

**Report for HOPE-GM 2010, Primate Origins of Human Evolution: From Genes to Mind**

25<sup>th</sup> February – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Paco Bertolani, June 2010



I arrived at Inuyama the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2010 from Kansai International Airport in Osaka. As my flight arrived late the afternoon I stayed one night in a Hotel in Nagoya. The next day I took the train to Inuyama, and walked to Primate Research Institute. I was given a room at PRI dormitory, and stayed there for about 10 days. Later and until the end of my stay I stayed in an apartment in Tonoji. This was a proper house; the flat was fully refurbished, and I had all facilities such as bathroom, kitchen and appliances. PRI also gave me an electric bike, which I used daily to go from the apartment to the Institute and around Inuyama.

I used my notebook to work, and PRI staff helped me a lot with internet connection, access to journals, and printing. During my whole stay I moved to three different offices, two rooms in the main building, and the last office in the building of the Centre for International Collaboration of Advanced Studies in Primatology (CICASP). CICASP building was recently renovated, and in the second floor it hosts some offices for resident and visiting scholars. It is in one of these offices where I settled in during my last month.

In the three months spent in Japan I got to know many people and their work from different sections of PRI. Being a field worker I had very little experience with studies in captivity, and visiting PRI, meeting other researchers, participating to seminars and conferences, and seeing how some experiments were done was an invaluable experience to increase my knowledge of primatology.

### **Svante Pääbo and Frans de Waal seminars**

March 8<sup>th</sup>

I participated in the seminars held by two senior scholars of the Hope-GM project: Svante Pääbo and Frans de Waal. Both talks were very good, and Pääbo's was extremely interesting, as he covered the new field of Neanderthal genetics.

### **HOPE GM conference**

March 22<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>

This two-day conference in the University of Kyoto had 27 invited speakers, and it was very well organized. The 22<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon I gave my talk on adoption in wild chimpanzees. I enjoyed the other talks by the Hope GM scholars and the other researchers and students. The poster session was very impressive too. Presentations and posters were a mixture of field studies, cognitive studies and researches on other species than primates. It was a great opportunity to meet and talk with all other scholars.



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
**“HOPE-GM LECTURES  
ON PRIMATE  
MIND *and* SOCIETY”**

**Primate Research Institute,  
Kyoto University**

*http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp*

**22-23 March 2010, Kyoto, Japan**

**ABSTRACT BOOKLET**  
International Conference Hall I  
(2nd floor in Clock Tower Centennial Hall)



**WRC**




HOPE-GM Conference 2010 University of Kyoto 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010

**Adoption of an infant chimpanzee by an unrelated  
lactating mother in Taï National Park, Côte d'Ivoire**

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## **Sumo tournament, Osaka**

24<sup>th</sup> March

The day after the HOPE-GM conference we had the opportunity (thanks to the help of Prof. Tomonaga) to see one day of Sumo in Osaka. It was the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the tournament; we arrived in the afternoon and could enjoy the most important fights of the day. A great experience!

## **Visit to Koshima and Yakushima**

March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 2<sup>nd</sup>

We were a group of 11 persons: Prof. McGrew and Dr. Linda Vigilant, all the 7 young HOPE-GM scholars, and two PhD students from PRI. We left Inuyama the 29<sup>th</sup> in the morning and headed to Chubu airport in Nagoya to take a plane to Miyasaki. From there 5 people went to Koshima with a rental car, and the rest of us took 2 local buses and arrived right in front of the Field Station in the afternoon. Some of us took the opportunity to visit Cape Toi, a reserve famous for its free-ranging horses.





Seven of us stayed at the Field Station, while four spent two nights in a hotel. The field station is quite big, and very well organized facility. Koshima Island is just in front of the research station.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of March we went to the island by boat. We had to do two trips as we were 13. We brought lots of sweet potatoes and the monkeys followed the boat along the coast to reach the little beach where food was provided. We stayed on the beach for about one hour, as the sea was not calm and had to go back before it became worse. The monkey washed the potatoes and the wheat in front of us, and Mr. Suzumura and Mr. Kanchi gave some food to the more peripheral monkeys. Seeing the monkeys washing potatoes was an incredible experience which I will never forget.



On the 31<sup>st</sup> we travelled by car to a bus station where we took a bus to Kagoshima airport and then took the flight to Yakushima Island. In Yakushima a taxi took us to the Soyo Tei Ryokan which was booked for us. This was a very beautiful place, where we had the opportunity to sleep in tatami rooms and to taste delicious food.



The 1<sup>st</sup> of April day we went to visit the forest in the centre of the island, a nice walk where we could spot some old cedar trees, and the amazing undisturbed landscape. On the road we spotted monkeys and deers very close to each other. For lunch we went to a restaurant where we had 18 different courses. In the afternoon we visited the waterfall and went in search of the monkeys in the North-West part of the island. Unfortunately it was raining very hard, and could not find the monkeys immediately. It was only later that we found a group by the road and could watch them for a while.





The next day we drove to the park again in search of monkeys, and we could find a non-habituated group. It was very exciting, but they never came close to us. We left by plane in the afternoon, from Yakushima to Chubu airport. At night we arrived back to Inuyama.

**Conference in Nagoya: The intersection of comparative cognitive science and field Science.**

April 3<sup>rd</sup>

I attended the conference in Nagoya, where some of the HOPE GM scholars and other researchers gave a presentation. Unfortunately not many people were attending this conference. Although most of the speakers already gave a presentation at the previous

conference in Kyoto, their talks were a bit longer and they could add some interesting details about their research.

### **Visit to GARI and UTO Sanctuary**

6<sup>th</sup> April – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2010

We left by train: Inuyama – Nagoya – Okayama. We visited Okayama city and the park, then took another train to Uno. From the station we walked to the hotel. The next day Dr. Hirata and Dr. Yamamoto came with two cars to pick us up and took us to the Great Apes Research Institute. We visited the enclosure and the chimpanzees. We could see some of the experiments outside and inside. The place is a very nice facility, and the chimpanzees seem quite relaxed. Very impressive the young female chimpanzee who was rejected by her mother and now she is reared by humans.

We had a very nice dinner at night with Dr. Hirata, and other researchers, students and staff of the GARI facility.







UTO sanctuary was very impressive. Unfortunately all these chimpanzees kept isolated for biomedical research until very recently was quite sad. But I can appreciate the efforts of trying to give them a better life.

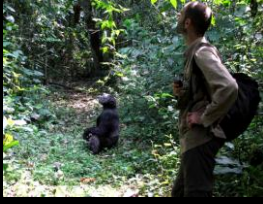
On the 10<sup>th</sup> we visited Amakusa, and joined a boat trip to see dolphins. This was an amazing experience with hundreds of dolphin swimming back and forth among our boats.

On the 11<sup>th</sup>, before going back to the airport we had a chance to visit Aso volcano. We climbed up and had a nice walk around the crater and the beautiful landscape.

### **Presentation at Psychology seminar series**

April 20<sup>th</sup>

I was invited to talk at the psychology seminar series organised by researchers and graduate students of PRI. I talked about my previous work with wild chimpanzees in Ivory Coast and Senegal, and my current PhD project in Uganda.



Primate Research Institute - Psychology seminar 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010

## Observing wild chimpanzees: Habituation, Adoption and Hunting with tools

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### Other trips (Ishigaki, Kyoto, Tokyo)

May 13<sup>th</sup> – May 24<sup>th</sup>

For 10 days I travelled in Japan with a friend who came to visit me. We went to Ishigaki Island for 6 days. Ishigaki is a subtropical island with amazing beaches and luxurious vegetation. We could taste the local food; listen to the Ryukyu traditional music, visit Taketomi Island, watched corals from a glass boat. We visited many parts of the island with rental bicycles.

We spent three nights in Kyoto, in a hotel near the imperial gardens, and could visit the castle, and some of the Kyoto's numerous temples and shrines.

My last three nights in Japan were in Tokyo. The business hotel where I stayed was well connected to the rest of the city, and I could visit Ginza, Shinjuku, Shibuya, the fish market, Tokyo bay, and many other things. I must say that for such a big city more days are needed to explore it properly.



## **Acknowledgements**

I am extremely grateful to Prof. Tetsuro Matsuzawa, for the opportunity to participate to such an exciting program. I also want to thank Prof. Ikuma Adachi, Prof. Misato Hayashi, and Prof. Masaki Tomonaga. Ms. Mami Shikuwa in the administration office was always very nice and helped to solve many little problems throughout my entire stay in Japan. For our trip to Koshima and Yakushima I would like to thank Yoshiaki Sato, Fumihiko Kano and Odani-san. Similarly, for GARI and Uto trip I am most grateful to Tadatoshi Ogura and Yumi Yamanashi. I wish I could remember the names of all the other people who contribute to make my stay at PRI most enjoyable, but I am afraid I can remember only a few of them: Mari Hirose, Reiko Sawada, Tomoko Imura, Takaaki Kaneko, Andrew Macintosh, Chris Martin, Gaku Ohashi, and many others. Finally, a special thanks to my colleagues from the HOPE-GM project: Susana Carvalho, Kimberly Hockings, Anna Albiach Serrano, Malini Suchak, Sonja Koski, Kathelijne Koops, William McGrew, Linda Marchant, Frans de Waal, and Svante Pääbo.