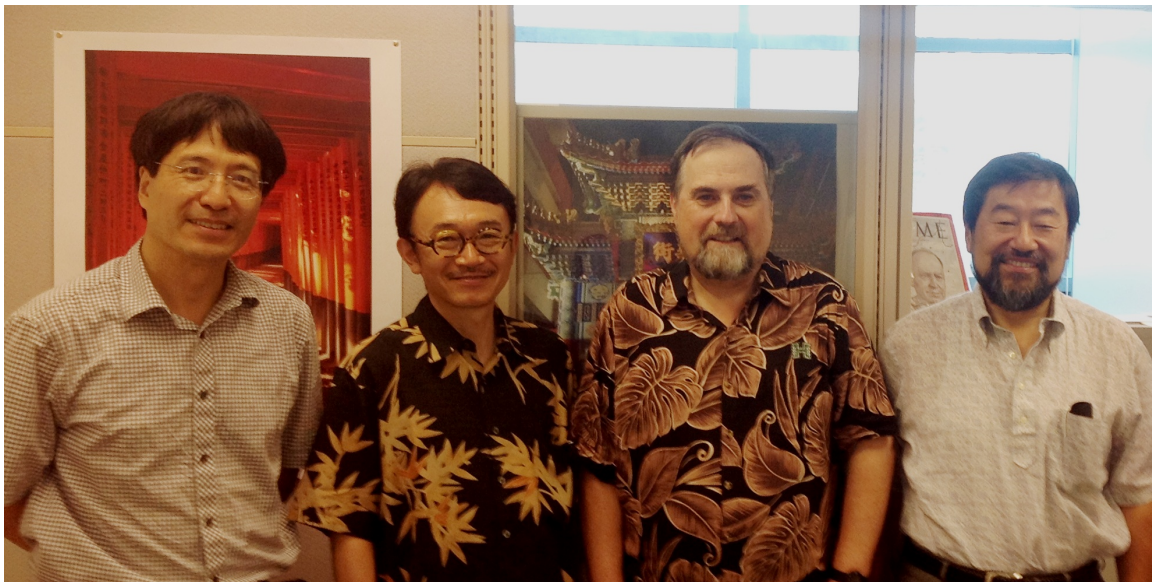


Scientists of the Japanese New Ocean Paradigm Project visit IPRC

The JAMSTEC research vessel *Hakuho Maru* stopped in Honolulu July 12-17 in the middle of a cruise from the equator to the arctic. The cruise is being conducted as part of the Japanese NEOPS (New Ocean Paradigm on its Biogeochemistry, Ecosystem and Sustainable Use) project. Two of the leading scientists on the cruise used the opportunity to visit IPRC and present seminars on their work.

Ken Furuya, Dean of the Graduate School of Agriculture and Life Sciences of the University of Tokyo, presented a lecture "Towards the Sustainable Use of the Ocean" which gave the background for the NEOPS project. NEOPS is a response to the increasing stress on the ocean ecosystems and the project integrates natural science and social science as it explores ways to utilize ecosystem services from the high seas in a sustainable manner.

Hiroaki Saito, Professor at the Atmospheric and Oceanic Research Institute (AORI) of the University of Tokyo, presented a talk "Kuroshio Paradox: What Mechanisms Support High Fisheries Production in Oligotrophic Kuroshio Water?" In spite of being low in nutrients, various fish and squid species use the Kuroshio region as spawning and nursery grounds. These Kuroshio species contribute to 58% of fisheries landing in Japanese water. Saito described some preliminary results from a Japanese project designed to understand this Kuroshio paradox.



From left: Bo Qiu (UH Oceanography Department), Hiroaki Saito, IPRC Director Kevin Hamilton, and Ken Furuya.