Summary of the tour

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Introduction

It is a great honor to be awarded international fellowship of American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE). I am very glad to have a chance to visit this country. First of all, I would like to appreciate Dr. Saito for her warm and patient help. Thanks to Dr. Sheng and his wife, Mrs. Yao, and his children, Lisha, Stephen and lovely Josephie, for their kind assistance and warm hospitality. Thanks Dr. Ari M. Michelsen, director of TAMU center at El Paso for his kind invitation and conductive talk about water policy, thanks Dr. Joshua, Monica and all other members of research group of Dr. Sheng. Thanks Dr. Ali, professor of University of New Mexico. And Thanks to all friends I meet in congress for their help.

This is my first trip to American. On May 9th, I left Beijing for El Paso. The first station I arrived was SF, and transferred aircraft to Denver, finally I reached El Paso about 9 p. m. local time of May 9th. It took about 15 hours from Beijing to El Paso. It is really not so far as I imagined before. Our globe is really a small global village.

The tour to U.S.A. can be divided into two parts as follows:

1 May 9 to May 20, stayed at El Paso with host Dr. Sheng;
2 May 20 to May 26, attended the congress.

Activities at El Paso during May 9 to May 20

I spent about 10 days at El Paso. El Paso is a beautiful, peaceful, quiet and clean boundary city. It is located in the northwest corner of Texas. People who live here are lovely and with warm heart. When I fell into troubles, they always like to help.
During ten days, I visited two universities, i.e. University of Texas at El Paso, University of New Mexico, all canals in El Paso, White Sands in New Mexico, attended two local meetings on water operation held in El Paso and Albuquerque respectively, gave a presentation in TAMU center at El Paso, and had a good talk with Dr. Ari and the research group of Dr. Sheng.

The ten days activities can be summarized into three aspects:
1. Investigated and understood the Water Resource and Dam construction along the Rio Grande;
2. Understood regional geological features and regional groundwater resources of El Paso;
3. Brainstorming scientific exchange and cooperative research topics with TAMU center.

Attending EWRI 2006 during May 20 to May 26

On May 20, I left El Paso to attend the meeting held in Omaha. Omaha is a small and peaceful city. It is located at the heart of America. Compared to El Paso, it is cool and moist.

In the morning of May 21, I attended the meeting of task committee and to understand the agenda and organization of the meeting in U. S. A. At night of May 21, as one of international fellows, I attended the international fellow reception held in the QWest center.

The academic presentation was held during May 22 to May 25. EWRI covers many topics such as water treatment, hydraulics, groundwater movement, inverse analysis, agriculture, salinity etc. I took part in some of them and tried to understand the state of art of the different topics. Of course I gave presentation on Environmental session on May 24.

Any way, this trip is very interesting, meaningful and fruitful. Hope we can have more fruitful cooperation in future.