

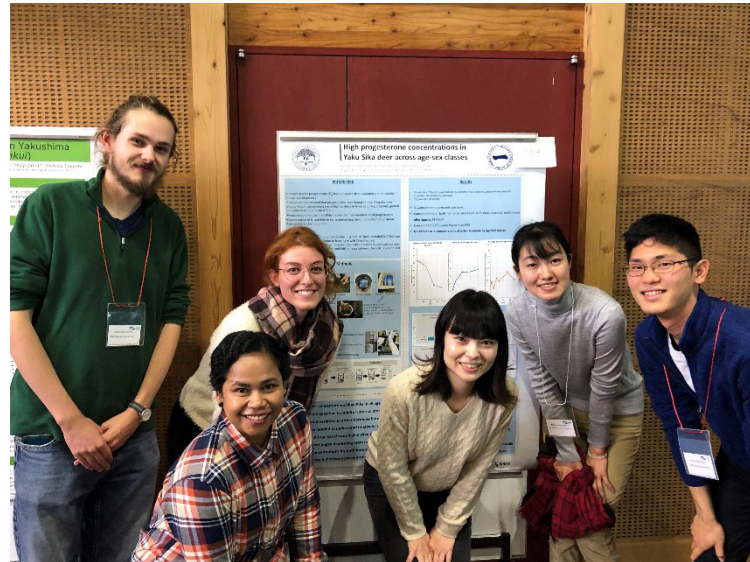
Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2019. 12, 02
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D1
Name	Vanessa Nadine Gris

1. Country/location of visit
Science Seminar House, Kyoto University, Kyoto
2. Research project
The 11 th International Seminar on Biodiversity and Evolution
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2019. 12.02
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
KOSHIMA Shiro (WRC, 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>On the 2nd of December I joined The 11th International Seminar on Biodiversity and Evolution – Coexistence with Wildlife where we presented the results of our Hormone Lab Course. The talk of Dr Toshihiro Tanaka from The University of Tokyo brought startling data. Many scholars believe we are living the 6th mass extinction of species and it has been caused by the humankind. The causes are diverse and include habitat destruction, intensive hunting, climate change, pollution, etc. Calculations are scary showing we are losing 1 species every 13 seconds. He proceeded then explaining the importance of protection “beyond the boundaries” in Japan. It means that protection should be extended to areas that governmental protection is not exactly outlined in spatial terms. Wildlife is suffering from loss of habitat and road kill for examples, but the Japanese system does not facilitate the management of this specific and local problems. In Japan, 5.7% of the land is occupied by National Parks. He compared the model of parks in Japan to those in other countries such as Canada, USA and Australia where national parks are a national property and their purpose is mainly conservation (Yellowstone model). In Japan the land of National belongs to different type of owners (Forestry Agency, private, local governments, Ministry of Environment) and the purposes are diverse. There is a challenge that takes into account the different types of stakeholders, legislation and main purpose of activities concerning the Japanese parks and the protection of wildlife.</p> <p>Another very interesting talk was from Dr Shiho Fujita from Kagoshima University. She talked about non-invasive assessment of the health status in wild primates and the one health approach of this question. She studied lowland gorillas and showed that stress levels (assessed by fecal cortisol measurement) decreased when gorillas were habituated but intensive observation by researchers (frequency) imposed stress even when they were habituated.</p> <p>Internship students from different countries belonging to the JSPS Program – International Core of Excellence for Tropical Biodiversity Conservation Focusing on Large Animals showed the research they are developing in their universities. I also had the pleasure to see the talks of Himani Nautyal, Cécile Sarabian and Marie Sigaud, colleagues from PRI that always exceeds the expectations in their talks.</p> <p>On the poster section, our lab group presented the results of the Hormone Laboratory Course where we found that progesterone concentrations were higher than its metabolite PdG in all age-sex classes of Yaku- sika deer (<i>Cervus</i></p>

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nippon yakushimae), thus probably being a more sensitive hormone to monitor internal progesterone levels. Also, our poster shows that no significant variation was found in either hormone between age-sex classes in either estrus season or pregnancy.



Poster presentation of the Hormone Course - High progesterone concentrations in Yaku Sika deer across age-sex classes



Gabriele Bernardo presented about her research in Amazonia, Brazil.



Poster presentation about pet cafes in Japan and the implication in conservation and

6. Others

I would like to thank Prof. Kodzue Kinoshita for the Laboratory Course and Prof Shiro Koshima for organizing the Seminar. I am grateful for the financial assistance provided by the Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science (PWS), Kyoto University.