

**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.)

	2019. 10, 14
<b>Affiliation/Position</b>	Primate Research Institute/D1
<b>Name</b>	Vanessa Nadine Gris

<b>1. Country/location of visit</b>	Urbanguild, Kyoto, Japan
<b>2. Research project</b>	Nerd Nite Kansai #09 x Conserv'Session
<b>3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)</b>	2019. 10. 14
<b>4. Main host researcher and affiliation</b>	Raquel Costa (Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University) , Miho Saito (Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University), Maegan Fitzgerald (Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University)
<b>5. Progress and results of your research/activity</b> (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>I joined Nerd Nite Kansai #09 x Conserv'Session held in October in Kyoto. The idea of NerdNite is to promote science in a fun and interactive way outside the strict academic environment.</p> <p>Maegan Fitzgerald was the first presenter and she talked about the communities of humans and chimpanzees in her fieldwork in Bossou and Nimba, Republic of Guinea. Both species seek survival and achievement of their basic and physiologic needs. At the same time that chimpanzees need the forest to get resources for daily life, humans explore the forest for food and transportation of their goods. That’s the point where they collide and to promote conservation in this framework, community involvement is necessary.</p> <p>Following presenter was Miho Saito, talking about giraffe parental care. One of the most interesting behaviors described was the allosuckling, described as the occasion where a mother nurses other calves, not only her own. In one month, she observed 76 tries of allosuckling with only 5 successful cases, a rate of 6,6%. This behavior is rare in wild giraffes.</p> <p>Raquel Costa talked about her doctorate research on conservation and behavior of gorillas in Uganda. Her main focus was the exploitation of animals during tourist activities in the wild and how selfies can impact their welfare. In the beginning of presentation, she asked the public to participate and pretend they were tourists trying to take selfies with the gorillas.</p> <p>Many people from different backgrounds attended Nerd Nite and asked questions at the end of the presentation. I believe this kind of event that promotes science in a casual environment helps to raise curiosity and awareness about important questions that otherwise wouldn’t reach the general public.</p>

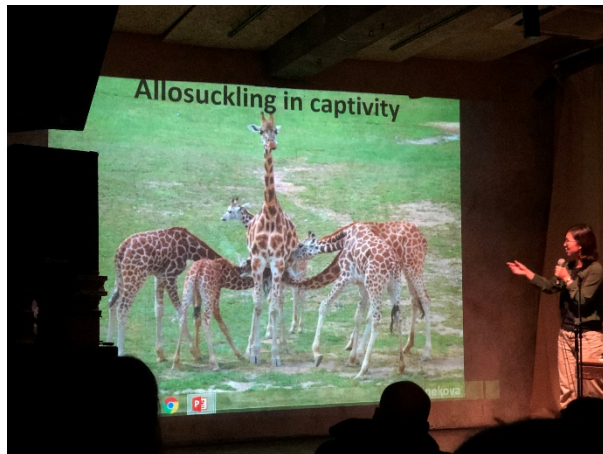
**Research Activity Report**  
**Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”**  
*(Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)*



Raquel Costa engaging with the public to raise awareness about selfies with animals



Maegan Fitzgerald at Nerd Nite Kansai



Miho Saito presenting her work on giraffe behavior



Group photo of  
Nerd Nite Kansai #09 x Conserv'Session

## 6. Others

I would like to thank PWS for the financial support, Nerd Nite Kansai organizers and the students from Kyoto University that organized this event.