

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	Wildlife Research Center/D2
Name	Miho Saito

1. Country/location of visit
USA, Chicago
2. Research project
Chicago Visit. Purposes: 1. Meeting with Mr. Doherty 2. Visiting two zoos 3. Attending International Giraffid Conference
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016. 5. 8 – 2016. 5. 15 (8 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Chicago Zoological Society
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 had three purposes to visit Chicago. First one was to meet Mr. Doherty who is studying giraffe in Kenya for a long time. Second purpose was to visit Lincoln Park Zoo and Brookfield Zoo. Last purpose was to attend international giraffid conference.
<p>1. Meeting with Mr. Doherty</p> <p>He briefly explained about his ongoing research in Kenya and his next field plan. He showed me the example of his giraffe individual identification data sheet. I would like to refer such well organized data set and will try to create my own data sheet during my next field study.</p> <p>He also offered me to visit his study site in Kenya in the near future. I would like to find a chance to visit him. It was nice to meet such a great field worker/conservationist and I am sure that I could establish good relationship with him. I will keep in touch with him to know the ongoing status of giraffe conservation area and giraffe study in the wild.</p>

<u>Figure 1. With Mr. Dohery</u>
<p>2. Visit Lincoln Park Zoo and Brookfield Zoo</p> <p>I was surprised to see that polar bear was lying on the grass. Because in Japan, as a yard of polar bear, it is common to mimic the land scape of the north pole. So very white yard. But for polar bear, it might be better to lie on the soft grass rather than hard concrete.</p> <p>Lincoln park zoo newly opened the yard of Japanese macaque almost one year ago. There are currently three babies. The yard is full of new grasses and yard faces to the computer room where</p>

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Japanese macaque can study like in PRI and visitors can observe what kind of research are conducting. I felt happy to see such a good yard and the place of Japanese macaque’s yard locates the nearest place from the entrance gate which means many visitors will observe them.



Figure 2. Polar bear at Brookfield Zoo



Figure 3. New yard for Japanese macaque at Lincoln park zoo

3. Attending International Giraffe Conference

Many zoo keepers from many states were attending this conference. I could learn a lot about feeding procedure/ training procedure/ conservation status in captivity. Especially I didn’t know much about training in US, so I surprised that they care even back side of giraffe hoofs. Matsushita-san, who is from Hamamatsu city zoo, said it is uncommon in Japan to care hoofs and still not so many zoos do training. On the other hand, when I asked German zoo curator if European zoos also do training like in US, he said European zoos except England rarely perform training to giraffe. It was interesting to see the difference between Europe and US. I am not a zoo keeper, so not quite sure which way is appropriate for captive giraffe, but I would like to inform to giraffe keepers in Japan about what I learned from this conference.



Figure 4.
International Giraffid Conference

6. Others

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the PWS program for supporting me to visit Chicago.