

Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”

2019. 9. 8

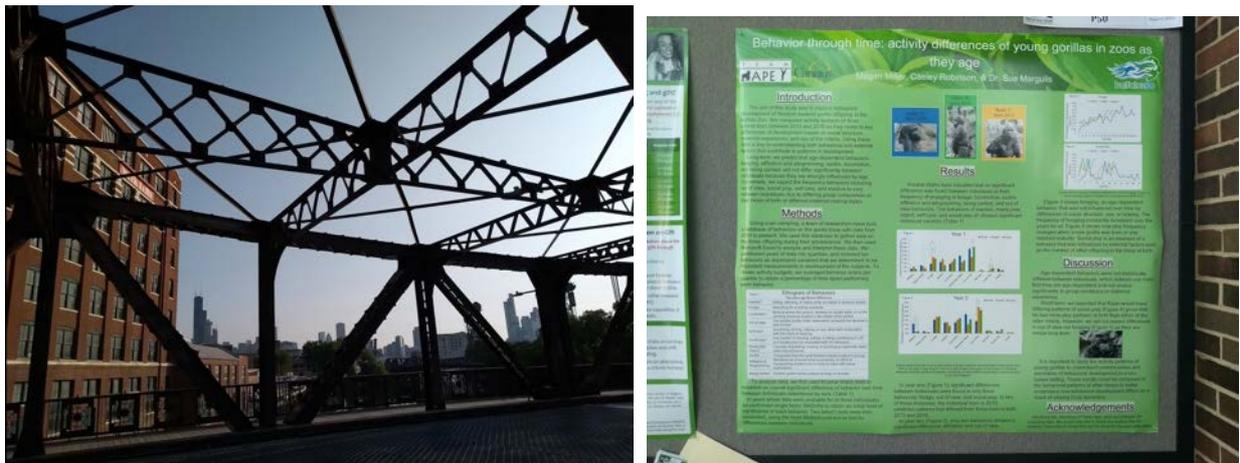
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center (D2)
Name	Kristin Havercamp

1. Country/location of visit
University of Illinois, Chicago, IL, USA
2. Research project
56 th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society (ABS)
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2019. 07. 20 – 2019. 08. 11
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Mary V. Ashley of the University of Illinois was the local host
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>Thanks to PWS, I was able to attend the 56th Animal Behavior Society conference held in Chicago, Illinois, jointly with the 36th International Ethological Conference. It was the first time I attended an international conference on such a large-scale; there were over 1,000 attendees and almost 300 posters and 500 talks. I gave a talk titled “Utilizing the Great Ape Information Network (GAIN) to understand longevity and mortality patterns of chimpanzees in Japan”. I was excited to share my research on the life history patterns of captive chimpanzees in Japan, as well as listen to other fascinating talks on a wide diversity of species. I am really inspired by Prof. Georgia Mason’s research on animal welfare and especially enjoyed being able to listen to her plenary talk “A palace or a prison? Behavioural differences between species can predict their responses to life in captivity” where she expressed concern for holding wide-ranging Carnivora in captivity. Another example of an interesting talk was on dog cognition and how memory for both short- and long-lived breeds increases with age and finally drops slightly during the final few years of life. One highlight of the conference was having the chance to meet and talk with Jared Tagliatela, the director of the Ape Cognition and Conservation Initiative in Iowa where Kanzi, the famous bonobo lives. I hope to be able to visit him and the bonobos there one day. Overall, I found that although the conference was enjoyable, I prefer smaller meetings where it is somewhat easier to connect and communicate with new people.</p> <p>In addition to the conference, some of us were invited by Dr. Steve Ross to visit the Lincoln Park Zoo. It was my first time there and he gave us a behind-the-scenes tour. I was especially surprised and impressed by the off-exhibit chimpanzee group consisting of individuals who needed a ‘sanctuary’ home; each individual has unique background experiences with different needs which can now be carefully considered at the zoo, and whilst living in a social group!</p> <p>After the conference I was allowed to take a private trip to visit my family and friends in Minnesota, a nearby state. It had been five years since I had travelled to the US despite being from MN, and so I really appreciated this.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
Welcoming sign at the Lincoln Park Zoo and the surrounding neighborhood.

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A female chimpanzee hogging bedding material before settling down for the night. / A sign in front of the gorilla enclosure.



A bridge I crossed on my daily walk to the venue. / A poster about gorilla activity budget during infant development.



Loads of good food in Chicago (Mexican tacos, guacamole and homemade chips and deep dish pizza!!).

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6. Others

I am thankful to PWS and my supervisor, Hirata-sensei, for providing me with the opportunity to attend the Animal Behavior conference as well as visit my hometown.