

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.)

	2017. 09. 02
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D3
Name	Duncan Wilson

1. Country/location of visit	University of Tokyo, Komaba Campus, Japan
2. Research project	‘Behavior 2017’ Meeting
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)	2017. 08. 30 - 2017. 09. 01 (3 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation	Dr. Toshikazu Hasegawa (University of Tokyo)
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)	<p>Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.</p> <p>Last year I attended the 76th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Animal Psychology (JSAP) at Hokkaido University, Sapporo. This year the ‘Behavior 2017’ conference was jointly organised by the JSAP, the Japan Ethological Society, the Japanese Society for Applied Animal Behaviour, the Japanese Society for Livestock Management and the Japanese Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. The last joint conference was held six years ago at Keio University, Tokyo, called ‘Animal 2011’. At Behavior 2017 I made a poster presentation on my recent research entitled ‘Exploring attentional bias in chimpanzees using the dot probe task’. It was a good chance to receive feedback, especially from Dr. Adachi and Dr. Kano.</p> <p><i>Presentations:</i> I particularly enjoyed the talk given by Dr. Robert Shumaker (Director, Indianapolis Zoo, USA) entitled: Cognitive research with great apes in U.S. zoos advances conservation, welfare and science. Dr. Shumaker explained that although cognitive research with great apes in the U.S. has previously taken part in research facilities, zoos are now the primary location for such work. He said the Orangutan Center at his zoo was designed to be functionally naturalistic, and provide daily opportunities for learning and problem solving through computerised cognitive tasks. Importantly, the presence of zoo guests during cognitive research sessions fosters public engagement with orangutans in a way that advances a greater concern for field conservation efforts. During the meeting, I was fortunate to talk with Dr. Shumaker and receive some helpful advice on my past efforts to improve living conditions of animals at a Japanese zoo.</p> <p>I also enjoyed Dr. Fumihiro Kano’s talk entitled: Psychological study of apes and birds: a new research paradigm with the latest sensor technology and analogue devices (translated from Japanese). Dr. Kano is a visiting researcher at the University of Oxford (collaborating with Dr. Takao Sasaki and Dr. Dora Biro) conducting research into how pigeons use their vision to coordinate group flight while homing. He explained the process of developing a suitable head mounted camera which could be attached to pigeons during flight. This allowed him to obtain exciting video footage of how the birds see the world during flight, as well as detailed information about flight paths and how they interact with each other.</p> <p>There were 266 poster presentations during this conference! I was especially interested in a poster entitled: Establishment of social rank after introduction of a resource-dispersed welfare cage in laying hens: acclimatisation and resource utilisation (translated from Japanese) by PhD student Ms. Atsuko Kikuchi, Azabu University. 90% of eggs in Japan come from caged hens, which have very restricted living spaces. Her goal is to work with Japanese farmers to improve the welfare of caged hens step-by-step.</p> <p>As this was a joint meeting between different societies, there were fewer presentations in English compared to the JSAP Annual Meetings I have previously attended. However, there were a greater variety of studies and species, which made it very interesting. I thank Prof. Tomonaga for his helpful feedback on my poster drafts and PWS Coordinator Prof. Matsuzawa for financial support to attend the meeting.</p>

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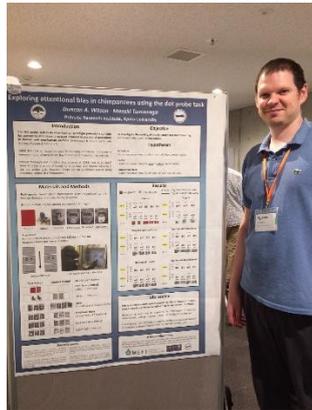
6. Others: Photos



University of Tokyo,
Komaba Campus entrance



Koudou (Behavior) 2017
Programme book



My poster:
Exploring attentional bias in chimpanzees
using the dot probe task



Dr. Robert Shumaker
(Director, Indianapolis Zoo, USA)
Photo Credit: Tadatoshi Ogura