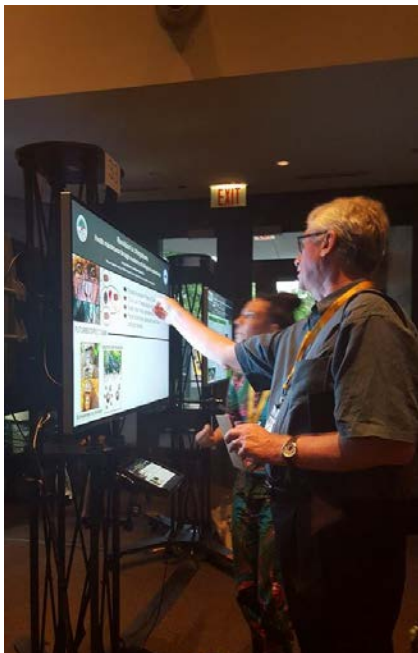


**Research Activity Report**  
**Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”**

2016. 09, 28	
<b>Affiliation/Position</b>	Primate Research Institute/D2
<b>Name</b>	Cecile Sarabian

<b>1. Country/location of visit</b>
USA/Chicago, Davis, Honolulu
<b>2. Symposiums and congresses</b>
Chimpanzees in context symposium, 26 <sup>th</sup> International Primatological Society congress, UC Davis, IUCN World Conservation congress 2016
<b>3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)</b>
2016. 08. 18 – 2016. 09. 12 (26 days)
<b>4. Main host researcher and affiliation</b>
At UC Davis: Ms. Kelly Finn (PhD student)
<b>5. Progress and results of your research/activity</b>
<p><b>Chicago: Chimpanzees in context and International Primatological Society meetings</b></p> <p>Understanding Chimpanzees symposiums have been held since 1986. Jane Goodall and Paul Heltne started these meetings in order to gather field scientists working in the different chimpanzee study sites across Africa, along with researchers studying captive chimpanzees, to discuss research findings and expand their knowledge of chimpanzee behavior and ecology. Since then, 3 other meetings have been held in Chicago (1991, 2007 and 2016); Jane Goodall has made a switch from Academia to Activism; and researchers now also want to understand bonobos.</p> <p>The scientific program consisted of 32 international keynote speakers partitioned in 8 topic sessions ranging from Cognition to Conservation. Beside that, 20 early career primatologists had also been selected to present their work through e-posters. I presented a poster entitled “Revulsion in chimpanzees: Health maintenance through avoidance of biological contaminants”. The format allowed showing videos, making the presentation more interactive. Several students and professors came to my poster and were apparently interested in the question of testing disgust in chimpanzees. I remember one PhD student working on olfactory communication in macaques was interested in my olfactory experiments with chimpanzees. Pr. Frans de Waal also came to my poster saying “Disgust is considered as an emotion by many scientists, who therefore think it is uniquely human. I do not agree with that”. Me neither. Our discussion started in front of my poster and is still continuing today. For all those enriching exchanges, I am grateful to have had the chance to attend this meeting.</p> <p>The symposium was followed by the 26<sup>th</sup> International Primatological Society (IPS) congress joint this year with the American Society of Primatologists meeting – my second IPS, after Hanoi in 2014. During this meeting, I was able to present the progress of my PhD work through a talk entitled “A Primate’s sense of cleanliness: Perspectives from Papionini and Hominini” in a general session about Behavior. Interest and feedback were encouraging. The congress was also an opportunity to re-meet people I haven’t met since Hanoi 2014 and to meet researchers I never had the chance to meet before such as Dr. Damien Caillaud, Dr. Brian Hare, Dr. Lilian Pintea, etc. In addition, I also had the privilege to meet again with Dr. Jane Goodall to discuss further about news and growth of Roots &amp; Shoots Iran, as well as to plan a future interview for The PrimateCast.</p>

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Frans de Waal commenting on my e-Poster at Chimpanzees in Context. Photo: Gabriela Daly



**A PRIMATE'S SENSE OF CLEANLINESS**  
**PERSPECTIVES FROM PAPIONINI & HOMININI**  
C. Sarabian & A. MacIntosh, Kyoto University Primate Research Institute



Talk at IPS on infection-risk avoidance in non-human primates. Photo: Yena Kim

**Wings of Indianapolis Zoo with Chris Martin**

At the end of the conference, we (PRI student Gao Jie, Ewha Women's University students Ahyun Choi and Yoonjung Yi, National Institute of Ecology research fellow Yena Kim, The University of Montpellier PhD student Clemence Poirotte and I) were invited by Dr. Chris Martin to visit Indianapolis Zoo and the different research projects and devices he was working on. Since Dr. Martin presented his work at the annual PWS symposium last March, I wanted to visit the zoo and see in real time his touch-panel experiments with the very perseverant orangutans.



Walrus showing its tongue. Indianapolis zoo has two walrus among about 40 captive individuals around the world. Photo: Yena Kim



The touch-panel, the orangutan and us. Photo: Yena Kim

**California: Talk at UC Davis**

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After Chicago and before Hawaii, I made a stop in California to visit UCDavis friend and PhD student Kelly Finn from Brenda McCowan’s animal behavior lab and to give a talk at the university. Few people attended including Emeritus Pr. Benjamin Hart and Assistant Pr. Damien Caillaud. It was great to be able to discuss with Pr. Hart - a reference in parasite/pathogen avoidance in animals! We exchanged about a future meeting (Royal Society Annual Meeting on the evolution of parasite/pathogen avoidance in London in June 2017) that I am co-organizing and for which Pr. Hart will be a keynote speaker. He also gave me an extra copy of a new Science book he co-advised: “This is your brain on parasites” from Kathleen McAuliffe – good read!



With Pr. Ben Hart after my talk



With Kelly Finn (bottom right) at the IPS/ASP closing ceremony party in Chicago

Ms. Kelly Finn gave me a tour of the UCDavis campus including the California National Primate Research Center, which hosts over 5,000 rhesus macaques and titi monkeys, and leads research projects ranging from animal welfare to Zika virus. Kelly Finn’s research - which partly takes place at this center, focuses on macaque’s perception of the environment, time series of individual behavior and emergent group-level structure using fractal analyses. She will be soon returning to Japan under a JSPS/NSF fellowship to pursue her work on Koshima island.

**Hawaii (Honolulu): IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016**

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is held only once every four years and is the largest conservation congress in the world. This year in Honolulu - Hawaii, it gathered more than 10,000 participants from 192 countries. The all Honolulu was filled with conservationists or so. The location has not been chosen randomly; Hawaii is a biodiversity hotspot, the place where Barack Obama grew up and unfortunately also, the biggest ivory market for the United States.

The congress was held over ten days and divided into two parts: first, the discussion panels, conservation campus, knowledge cafés, posters, pavilion events, press conferences and workshops, then, the members assembly to propose and vote motions.

*The panels*

Among the high level sessions I could attend in the first part were:

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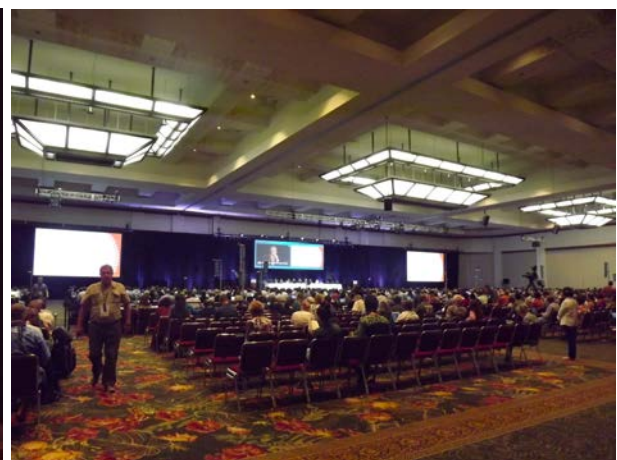
**A changing climate: Championing nature-based solutions** with Tom Friedman (The New York Times), Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Prime Minister of Tuvalu), Patricia Espinosa (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), Xavier Sticker (French Ambassador for the Environment), Tom Butler (International Council on Mining & Metals), Martha Rojas-Urrego (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), Peter Seligmann (Conservation International)

**Private finance for public good** with Inger Andersen (IUCN), Camilla Seth (JPMorgan Chase), John Tobin (Cornell University), Dale Galvin (RARE), Terry Tamminen (Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation), Julia Bucknall (World Bank), Lynn Scarlett (The Nature Conservancy), Christy Goldfuss (White House Council on Environmental Quality), Fabian Huwyler (Credit Suisse), Naoko Ishii (Global Environment Facility), Stephan Opitz (KfW Development Bank)

**Conservation 2.0: Empowering next generations** with Jane Goodall (Jane Goodall Institute/UN Messenger of Peace), Rick Bates (Canadian Wildlife Federation), Alison Sudol (IUCN Goodwill Ambassador), Bruno Monteferri (Conservamos por Naturaleza), Anne Walton (International Marine Protected Area Management), Paul Rose (National Geographic Society), Jonathan Jarvis (National Parks Service), Justin Bogardus (Independent filmmaker), Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim (Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad)

**Everybody’s business: Ending wildlife trafficking** with John Scanlon (CITES), Marco Lambertini (WWF), Patricia Zurita (BirdLife International), Nyi Nyi Kyaw (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of Myanmar), Catherine Novelli (US Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment), Cristiàn Samper (Wildlife Conservation Society)

**Actions for a sustainable ocean** with Sylvia Earle (Mission Blue & Ocean Elder), Prince Albert II of Monaco, Aulani Wilhelm (Island Water), Nainoa Thompson (Polynesian Voyaging Society), Sandra Bessudo (Fondacion MALPELO), Catherine Novelli (US Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment), Umberto Delgado Rosa (European Commission), Kathryn Sullivan (NOAA), Braulio Ferreira da Souza Dias (Convention on Biological Diversity)



Motion 007 Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory approved!

Part of the Members assembly on the last day of the congress

In sum, they were interesting discussions – some being informative, but sometimes a bit redundant for a public of conservationists. No actions are taken during these discussions. I really understood the significance of the meeting by attending the Members assembly. This is where motions are proposed and voted. Among the most contentious and time-consuming motions: 007 Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory and 009 Prevention of hunting captive bred lions and other predators. Governments and civil society members representing a country have the right to propose a motion and to vote. I found it very interesting to see how decision-making toward conservation is done at such level. For example, motion 007 has been approved by most of the parties, except Japan, South Africa and Namibia, who proposed some 20 amendments that were in the end all rejected. It is now the role of

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CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) to position itself regarding the motion. An approval could be manifested as listing all elephant species in Appendix I (African elephants from Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa are currently in appendix II) and in this way strengthening regulations about ivory trade. Then, opponent countries would have to find national solutions to resolve the socio-economic issue (replacement of people’s job working in ivory-related fields) following the ban – if approved.

#### *Workshop “Management of protected areas in Africa”*

Among the different workshops and other smaller scale working groups I could attend, one was entitled “Management of Protected Areas in Africa”, and proposed in French (only) – my native language. Short videos describing a concept or an issue regarding protected areas in Africa were shown then, followed by a debate with the attendees. We were about ten participants. We came back on the definition of protected areas, their significance, and role with specific cases of cross-boundaries protected areas and issues regarding legislation of such zones.

#### *Screenings of conservation-related documentaries*

On most of the first part of the meeting evenings, screenings of conservation-related documentaries were held. This is where I learnt about the issue of “canned lion hunting” in South Africa with the film “Blood Lions”, where the movie “A Plastic Ocean” – here in preview reminded us with the issue of plastic over-consumption and also where I could finally watch “Racing Extinction” – a broad documentary raising awareness about human impact on species loss. Those screenings were also the occasion to re-think and pursue “Conserv’Session”, an initiative that I co-started by screening conservation-related documentaries to raise awareness and facilitate discussion about conservation issues at Kyoto University.

#### *Experiencing virtual reality and interviewing Her Deepness Sylvia Earle*



Immersive diving experience with “Valen’s reef” at the exhibition hall of the IUCN congress. Photo: Eric McNatt



“No water, no life. No blue, no green.” Dr. Sylvia Earle for Conservation Voices on The PrimateCast. Photo: Paul Friese

#### *Conservation Voices interviews for The PrimateCast*

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One of the main reason for me to attend the IUCN World Conservation Congress was to share my interest for conservation through interviews and as such I have been able to talk to Her Deepness Sylvia Earle, Dr. Andrew Venter CEO of WILDLANDS and executive producer of “Blood Lions”, executive advisor David Jones and producer Jo Ruxton of the film “A Plastic Ocean”, and Abnous Sadeghi and Amirhossein Khaleghi from the Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation, in addition to mini-interviews regarding the congress with participants.

**In brief, the all congress was an incredible experience. The location, host people, culture, weather and surfing were also part of the incredibility. Two things to remember among many others: the creation of the largest marine reserve on Earth off of Hawaii by Barack Obama as the congress was launching and the move toward African elephant conservation by proposing a global ban on domestic ivory markets.**

**6. Others**

Acknowledgements: I would like to express my sincere gratitude to PWS for giving me the opportunity to participate in all these meetings and to my advisor Dr. Andrew MacIntosh for his advices and general support. I would also like to thank Ms. Clemence Poirotte and Michel Halbwx for their time in Chicago, Dr. Chris Martin for showing us the wings of Indianapolis zoo and his very cool touch panel enrichment/research device for orangutans, and Ms. Kelly Finn for hosting me, organizing my talk, and showing me around in Davis.