




**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.)

2015. 02, 05	
<b>Affiliation/Position</b>	Wildlife Research Center/D1 (from April 2015)
<b>Name</b>	Cecile Sarabian

<b>1. Country/location of visit</b>
Australia, Brisbane
<b>2. Research project</b>
Student Conference on Conservation Science
<b>3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)</b>
2014. 12. 22 – 2015. 01. 30 (39 days)
<b>4. Main host researcher and affiliation</b>
Dr. Andrew MacIntosh, Associate Professor at Wildlife Research Center / Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University
<b>5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)</b>
Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.
<p>During this visit, I presented a talk at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Student Conference on Conservation Science Australia, held in Brisbane from January 19<sup>th</sup> to January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (<a href="http://www.sccs-aus.org/">http://www.sccs-aus.org/</a>).</p>

<b>Image credit: SCCS Australia</b>
<p>I also used this opportunity to visit Sydney aquarium, the Australia zoo, the Lone Pine koala sanctuary, the Natural History museum of the University of Sydney and the Royal national park to learn more about how conservation and public education works in Australia.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
<p>Left: Crocodile show at the Australia Zoo, right: Koala petting and picture at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary. Queensland uses a quite contestable way of educating the public by adopting the “don’t do what I do” politic in zoos and sanctuaries. Photo credits: Natasha Peters</p>

**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.)**



**The Royal National Park is situated 29 km South of Sydney Business center and is accessible by public transport. Once you reach it, you are in the middle of a 15,091-hectare rainforest. Photo credit: Cecile Sarabian**

Unfortunately, I could not meet anybody from JGI Australia as nobody replied to my emails but I could meet the manager of Roots and Shoots Nepal in Kathmandu, before arriving in Australia.

I came to Brisbane to present the Roots & Shoots Iran project, quite well received by the public. I could also discussed with other students, professors involved in Educative projects about Conservation. I met a student from Brazil who did not know about Roots & Shoots before my talk and who after her internship in Australia will join R&S in her country, and a MSc student at the University of Melbourne who also wants to start Education activities in Melbourne.



**Presenting Roots & Shoots Iran at SCCS Australia 2015**

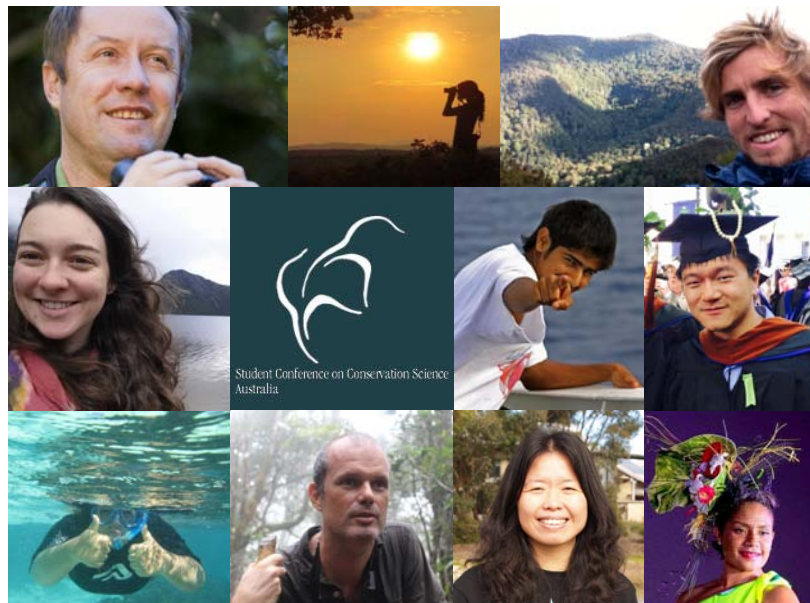


**Meeting with Shristi Singh Shrestha, Roots & Shoots Nepal manager**

**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.)**

At SCCS Australia, I could create a useful network of conservationists. Here are examples of persons with whom I might collaborate in the (near or far) future: the very promising Yufang Gao (PhD student at Yale University, USA) investigating the Chinese ivory trade; Pr. Lei Cao (Chinese Academy of Sciences) researching on migratory birds along the Yangtze river and willing to develop similar educative projects that we initiated in Iran; and Alice Risely (PhD student at Deakin University, Australia) with whom we planned a study on sustainability assessment among conservationists (persons attending Conservation Science conferences) and other scientists (persons attending Primatology, and other Wildlife Science conferences).

Regarding media involvement, I also recorded 10 interviews of plenary speakers and students for The PrimateCast (CICASP media) in order to release a podcast for students and persons interested in Conservation Science but who could not attend the conference and would like to know what the future of Conservation is about. I had a booth onsite where I could conduct interviews, advertise the podcast through business cards and a short talk between two sessions, and advertise the PWS program through flyers and discussions.



**Voices of conservationists – SCCS Australia. The PrimateCast #32. Picture credit: The PrimateCast**

We had 3 days of oral and poster presentations, 3 days of excursions (Australia Zoo, Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary and Lamington National Park (the last one was cancelled due to weather conditions)), and finally the next week, 4 days of workshops. I learned new techniques used in Conservation Science to monitor populations via species distribution modeling using the MaxEnt software. I also met very interesting persons at the “Creative Conversations about Conservation” workshop. This workshop was about how to use any form of Art (including media) to raise public awareness about Conservation issues. A scientist and sound artist was present, Dr. Leah Barclay (<http://leahbarclay.com/>), as well as Dr. Cathy Oke (councilor of Melbourne, environmental consultant) and Mrs. Ariel Marcy (scientist from Stanford University, educative game designer; <http://www.steamgalaxy.com/>).

**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.)**



**Go Extinct!** is a game designed by Ariel Marcy who teaches people about Evolution in a funny way. I brought one back for PRI, let’s play! Photo credit: Ariel Marcy

Yufang Gao won the 1st prize at SCCS Australia 2015 for his talk on the Chinese ivory trade. Photo credit:

Yufang Gao

<http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/2014/06/02/a-young-chinese-conservationist-discusses-his-countrys-role-in-the-ivory-trade/>

Through this overall experience, I have developed a better vision on how research might be effective in Conservation. Pr. Hugh Possingham (Professor of Ecology and Mathematics, Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions, and the National Environmental Research Hub for Environmental Decisions, University of Queensland) asked: “Who beside your colleagues are reading your scientific publications? To make your research effective, you need to make it easily understandable to the public and to the decision makers.” As such, it is what I aim to do in my future research, by podcasting, writing blogs, organizing public events, collaborating with newspapers, etc.

**6. Others**