

Undergraduate Medical Science Course in Tsukuba 2018

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The 4th Undergraduate Medical Science Course was held in Tsukuba from February 27 to March 7, 2018. We invited ten foreign students from some of our partner universities in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Taiwan.

Participants:

University of Indonesia (Medicine):	2 students
University of Indonesia (Pharmacy):	2 students
University of Medicine and Pharmacy HCMC (Medicine):	1 student
University of Medicine and Pharmacy HCMC (Pharmacy):	1 student
University of Science (Biomaterial/Biotechnology):	1 student
University of Science (Biology):	1 student
National Taiwan University (Clinical Laboratory Sciences and Medical Biotechnology):	2 students
University of Tsukuba, School of Medical Sciences:	11 students
University of Tsukuba (National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan)	1 student

This program was supported by “Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science”
(SAKURA Exchange Program in Science), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

<http://ssp.jst.go.jp/EN/index.html>

Schedule

Schedule for SAKURA science program 2018

【Day 1】	Feb. 27 (Tue)	AM	Arrival (Indonesia, Vietnam: ~11:30)	4B104
		PM	Opening ceremony, orientation, PC virus check Guest room check-in (16:00 ~) Arrival (Taiwan: ~17:00) Welcome party (18:00 ~)	
【Day 2】	Feb. 28 (Wed)	AM	Laboratory experiments	Laboratory
		PM	Laboratory experiments	
【Day 3】	Mar. 1 (Thu)	AM	Introduction 1: University of Tsukuba (9:30-) 2: Vietnam National University (10:00-) (Univ. of Science and Univ. of Med and Pharm) 3: University of Indonesia (10:30-) 4: National Taiwan University (11:00-)	Room 483 (Gakkei bld.)
		PM	Laboratory experiments	Laboratory
【Day 4】	Mar. 2 (Fri)	AM	Laboratory experiments	Laboratory
		PM	Tsukuba science city tour (JAXA at 13:30, NIMS at 15:30) JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency NIMS: National Institute for Materials Science) Event planned by Japanese students	
【Day 5】	Mar. 3 (Sat)	AM	(Free)	
		PM	Mt. Tsukuba	
【Day 6】	Mar. 4 (Sun)	AM	Japanese culture tour (Tokyo)	
		PM		
【Day 7】	Mar. 5 (Mon)	AM	Laboratory experiments	Laboratory
		PM	Laboratory experiments (Preparation for presentation)	Laboratory or Room 483
【Day 8】	Mar. 6 (Tue)	AM	Preparation for presentation (Introduction of UT programs)	Room 483 (Gakkei bld.)
		PM	Final presentation Closing ceremony (Farewell party, 18:00 ~)	Room 483 4B104
【Day 9】	Mar. 7 (Wed)	AM	Guest room check-out (~10:00) and departure	
		PM		

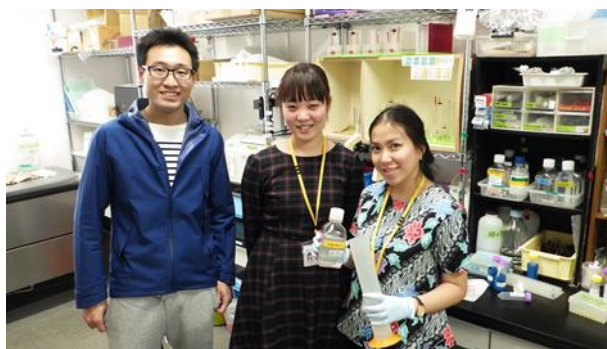
Orientation, Self-introduction and Welcome party



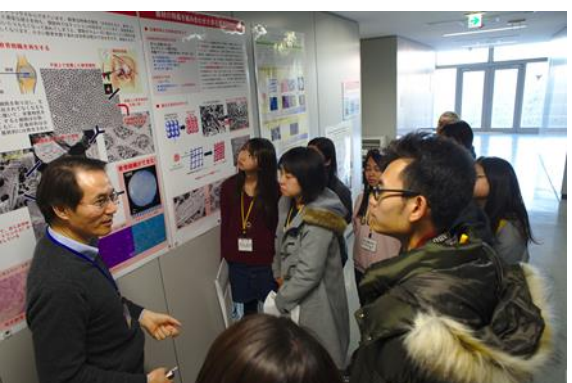
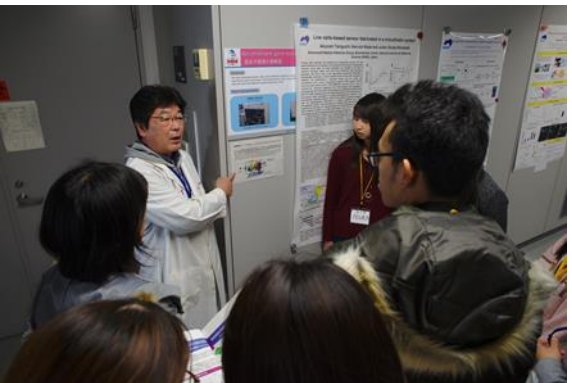
Laboratory experiments

An invited student and a Tsukuba student paired up, and each pair stayed in different laboratories to have research experiences.

Laboratory	Supervisor	students	
Experimental Pathology (実験病理学)	Mitsuyasu Kato	Yu-Shu Liu	Asuka Hada
Immunology (免疫学)	Kazuko Shibuya Akira Shibuya	Le Tran Dang Khoi	Chihiro Kato
Infection Biology, Bacteriology (微生物学)	Kazuya Morikawa	Valdi ven Japranata	Mizuki Saito
Molecular and Developmental Biology (分子発生生物学)	Makoto Kobayashi	Yi-hsuan She	Ayano Kougo
Molecular Cell Biology (分子細胞生物学)	Yasuyuki Suda Kenji Irie	Yi-Zhen Wu	Kae Shimizu
Physiological Chemistry (生理化学)	Norihiko Ohbayashi Yuji Funakoshi	Andrea Laurentius	Harue Suzuki
Medical Genetics (遺伝医学)	Emiko Noguchi	Chu Thi Hong Phuong	Maho Ogiwara
Gene Regulation (遺伝子制御学)	Koji Hisatake	Grasella	Kanako Nishi
Molecular Parasitology (寄生虫分子生物学)	Ho Kiong	Sheila Odilia	Eri Motoyama
Molecular Virology (分子ウイルス学)	Atsushi Kawaguchi	Nguyen Trinh Thien Kim	Nano Tustsui
Laboratory Animal Science (実験動物学)	Fumihiko Sugiyama	Do Tran Minh Thu	Miho Usui



This program provided us an opportunity to introduce some of the research institutes in Tsukuba city, such as JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and NIMS (National Institute of Materials Science). We also visited Mt. Tsukuba and Tokyo to introduce beautiful Japanese nature and traditional cultures to the foreign students.





Presentation

All participants presented the results of experiments which they have done in each laboratory.

	chair			lab	
15:00	Miho Usui Do Tran Minh Thu	Yu-Shu Liu (Taiwan)	Asuka Hada 秦 明日香	Experimental Pathology (実験病理学)	Mitsuyasu Kato (加藤光保)
15:10		Le Tran Dang Khoi (Vietnam, Univ of Sci)	Chihiro Kato 加藤 千尋	Immunology (免疫学)	Akira Shibuya (渋谷 彰)
15:20		Valdi ven Japranata (Indonesia, Med)	Mizuki Saito 齊藤 美月	Infection Biology, Bacteriology (微生物学)	Kazuya Morikawa (森川一也)
15:30		Yi-hsuan She (Taiwan/Morikawa lab.)	Ayano Kougo 向後 綾乃	Molecular and Developmental Biology (分子発生生物学)	Makoto Kobayashi (小林麻己人)
15:40					
15:50	Asuka Hada Yu-Shu Liu	Yi-Zhen Wu (Taiwan)	Kae Shimizu 清水 加絵	Molecular Cell Biology (分子細胞生物学)	Kenji Irie (入江賢児)
16:00		Andrea Laurentius (Indonesia, Med)	Harue Suzuki 鈴木 晴媛	Physiological Chemistry (生理化学)	Yasunori Kanaho (金保安則)
16:10		Chu Thi Hong Phuong (Vietnam, UMP)	Maho Ogiwara 荻原真帆	Medical Genetics (遺伝医学)	Emiko Noguchi (野口恵美子)
16:20		Grasella (Indonesia, Pharm)	Kanako Nishi 西香菜子	Gene Regulation (遺伝子制御学)	Koji Hisatake (久武幸司)
16:30					
16:40	Harue Suzuki Andrea Laurentius	Sheila Odilia (Indonesia, Pharm)	Eri Motoyama 本山 絵理	Molecular Parasitology (寄生虫分子生物学)	Ho Kiong
16:50		Nguyen Trinh Thien Kim (Vienum, Univ of Sci)	Nano Tustsui 筒井 菜乃	Molecular Virology (分子ウイルス学)	Atsushi Kawaguchi (川口敦史)
17:00		Do Tran Minh Thu (Vietnam, UMP)	Miho Usui 碓井 実歩	Laboratory Animal Science (実験動物学)	Fumihiko Sugiyama (杉山文博)

Farewell party



Letters from participants

By Yi-Zhen Wu (Jane Wu), National Taiwan University

Nine days passed so fast. I still remembered how nervous I was before the day of departure. This was our (my classmate and I) first experience of going abroad, so it was really a big challenge for us. However, all the nervous disappeared when the welcome party started on the first night when we're in Tsukuba. Being so welcomed that I forgot my fear and feeling prepared for the lab course on the next day.

One of the most impressive experience for me was the lab course. I didn't think of that I would get into a lab about yeasts at first, because it was a bit far from what I learned in my faculty. The mechanism of yeast sporulation, the observation of yeasts and spores under fluorescent microscope, and the regulation of gene expression of yeasts, these were brand new knowledge and experiment for me. Besides these professional knowledges, all of members in the lab treated me so well that I felt very pleasant. During the experiment course in the lab, I found that yeasts are more interesting than I thought before, and I thought that if I had chance, I would be willing to learn more about yeast. This picture was taken when all the members in lab took me for dinner. I enjoyed that night and I loved it very much!

In addition to the lab course, I also enjoyed in the tour. JAXA, NIMS, Mt. Tsukuba, and Tokyo trip, all of them gave me many great memories. Not only could we learn some scientific knowledge, we could also experience the Japanese culture and the beautiful scenery during the trip. The overwhelming landscape on the Mt. Tsukuba, the great Okonomiyaki for dinner, and the special experience of wearing kimono really impressed me a lot!

After the lab course and the tour, the presentation day came very fast. At the time preparing for the presentation, I saw everyone made so many efforts and tried so hard in order to give out the best version. I thought it was actually a big challenge for most of us, because English was not our first language and not to mention we had little time to prepare. I was glad that I fulfilled this challenge, and this challenge made me know that I could do more than I thought to myself.

I felt grateful for what I learned and who I met in the Sakura program. All of them build so many precious memories for me. Thanks for this program, I had chance to know people from Japan, Vietnam, and Indonesia and shared our different culture with each other. Thanks for this program, I had chance to learn in a different laboratory and experience the foreign culture. It was a wonderful experience and I wanted to express my gratitude to University of Tsukuba for providing this opportunity and the care during this program.



A letter to SAKURA program

By Yi-Zhen Wu (Jane Wu), National Taiwan University

The spring of 2018 is very different from others before to me. It's my first time to be abroad and I'm very glad that Japan is my first visiting foreign country. Ever since I knew this program in last autumn from two of my upperclassmen, who had joined the same program last year, I had been looking forward to the new selection for 2018 SAKURA program. They shared their experience in SAKURA program which I admired a lot. And in this spring, I had the chance to participate in the same project. I was a little bit nervous but also excited at the very beginning.

The nervousness of being in the foreign place decreased when I met with other participants from Vietnam, Indonesia and Japan. At the welcome party, I had the chance to talk to the students from the other countries with English which I'd never had the courage to do in Taiwan. Talking to the others with English made me feel kind of weird at first, but I gradually got used to it. In a oversea exchange program like this, communicating with others in English is a unavoidable situation, and it let me have to acknowledge the importance of English speaking. Fortunately, during the whole program I had much time to practice. I think one of the benefits in this program is the improvement of my English.

From the second day, we started to join in the laboratory. I had been very interested in the field of tumors and oncogenes since I was a sophomore, and luckily I joined the Experimental Pathology lab hold by professor Kato. I had learned much more about one of the tumor regulation related proteins, different experimental skills and various research topics. Though I was once very upset about the experimental results, it didn't frustrate my passion for it. I still enjoyed the process a lot. Inspire of these, I knew more about one thing: researchers in the world may use different language, experimental skills and have their own interest in lots of topics, but they share the same serious research attitude and also try to know more about the life, the nature and the universe.

Apart from the time for experiments, we had much of great time experiencing the Japanese culture directly. When I was in Taiwan, I knew almost nothing about the Japanese language, however, after staying for 9 days in Japan I felt it sound very pleasant, which made me feel like a chance to learn this language and know more about Japanese culture. Also, I want to be in Japan again because of the friendly people, nice environment, fascinating culture and delicious food. After this program, I know more about the pleasure to talk with people from different countries, the dedicating researching spirit to science, and the beauty of Japan and Japanese people. In the near future, I hope I can visit Japan again as a student or a researcher.

Sincerely,

Yu-Shu Liu

From Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences and Medical Biotechnology, National Taiwan University



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