


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/D3/L5
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1. Country/location of visit
Chicago, USA
2. Research project
Presentation at the XXVI International Congress of the Primatological Society
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016.08.17 – 2016. 08. 28 (12 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
International Primatological Society/American Society of Primatology/Lincoln Park Zoo
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>This August I had the opportunity to visit Chicago, USA, to attend two conferences. First, the IV Chimpanzees in Context symposium, held in Lincoln Park Zoo, was focused mostly on the comparison between chimpanzees and other great apes as well as humans. Because the symposium was small, the speakers were well selected and the quality of the talks was very good. The sessions included topics on cognition, welfare, conservation, reproduction and development, and I had the chance to see very interesting talks such as Dr. Jane Goodall (Figure 1), Dr. Cheryl Knot, Dr. Brian Hare and Dr. Joseph Call.</p>

<p>Figure 1. Dr. Jane Goodall at Chimpanzees in Context, at Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago.</p>
<p>In addition, I had the chance to see Lincoln Park Zoo, including the primates. The enclosure of the chimpanzees and gorillas look relatively good, though it could be a little bit larger given the number of individuals. I also saw briefly the cognitive experiments with the gorillas using touch screen (Figure 2). On the other hand, the gibbons and monkeys’ enclosures quite small (Figure 3), and I think they could be improved a lot with more natural vegetation, such as the Japanese macaques’ enclosure. The size looks appropriate for the group, because looking from the tourist side it was not that easy to spot the monkeys, which means that they had a lot of places to rest away from the exhibit area (Figure 4). One curious thing I noticed was when a monkey walked toward the glass. The tourists could stare at the monkey’s eyes, without a reaction from the animal. In other zoos or national parks, the monkeys always respond to that in a threatening way. I wonder if they somehow became tolerant to the tourists.</p>

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Figure 2. Cognitive tasks in the gorilla enclosure by Dr. Crystal Egelkamp



Figure 3. Howler monkey sleeping in his enclosure, Lincoln Park Zoo.



Figure 4. Japanese macaques enclosure, Lincoln Park Zoo.

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In sequence, I participated at the XXVI Congress of the International Primatological Society, held at the Navy Pier. I could see very interesting talks, including keynote speakers Dr. Jane Goodall, Dr. Frans de Waal, Dr. Tetsuro Matsuzawa and Dr. Katie Hinde. I gave an oral presentation about my ongoing study on steroid hormones and dominance rank in male Japanese monkeys (Figure 5). It was good to hear similar works from other researchers on this topic, so I also had the chance to meet experts and get feedback for my future research.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the PWS program and Prof. Tetsuro Matsuzawa for the opportunity to present my study at the IPS congress. I also thank my advisors, Prof. Michael Huffman and Prof. Fred Bercovitch for their guidance and support, and my friends and colleagues that accompanied me during this trip.



Figure 5. Oral presentation at the XXVI Congress of the International Primatological Society, at Chicago (Photo credit: Renata Mendonça).