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.)

	2016.9.3
Affiliation/Position	PRI/M2
Name	Shintaro Ishizuka

1. Country/location of visit

Chicago, U.S.A

2. Research project

IPS/ASP 2016

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016.8.20-29

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Lincoln Park Zoo

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.

From 20th to 29th August I attended International Primatological Society. Purposes of joining were to follow up recent studies over the world, to communicate with international researchers studying wild bonobos, which are my study subjects, at other sites.

Presentations I listened were mostly about genetics and behaviors. This is because I'm studying about wildlife's society from perspectives of both genetics and behaviors. Presentations about genetics I listened were roughly categorized as "whole genome sequencing" and "microsatellite analysis." Whole genome sequencing revealed histories of populations, which is species or higher taxa. However, my study interests are to investigate genetic information of some identified individuals and to understand how such genetic relationships affect actual social systems in study subjects. Then I felt whole genome sequencing is not my central interests. Although I'm curious about using Next Generation Sequencer because it produces so much sequence data, good ideas to use it didn't occur to me. On the other hand microsatellite analysis revealed mainly kin relationships or reproductive success within groups. These are the theme for my study. Presentations about them were helpful for me to develop ways of presenting my study. Until now I had many times to worry about how much I should show index specialized to population genetics at presentations. But thanks to many presentations I learned them to some extent.

Sessions in behaviors had so many presentations and perspectives for studies were various. In total I felt Western researchers put much more weight on Wrangham's socioecological theory than Japanese. This would be not good or bad but the difference of styles. And I also felt that there were many studies based on long term data. In addition I was much impressed in the symposium about tolerant primates and a behavioral session about inter group interactions. I'm studying wild bonobos focusing on their inter community relationships. Although bonobo communities encounter frequently with each other, I learned that group encounters occurred more frequently in many primate species. But peaceful interactions between communities in bonobos seemed to be unique because inter group relationships is usually antagonistic in group living animals. I thought investigating relationships between social relationships and genetic structure among neighboring groups in many primate species seems interesting. This would lead to reveal evolution of regional community in primates.

Fortunately I got an opportunity to talk with researchers studying wild bonobos at other site. Although the talk was simple and short, I realized researches at other site are going well and got stimulated. I'd like to make use of various experiences in IPS and develop my studies more and more.





Lincoln Park Zoo

Field Museum

6. Others

This opportunity was supported by PWS Leading Program. I would like to appreciate this program.