

Report of Student Exchange Program in Kobe University, Japan

“Education of Global Medical and Health Science Leaders in the Coming Generation in Cooperation and Collaboration with ASEAN Countries Project”

Period : October 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

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I'm so glad that I had opportunity to study as an exchange student in Kobe University, Japan for one semester (6 months). I felt have a great time to stay here, because I got great experiences to study in Japan especially in Kobe University, I could meet many new friends, learn many various experience of life in several aspects in this country. This report is about my activities during study at Kobe University conducting short experiments at Division of Infectious Diseases Pathology Laboratory under Prof. Yoshitake Hayashi.

Besides research activities, I had to attend Microbiology and Infectious Diseases class for master student during 3 months and also follow Japanese Language and Culture Class.

Infectious Diseases of Pathology Laboratory

Infectious Diseases of Pathology Laboratory is located at Okurayama Campus “C Building, 3rd floor” of Kobe University. This laboratory is led by Prof. Yoshitake Hayashi and Dr. Yoshihiko Yano is as Associate Professors. There are many international student to study here, some of them comes from Indonesia , China and Mongolia. They were kind PhD student, always help me and teach me during study here. Every Wednesday we have progress report with Dr. Yoshihiko Yano as Associate Proffesor to discussion and report the result of research that we did. And there was Research Talk held every Thursday with Prof. Yoshitake Hayashi and every student must be presentation about their research.



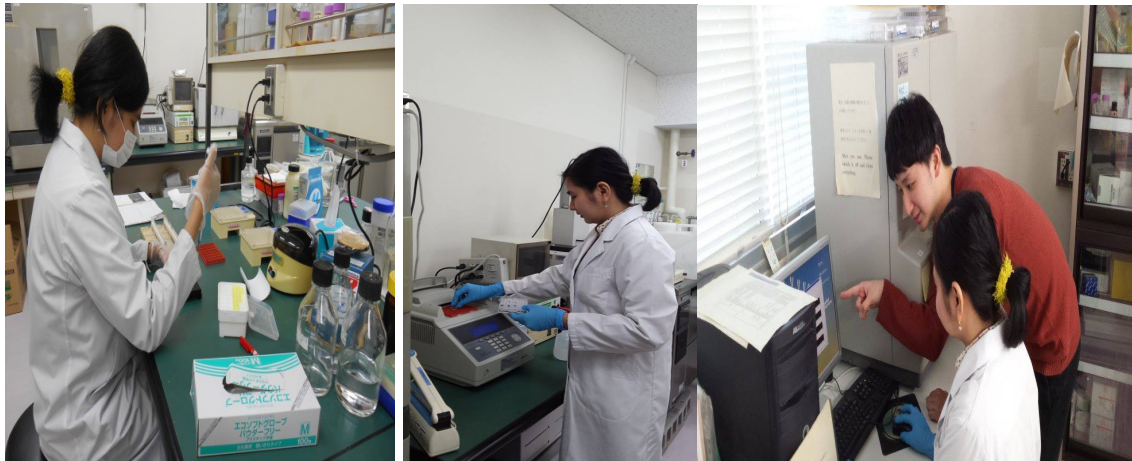
Students of Infectious Disease Pathology Lab



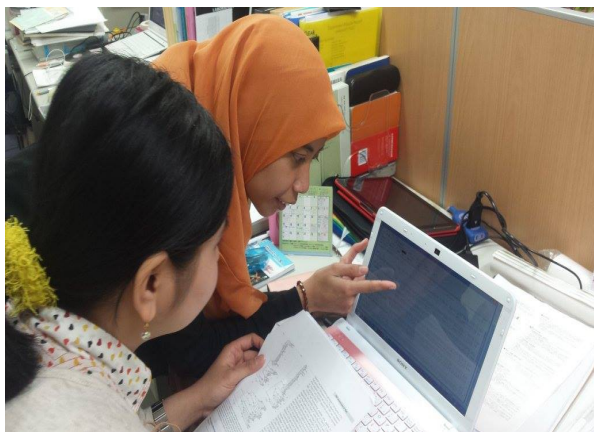
Welcome party for new students

Regarding my research, in this laboratory I did research about hepatitis B virus mutation among advanced liver diseases patients in Indonesia which I brought the samples from Indonesia with MTA (Material Transfer Agreement). Purpose of my study was to analysis of HBV genomic mutation in the core and X region and Phylogenetics Analysis. So, I did PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) here with spesific primers for X and Core region. And from positive samples continued to sequencing DNA was performed in an ABI PRISM 3100-Avant genetic analyzer (Appied Biosystems). To determine the presence of mutations, the sequences

obtained from each region will be aligned with reference sequences and retrieved from DNA GenBank databases, as well as with the sequences described in a previous report. Also make phylogenetic tree from S region. The students in this laboratory were very kind help to teach me how to analysis the HBV mutation because it was first time to me. In this laboratory, I got new experience not only about skills in laboratory but also got new knowledge about how to analyze the results and make a interesting study.



My research activities in laboratory



PhD student from Indonesia teach me how to analyze HBV mutations using GENETYX



Discussion with Dr. Yoshihiko Yano

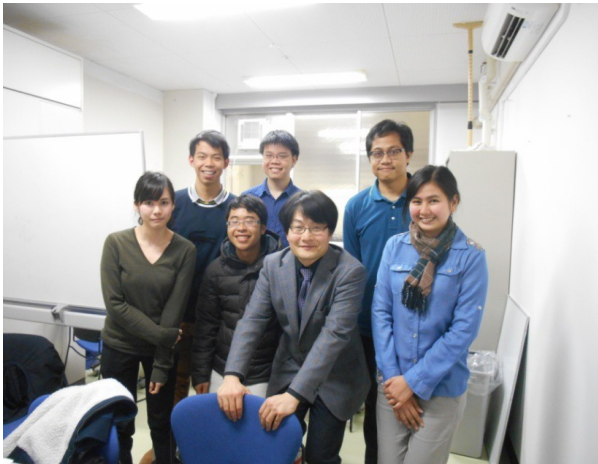
Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Class

As an exchange student in the transfer credit programs, I must attend class of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases for master student. This class is under Prof. Hak Hotta. Every Thursday, once a week I attend this class for 3 months.

Many lecturer gave the lecture in this class. Such lecture was interesting for me, talk about Hepatitis, HIV, Influenza, Paramyxovirus, Helycobacter pylory disease, Malaria, and many kind of infectious diseases. Eventhough this class used Japanese language and I little bit dificult to understand Japanese language but the slides of lecture were written English in lecture, some lecturer was speak English language.

Japanese Language and Culture Class

During 6 months, we must attend in Japanese Language and Culture Class under Prof. Satoshi Terao and Miyako Kiso as Assistant. I attended Japanese Language and Culture with other international student, 2 students from University of Indonesia (one as PhD student and the other one as exchange student) and also there are other students from Airlangga University, Indonesia and from Thailand but their exchange program for only one months. Terao and Kiso sensei, not only teach about Japanese language but they also take us to visit the Rokkodai (Main) campus of the Kobe University that located in Rokko mountain when autumn season and I'm so happy because it was beautiful campus. From I followed this class, I felt that my Japanese language has been improve and it was useful to stay for six month in Japan.



Japanese language and culture class



Visiting the Rokko campus of Kobe University



Farewell party for students

Maguro Festa Tour and Sushi Class

Besides study, I was so lucky because on November 1st, Faculty of Medicine Kobe University has program for Foreign student. This event for introducing about Japanese culture about the method of cutting Maguro fish, visit the fish market and class of how to make a sushi. I was excited to join this event, now I know that for cutting the maguro fish that needed person have special skills. And I had experience to make sushi. It was great.

Before I came to Japan, I don't like to eat sushi but after this event, suprisingly I become love eating sushi so much.



Special person to cut maguro fish



Sushi class with other foreign student

Kobe city sightseeing

Besides research and lecture activities, on the weekend I enjoyed sightseeing this city. I really like to stay in Kobe because beautiful city and I felt peaceful. I went to Kobe Harborland, Sannomiya, Motomachi, and many places in Kobe with my friends. My favourite is Kobe Harborland especially the view at the night. On December, I got chances to saw Kobe Luminarie. It is a light festival held in Kobe every December to memorate the Great Hanshin Earthquake.

I think study in Japan for 6 months (from October to March). It was good time (not too short or too long) and I felt four season in Japan. First I came here, it was still little summer. End of October to November is autumn season. It was beautiful and I enjoyed to see the red leaves. Then, after autumn season it becomes to winter season. I felt so lucky because in winter season this year, Kobe had heavy snow. Because I heard, usually this city rarely has heavy snow but this year, I was lucky. And end of March before I return to Indonesia, I enjoyed plum blossom with my friends. It was great experiences.



Plum blossom



Snow while on my way to Kobe University



Kobe Harborland



Kobe Luminarie

Conclusion

I felt it was a great experiences to stay and study in Kobe, Japan for 6 months. I really enjoyed stay and study here. This exchange student program gave me many new knowledge and experiences for me. Thank you very much for this program to give me opportunity to study here and I believe this knowledge that useful for my future especially for my study as master student.