



Nurture of Creative Research Leaders
in Immune System
Regulation and Innovative Therapeutics

NEWS LETTER



number **8**
2017 summer



LGS
LEADING GRADUATE SCHOOL
AT CHIBA UNIVERSITY

International Symposium On Molecular Basis of Cancer Immunotherapy

LGS 5th year member Kota Kokubo

International Symposium on Molecular Basis of Cancer Immunology was held at Makuhari-Messe in Chiba prefecture on June 28, 2017. Presenters who are top runners of cancer Immunotherapy, and many scientists of this field gathered there. This symposium consisted of presentations, and question and answer sessions. Guest speakers included Prof. Carl H June who are well known for development of Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T cell, and Prof. Donna Farber who researches cancer immunology from her unique perspective, immunological rejection after transplant operation. Many presentations featured basic research utilizing clinical data. So, it was a very motivational experience for LGS students who have various backgrounds. I am sure that this experience has good effects on our research.

After symposium, LGS students could have a chance to discuss our research themes with those professors. In this session, some of LGS students presented their research and discussed with professors and other students afterwards. Thanks to this session, we could have a valuable experience of comparing our point of view with professors'. I was impressed that professors immediately grasped the essence of our research and asked us pointed questions. Furthermore, they seemed to think constantly about how to translate the research findings into practical application. I think their point of view are necessary for LGS students, who are trained to be global leaders of "therapeutics" and to return our research achievements to society.



Leading Graduate School briefing session

LGS 3rd year member Jin Kumagai

We held the LGS briefing session for candidates on June 17th.

The aim of this event was to inform a lot of people of LGS activities. Furthermore, we tried to show the attractive aspects of this program and how LGS students always feel. Despite being a holiday, many candidates attended this event. Three LGS students had presentations about program explanation or overseas training as follows:

- 1) Program explanation
Presenter : 3rd member Jin Kumagai
- 2) WHO training
Presenter : 4th member Wakako Kuribayashi
- 3) USA California training
Presenter : 3rd member Masanori Fujimoto

In the part of Program explanation, not only the outline of our program but also specific stories, which only students can present, were shown. In the part of overseas training, a lot of features and what students could get through each training were talked. Through this event, "Future LGS students" could have understood how our LGS program is fascinating. We are looking forward to meeting enthusiastic newcomers who aim to become global leaders with us for leading the medical world.

グローバルリーダーを目指して
-The Challenge from Inohana-

博士課程教育リーディングプログラム
<免疫システム調節治療学推進リーダー養成プログラム>

日時	13:15~13:25 <リーディング大学院プログラム説明> 熊谷 仁 (博士課程3年)
2017年6月17日(土) 13:15~13:45	13:25~13:39 <海外研修報告> WHO研修 栗林 和幸子 (博士課程2年) USA California研修 森本 真穂 (博士課程4年)
場所	13:39~13:45 <質疑応答>

千葉大学医学部1階
第一講義室

LGS
Leading Graduate School

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RIKEN international summer program

LGS 4th year member Hiroki Furuya

RIKEN IMS-Summer Program 2017 (RISP2017) is an annual program that aims to provide young scientists from all over the world with the opportunity to learn about cutting-edge immunology, medical biology and genomic medicine research. Internationally distinguished 19 immunologists in diverse fields gave lectures to the participants. It was a great opportunity for the participants to learn the various topics including their own specialties, since the immunological field is advancing so rapidly that it is hard to understand overall pictures. Up to 42 participants was selected from all over the world, most of whom gave oral and poster presentation about their ongoing projects. The quality of presentation and discussion they gave proved how smart they were, and made me feel strongly motivated.

I recommend participating this program after appropriate experience of research since basic knowledge of immunology is essential to fully understand the lectures and to make fruitful discussions. Although I felt my experience was not enough, it was still great occasion to improve myself through studying related topics before and after the lectures. Meanwhile, it was great occasion for me to communicate with many young scientists from other countries. Since we have little chance to communicate with such people in Japan, understanding their cultures and their ways of thinking was exciting too. The program provides such great chances to us and I strongly recommend participating in it.



Presentation at Riken Summer Program

LGS 2nd year member Seitarou Nakagawa

I attended and presented our research project at Riken Summer Program (RISP) 2017. RISP is held every year by the collaboration of RIKEN and Chiba University Leading Graduate School (LGS). Many foreign young PhD students and researchers come to attend RISP to experience a precious time with outstanding immunologists from all over the world who are invited as lecturers. Attendees are allowed to have our own time for presentation and discussion with the lecturers and the organizers. Because the presentations were scored by the lecturers and attendees who performed well in this program would be awarded, every presenter prepared well and did our best. I made a lot effort of preparing my presentation and presented our research with confidence that our research theme would attract other researchers' interests. Concerning the presentation techniques, the lecture of English presentation in LGS program really helped me. I remembered the words in the very first part of the lecture "Stand up straight, be open", and many good presenters in RISP2017 could do this. I always remind myself to be like that. Fortunately, I received "The Best Presentation Award" as one of the top 6 presenters. In conclusion, RISP2017 let me have good experience for my future to work or challenge in foreign countries as a scientist.



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Introductory meeting for 5th year LGS members

LGS 4th year member Yusuke Isshiki

The course orientation for 5th year members to our program “Nurture of Creative Research Leaders in Immune System Regulation and Innovative Therapeutics” was held on April 5th. This year 7 students were newly enrolled as 5th year members. The program coordinators, committees and other faculty staff also attended this course orientation in addition to all LGS members.

Dr. Tetsuichiro Saito, our program coordinator, welcomed new LGS members in the opening greeting. After curriculum guidance, details of our program were explained by Masashi Fukuta, a 3rd year member. Details of therapeutics subjects and the RIKEN summer program which are characteristic courses in LGS program were then explained by LGS faculty members. Each 5th year member received a white garment, a laptop and a certificate as a proof of having passed the entrance examination.

The Award for excellent graduate student was given to two 3rd year members, Jin Kumagai and Masanori Fujimoto, both belong to Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine.

Four LGS students presented overseas training reports and domestic training reports.

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) RIKEN summer program | Min Ma (4th year) |
| 2) La Jolla USA training | Eishika Dissanayake (2nd year) |
| 3) WHO and Charité training | Wakako Kuribayashi (4th year) |
| 4) Winter camp | Takuya Nakagawa (3rd year) |

Finally, new LGS members introduced themselves with their enthusiasm and expectation for our program. We hope they spend great time in our program.



Introduction of 5th Year Members



Takahiro Nakajima

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Immunology

● Theme

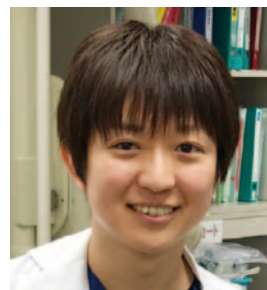
Analysis of pathogenic memory Th2 cell and application to clinical treatment

● Goal

I want to build relationships with several fields of investigators in LGS program. Because I think that cooperation with researchers in different fields is important to achieve big project. And application to clinical treatment from basic science is the important theme for me. So, I should make good use of my clinical background and I will innovate translational research.

● Message

There are some old friends in LGS. So I enjoy and relax in LGS life very much.



Kensuke Kayamori

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine

● Theme

Oncogenic Mechanism of Lymphoma

● Goal

Though the treatment to hematological disease is progressive, many of them are still difficult to cure. Histone modification disorders are found frequently in several hematological malignancies. My research purpose is to clarify oncogenesis of hematological malignancy by histone modification disorders, or epigenetic mechanism. I want to find therapeutic approach from epigenetic mechanism.

● Message

I want to get deep insight by touching many fields. And I want to use this opportunity to improve my English skill.



Kota Kokubo

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Immunology

● Theme

Exploration of genes related with asthma development and analysis of their function in T cells.

● Goal

As the first aim, I try to conclude my research and develop new asthma treatment from my research. Next, I will try to develop my research conclusion and discover new treatment for excess immune response to non-self (allergic responses) and immune response to self (autoimmune diseases) regulating T cells function. This is my final aim. To accomplishing these goal, I think, it is important that I research from the perspective of various background. So, I plan to involve with a lot of researchers with various background in LGS program.

● Message

I pride myself being LGS students. I am stimulated with wonderful mentors, LGS seniors and colleagues every day.



Yuriko Yamazaki

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Dermatology

● Theme

Recognition of microorganisms and host immune response on epicutaneous colonized mouse model

● Goal

Immunology is one of the developing fields of medicine and it began to receive much attention nowadays. A large number of skin diseases are pathophysiologically related to immunology hence I became a dermatologist. I am motivated by a discovery of skin immune system and invention of a new treatment strategy for allergic diseases.

● Message

Though still being a beginner, I am enthusiastic about becoming a world standard medical researcher to develop new treatment. I appreciate that LGS offers latest and excellent academic lectures as well as opportunities to socialize with world leading scientists.



Yoko Ota

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Molecular Biology and Oncology

● Theme

Targeting the amplified *ALK* gene by using a pyrrole-imidazole polyamide alkylator against neuroblastoma

● Goal

Neuroblastoma is a frequent disease among pediatric solid tumors, and depending on the tissue type, there are tumors with poor prognosis that still have survival rates of less than 50% even when the latest multidisciplinary therapy is combined. And it is known that the *ALK* gene influences the prognosis of neuroblastoma. Therefore, we think that development of a drug targeting *ALK* gene is effective for improving prognosis, and we hope that this research will lead to the treatment of neuroblastoma.

Furthermore, through the research that I am working on and lectures, I would like to acquire as much knowledge as possible with a global perspective.

● Message

I want to make continuous efforts and have a fulfilling graduate school life.



Tadamichi Kasuya

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

● Theme

The role of SoxC in the onset of autoimmune diseases, the differentiation of suppressor T cells and the suppression of IL-21 production

● Goal

I have been working as a physician for five years and enrolled in LGS as a fifth member. However, I have just started the basic research. I would like to make use of my clinical experience. In addition, LGS provides much of English education. So, I will make an effort to learn the skill which is acceptable by international standards.

● Message

I have to learn much more about my research. I would like to work hard and encourage each other with my fellows.



Takuya Minamizuka

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine

● Theme

Functional analysis of transcription factor Tcf21 in arteriosclerosis

● Goal

I am concerned with the treatment of diabetes, arteriosclerosis-related diseases such as myocardial infarction become finally fatal. Through elucidation of the mechanism of the arteriosclerosis-related disease which accounts for many ratio of the death, I contribute to patients and develop my ability. LGS programs provides me opportunities to speak English and gain knowledge of other fields. It is very attractive and favorable environment.

● Message

I interact with many researches and work hard to improve the command of English.