# Research Activity Report Supported by "Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science"

(Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

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Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Gao Jie

#### 1. Country/location of visit

Yokohama, Japan

### 2. Research project

The 31st International Congress of Psychology

## 3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016. 7. 24 – 2015. 7. 29 (6 days)

#### 4. Main host researcher and affiliation

#### 5. **Progress and results of your research/activity** (You can attach extra pages if needed)

Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.

I joined ICP 2016 in Yokohama in July, and I had a great experience there.

In the congress, I had an oral presentation about the collaborated work, a circular relationship in chimpanzees, done with Prof. Tomonaga, Prof. Matsuzawa, and Prof. Su of Peking University, in the symposium "Comparative Cognitive Approaches onto Mechanism Underlying Language Evolution" chaired by Dr. Adachi. The audience raised very good questions, and we had lots of discussions afterwards.

There were so many talks and posters of various topics. I joined almost all those on primate psychology, and also some about cognition in non-primate animals. Talks on other topics were also very interesting, including the one given by Dr. Ishiguro in the opening ceremony. The robots were very impressive. The experiment with "hugvie" was funny but amazing, where children with hugvie became quiet and concentrating compared to their "noisy" behavior without the simple device. I also joined one talk about a healing process of an autism child. The child had difficulty knowing herself. She thought herself was in the body of a penguin toy's. The researchers then talked to the penguin, and introduced the mirror, to transfer her concept of herself gradually. After she started to know a little about herself, she was able to tell her own stories, and to draw people's bodies with faces. Psychological research is really changing human lives. During the congress, I also joined the talk given by Dr. Jane Goodall. Her speech was contagious and encouraging. I was fortunate enough to have dinner with her later. She's been doing such great work with a really strong mind. Her serious attitude towards conservation also reminds me that it's our duty to contribute to conservation work no matter the research is directly related to conservation or not. Among the many many interesting talks, one of the most impressive ones was the studies by Dr. Rugani. Their experiment showed chicks are able to count. Apart from the very interesting results, their experimental design had very clear logic and good controls, which impressed me a lot.

During the congress, I also enjoyed social gathering with other researchers and students. I made new acquaintances, and gathered with old friends. We had a good time together sharing information, opinions, and food.

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(The venue, Pacifico Yokohama)



(Dusk at sea)

# 6. Others

I would like to thank Prof. Matsuzawa and Prof. Tomonaga for their advice on my presentation preparation. Thank PWS for supporting this great trip.

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