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. 7. 27
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/ M1
Name	Wanyi Lee

1. Country/location of visit

Sasagamine, Japan

2. Research project

Basic Skills for Field Work Non-snow season

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2017.7.18-2017.7.21

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Prof. Sugiyama, Prof. Koshima, Prof. Takizawa and Prof. Matsuzawa

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.

In the period of 18-21 July, I joined Sasagamine course to learn the basic field skills. The brief schedule was as follows:

18 July – travel to Sasagamine hut, brief excursion

19 July – Excursions to untraced field

20 July – Mt. Hiuchi climbing

21 July – rope work study

On the first day we arrived, we get to walk around the hut and Sugiyama sensei taught us many wild plants. The most important thing is to remember and avoid the poisonous plants, like Yamaurushi. I was surprised by the natural fruit resources around the area, although the fruits were not in the season.

Schedule of the second day was two excursions to the less traveled fields. In the morning, we went to Karasawa creek. We have to recognize the natural "landmarks" in the forests, so we could locate the trail when we travel back. It was not an easy task because the less travelled road looks really alike and even after this course I do not have the confidence that I can do that. In the afternoon, we had another excursion to a spring. After rest, we made the hammock and swing.

On the 20 July, we had our most important schedule – Mt. Hiuchi climbing. We woke up very early in the morning, it was a cool morning to climb. On the way to the top, we can see beautiful scenery where the snow from the winter still remains. I also enjoyed the view of the small lakes formed after the snow melts. The last few kilometers before the top were so difficult because I was so tired already. I am glad that eventually I made it to the top. The road going downslope was not easy as well since it placed much stress on my ankles and knees. The hard work pays off; the melon and ice cream after climbing tasted more delicious. We then prepared for the BBQ dinner.

On 21 July, we learned the rope knotting techniques. I cannot make the knots successful, maybe more practice is needed. After that, we cleaned up the hutte and headed back to Inuyama.

During this course, I believe that I was greatly challenged and trained from many aspects, especially in persistence and body strength. After these four short days, I got to know myself better. I may be doing slower than the others, but I can conquer the challenge with my mind and persistence.

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Walking on the snow

Cooking Paella together

Self-made swing

6. Others

This program is supported by PWS. Thanks to the professors for the lessons and daily care. Also, I thank the other students who offered help and shared so much joy.

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