## 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.)

2016. 08. 08	
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D2
Name	Duncan Wilson

#### 1. Country/location of visit

Kyoto University Science Seminar House, Kyoto, Japan

#### 2. Research project

Special Seminar by Dr. Jane Goodall

### 3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016. 07. 30 - 2016. 07. 30 (1 day)

#### 4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Professor. Tetsuro Matsuzawa (Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study and PWS)

#### 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.

On the evening of July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Dr. Jane Goodall gave a seminar especially for Kyoto University students. Jane has never stayed in one place for longer than three weeks since 1986, and currently travels around the world 300 days a year giving around 200 talks, which is very impressive for an 82 year old.

In 2015 the Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science (PWS) gave me the wonderful opportunity to visit Jane's field site, at Gombe Stream National Park in Tanzania, where the Kasakela chimpanzee community live. Therefore, I was really looking forward to hearing Jane talk about her famous research with the chimpanzees there. In her seminar she explained about her two major discoveries; chimpanzees make and use tools (i.e. twigs for termite fishing, which I saw for myself at Gombe), and hunt and eat meat (e.g. colobus monkeys). The former discovery was the most significant, as tool making was thought to be what distinguished humans from the rest of the animal kingdom at the time.

Jane revealed that even now, new discoveries about the behaviour of the Kasakela chimpanzee community are being made. She reported one particularly gruesome set of observations, which are fascinating, but difficult to explain. An adult female chimpanzee killed an infant. The mother of the infant then took the body back, ate some of it, and shared it with her son. Another adult male chimpanzee ate some of the head, and took it back to his nest. The mother then joined the male and they slept together with the head.

Jane also raised some important points about the conservation of wild chimpanzees. Many tourists currently visit Gombe to see the chimpanzees. On the one hand, this can be beneficial, as more people become interested in their conservation. On the other hand, the daily lives of the chimpanzees can be disturbed if too many tourists visit. Therefore, it is important to limit the number of people and size of the groups which visit. Another important point was that in order to improve the lives of animals, it is often necessary to improve the lives of humans first. For example, deforestation and destruction of chimpanzee habitat often occurs because local people have few resources or alternative sources of income. Therefore, if we provide alternatives for these people, less forest will be destroyed and more chimpanzees can be saved.

As Jane is concerned about both the conservation and welfare of animals, we had an interesting one-to-one discussion about vegetarianism and the factors which influence peoples' choices about meat eating. Some of the factors we discussed included ignorance about what happens to our food from farm to fork, the inconvenience of avoiding meat in our diet, and the failure to see how our individual actions have a direct impact on the eating habits of wider society. I think it is crucial to understand the psychology behind human decision making, so that we can more effectively persuade people to make decisions which benefit the conservation and welfare of all animals in the future. I would like to thank Professor. Tetsuro Matsuzawa (PWS Coordinator) for giving us the opportunity to meet such an inspiring person during this special event.

Submit to: report@wildlife-science.org 2014.05.27

version

# 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.)

#### **Others:** Photographs 6.



Dr. Jane Goodall giving her seminar



One-to-one discussion





Submit to: report@wildlife-science.org 2014.05.27

version