

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

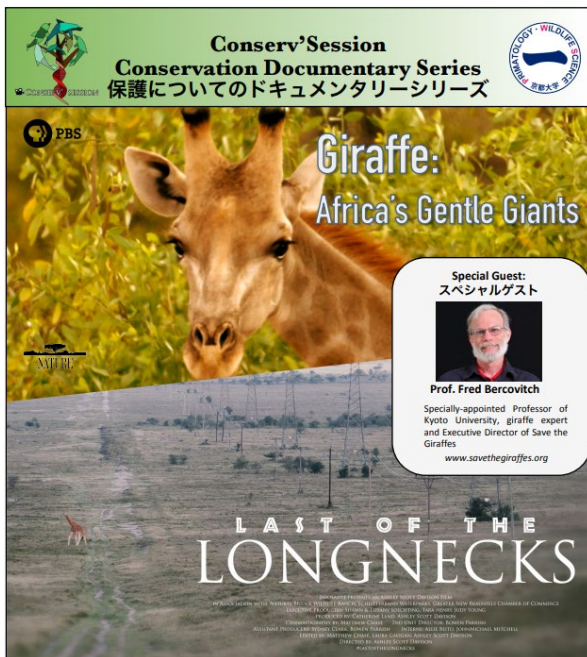
	2018. 10. 10
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D3/L5
Name	Josue Alejandro Pastrana

1. Country/location of visit
Science Seminar House, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
2. Research project
10 th PWS Symposium and “Conserv'session: Giraffe : Africa’s Gentle Giants”
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2018.9.22- 2018.9.24 (3 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Prof. Matsuzawa- Leading Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science/Prof. Bercovitch- Conserv’session.
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>Last month I attended the 10th Leading Program on Primatology and Wildlife Science Symposium which was held at the Science Seminar House at the North Campus of Kyoto University. During the event we had the opportunity to present the progress of our research, listen to specialists in various wildlife topics, and followed by a workshop on documentary making and photography for us to improve our documentation in the field. The symposium was followed by the Conserv’session, an event where documentaries are shown to the general public on various subjects such as conservation, animal behavior, animal welfare etc. which in this case was on the problems facing giraffe’s survival in the wild.</p> <p>During the symposium I enjoyed all the talks very much and it was great to listen to the updates of many of my colleagues which are out in the field for a big part of the academic year. I was able to present my latest project which is not related to my main research topic, but which I enjoyed working on with research interns from France. I received much needed comments and suggestions, and it felt good to present something new formally for the first time in front of people that are more knowledgeable than me in the subject. I also enjoyed all the talks regarding penguin ecology and behavior, the challenges they face in the wild, as I am not familiar with them and it was refreshing to listen to something different. One of the highlights of the symposium however was on the simple tricks and basics on photography and video making. Much of my work relies on photography to illustrate the various behaviors, environment conditions primates face whether in captivity or in the wild, and I am sure the new information I learned will be put to use in the near future.</p> <p>In the last day of the symposium, we watched two documentaries on the problems giraffes face in Africa, which ended with a discussion on the pros and cons of each documentary by our invited specialists on video making. It was interesting to dissect both documentaries and to get various perspectives from the audience that varied from general public to famous researchers in wildlife. Besides learning about the various ways of making good filming practices, it was shocking to learn how poor giraffes are doing in the wild compared to other species that live alongside them in the wilderness of Africa. Although, much is spoken about primates, elephants, and large cats in Africa, not much is talked about the giraffes, and I found it very fitting to talk about this species at</p>

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our conserv'session, as I felt it accomplished its purpose of creating awareness.

Finally, it was also a good opportunity to catch up with previous mentors and colleagues which are not in the country or institution anymore. I find myself to be in a very privileged position to present my work and then talk it over and get advice from such professionals. Moreover, listening to their current research and advancements in their work gave me motivation to work even harder in my own research interests. I am thankful for the support of my supervisors and PWS for allowing me these great opportunities.



Poster for the Conserv'session event and specialist on filmmaking.



Dining and talking about research with Dr. Hill, Dr. Watson, and Dr. Bercovitch.