

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.)

	2017. 04. 26
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/ M1
Name	YAN Xiaochan

1. Country/location of visit
Japan/ Kyoto (Main campus of Kyoto University, Kyoto City Zoo), Wakayama (Shirahama Aquarium, Minakata Kumagusu Memorial Museum), Shiga (Center for Ecological Research), Aichi (Primate Research Institute, Japan Monkey Center)
2. Research project
Interdepartmental Exchange
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2017.04.04 – 2017. 04. 09 (6 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University
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.
<p>During Inter-lab course, from 4th to 9th of April, I visited main campus, Shirahama Aquarium, Minakata Kumagusu Memorial Museum, Kyoto City Zoo, Center for Ecological Research, Primate Research Institute and Japan Monkey Center in order.</p> <p>Day 1</p> <p>The first day, we arrived main campus and attended welcome lectures. Several oral presentations were given to introduce each research field’s current projects. Despite the presentation by graduates from PRI, I was able to listen to others’ work. At night, welcome party was held for new students. With a brief introduction by every student, we had a talk with new students from Graduate School of Science.</p> <p>Day 2 and 3</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Figure 1. Fish exhibition in Shirahama aquarium</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Figure 2. Ray in the aquarium</p> </div> </div> <p>We went to Shirahama aquarium located in Wakayama. Because of far distance, we arrived at afternoon. After settled down, professors gave us impressed lectures about Shirahama history and marine diversity. Shirahama aquarium is one of longest history aquarium over Japan, which already 77 years old. The researchers are not only studying on ecology and taxonomy of marine, but genealogy and phylogeny. It is impressed that using GFP to study on the parallel evolution of conch on Pacific Ocean and Atlantic Ocean. My interests are to understand phylogeny secret and evolutionary</p>

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mechanism of organisms. This lecture provides me a new idea to study on population genetic. In addition, mantis shrimp, as a regular substance, it is famous for its speed. Two species, *O. Soyllarus* and *G. Smithii*, their speed are from 14.7 to 23.5 miter per second and from 24.8 to 30.6 miter per second, respectively. The moving speed is various among mantis shrimp species. I am greatly appreciated for the lectures who are unfamiliar with marine but curious in. At night, we ate the fresh fish caught by professors. During the night, all of us have an opportunity to know each other by introducing herself or himself for 2 minutes. I made many friends with various experience and interests.

On 6th of April, we visited the aquarium and Minakata Kumangusu Memorial Musuem. In this day, we not only appreciated the beauty in the ocean, we also get to see the history of research on botany. In Japan, there are not many universities with aquarium but Kyoto University is one of those with aquarium. Even more, it started really early, in 1922. Kyoto University’s attention to marine biology is indeed inspiring. With its connection to public education, I believe that Kyoto University has strong background in raising future marine biologist.

Day 4

We attended to the opening ceremony for new master students.

Day 5

We visited Kyoto City Zoo. For me, it was the second time to be here. With the guidance by zoo keepers, we got the unique opportunity to visit the dissection room and veterinary room. Because there was not many medicinal study about each kind of animals, flocculent dosage is based on dosage of human. We also walked around the zoo and heard from zoo keepers about the zoo management and animal’s diet and lifespan.

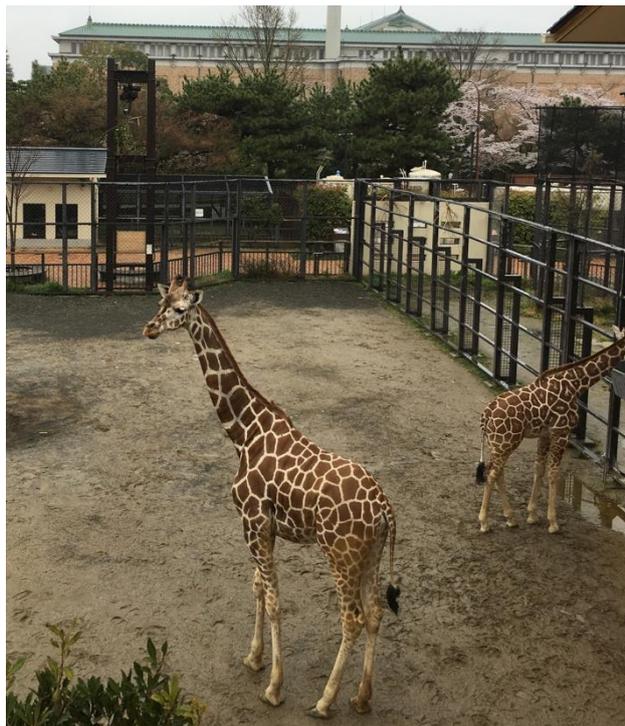


Figure 3. Giraffe in Kyoto City Zoo

Afternoon, we visited the Centre for Ecology Research, two hours from main campus by bus. Greeting from director Dr. Nakano, three young researchers gave introduction of their research projects, invitation to ecology, food webs in the heterogeneous world and exploring novel interactions in ecosystems, respectively. Here, ecology contains heredity, circulation and diversity. We were presented to visit CER forest, Symbiotron, DNA analysis system and stable isotope analysis system. CER forest is established for study the ecology of fragile, but deer and wild boar were found. DNA analysis system and stable isotope analysis system were equipped with modern facilities, especially the stable isotope analysis system is attractive. The professor in charge of Stable isotope analysis showed us how strong function of the system to study circulation, evolution and biodiversity. Kyoto University supports students to use Stable isotope

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analysis system with a low price.



Figure 4. Spider mite in Symbiotron lab

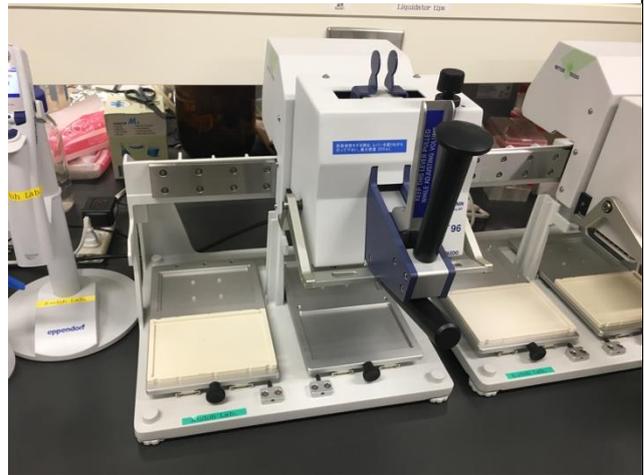


Figure 5. Ultrasonic Processor in CER

Day6

On the final day, we visited Primate Research Institute and Japan Monkey Center in Inuyama. We were welcome by Prof. Yumoto and were given a greeting lecture in Primate Research Institute. We were guided by the monkey keepers to visit the enclosures. Although I have been in PRI for more than a year as an intern, there are some parts I was not able to see. This was the first time I visited exhibition room near the canteen. I was surprised by the interior where the ancient primate skeletons were stored. Also, I got to play the test the chimpanzees usually received in cognitive section. After that, we also went to see the cognitive tests on chimpanzees in sky lab.



Figure 6. Chimpanzee in Sky lab

In the afternoon, we went to Japan Monkey Center. During the welcome lecture, I learnt about the history of Japan Monkey Center. Japan Monkey Center is not only a zoo but also an education center and a research institute. In addition to the normal exhibition room, we also went behind the scene and visited the veterinary room and the specimen room.

In conclusion, Inter-lab course supported me a unique opportunity to have an overall impression of Graduation School of Science and diverse research topics in Kyoto University. I was immersed in various fields and techniques that are related to pioneer research. As a student who are interested in evolution and ecology, it is my honor to meet a lot of brilliant researchers and learn the idea about diversity. I got to know several resource and pioneer study methods that probably I may utilize for my research program. It is a great impressive experience for me to begin my master course. I wish I can establish cooperative work with other researchers in the near future. I greatly appreciated the course and organizers that provided us a safe and memorable trip. Without it, I would not adapt myself to graduate school soon

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and know more idea of diversity.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all organizing committee, staffs and researchers for their guidance and lectures. I also want to express my gratitude to PWS for organization and financial support.

6. Others