



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

# NEWS LETTER

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number **6**  
2016 summer



## The 4th student meeting of Leading graduate schools

PR manager of the meeting : LGS 3<sup>rd</sup> year member Takeshi Susukida

From the 8th to the 10th July 2016, "The 4th Student Meeting of Leading Graduate Schools" was held at Makuhari Messe International Conference Hall in Chiba Prefecture. This meeting has been mainly organized by leading graduate schools students under the Nurture of Creative Research Leaders in Immune System Regulation and Innovative Therapeutics program at Chiba University and those under the programs, Human Biology and Empowerment Informatics at University of Tsukuba.

The participants were approximately 300 people and they were all Ph.D. students with the awareness that going to lead the Japan and also the world future. The past three student meetings were held in Hyogo, Kumamoto, and Hokkaido respectively, and the 4th meeting in this year was the longest (three days) and the biggest (about 300 participants) Student Meeting ever; therefore, this year's meeting was very enjoyable and worthwhile as manifested in this year's concept: "Matsuri" (Festival).

In creativity workshops, we pretended an innovator who creates the "Funny" and brand-new "Innovation" – "Funnovation", and wrote an article as if it were posted on Forbes JAPAN. Students from different nationalities and expert fields earnestly think and harmonize their knowledge or ideas, and created a lot of Funnovations with considering the feasibility and market needs.

Moreover, we could have an opportunity to learn about the quality for a leader from the lectures by three great global leaders of various fields;

(1) Mr. Yoshihiko Hatanaka, President and CEO of Astellas Pharma Inc., (2) Dr Jun Suzuki, CEO of Teijin, (3) Dr. Kadokura, leader of the 57th Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition.

At the end of this meeting, President Yuki Morimoto (1st year member) declared the guideline for leading graduate schools students to continue challenging global issues as a global leader, which was finalized in the "Makuhari Protocol"

Through this meeting, we felt that our friendships and network among leading graduate schools students could be expanded much bigger.



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## RIKEN international summer program

LGS 4<sup>th</sup> year member Yusuke Isshiki

RIKEN summer program is held for PhD students from all over the world who are interested in immunology. The duration of the 2016's program was 4 days, and it contained two parts, lectures and students' presentations. In the lecture part, we could learn topics of immunology from top researchers. Many of the lecture theme were basic immunology, but some of them contained contents which could lead to clinical medicine. In the presentation part, students presented their research (most of their research theme were about basic immunology) both in oral session and in poster session. Since all of them had very high quality, I could realize how excellent they were. I thought it was difficult for students who didn't have the knowledge of basic immunology to understand the details in this program, but the program was interesting and useful even if we didn't have the knowledge. It was also good experience for me to communicate with many students from other countries. Since we have little chance to communicate with such people as long as we stay in Japan, understanding their culture and their ways to think was so exciting for me. I'd like to recommend for people who haven't attend this program to participate in it because you can get good experiences from it.



## Leading Graduate School information session

LGS 2<sup>nd</sup> year member Shintaro Ide

We held the LGS information session for candidates on June 11th. This event was the first try and the subtitle was 'A Challenge From Inohana ~Toward the Global Leader'. The main aim of this event was to inform a lot of people of LGS activities. In addition to that, we also aimed for calling in the brains who were interested in our activities.



On the day of this session, many candidates attended it in spite of Saturday afternoon and four LGS students made presentations about program explanation and training reports as the following.

- 1) Program explanation  
Presenter :  
2nd student Miaki Uzu
- 2) Winter Camp 2016 the most valuable award  
"Thomson's Gazelle"  
Presenter :  
2nd student Seitaro Nakagawa
- 3) WHO training  
Presenter :  
3rd student Tatsuma Syouji
- 4) NIH training  
Presenter :  
3rd student Takuya Nakagawa

Each presentation was fantastic, I thought a lot of participants took interest in LGS.

I expect the number of candidates who have high ambitions will increase next year by this event.

| 時間          | 内容  |
|-------------|---|
| 13:00~13:05 | リーディングプログラム説明<br>平藤 貴哉(博士課程 3年)                               |
| 13:05~13:20 | Winter Camp 2016<br>最優秀賞「Thomson's Gazelle」<br>中川 結文(博士課程 3年) |
| 13:20~13:28 | 海外研修報告<br>WHO研修 庄司 竜彦(博士課程 2年)<br>NIH研修 中川 拓也(博士課程 2年)        |
| 13:28~13:30 | LGS質疑応答   |
| 13:30~13:35 | CPTの概要<br>小久保 幸太(博士課程 2年)                                     |
| 13:35~13:40 | 海外研修報告<br>米内 康宏(博士課程 3年)                                      |
| 13:40~13:45 | 学生の自主的な活動<br>竹内 裕紀(博士課程 2年)                                   |
| 13:45~13:50 | CPT質疑応答   |

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## Masashi Yamamoto

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine

● Theme

The identification and analysis of sarcopenia-related genes through analysis of Werner syndrome patients' skeletal muscle

● Goal

Sarcopenia, or the decline of skeletal muscle tissue with aging, causes frailty and it worsens patients' qualities of lives. Besides, recent data show that the amount of skeletal muscle is a good predictor of mortality. Therefore, I believe that understanding the field of skeletal muscle become more and more important because the number of elderly people increases in many developed countries. I am eager to engage in exploring the field and contribute to the development of the therapeutics for sarcopenia.

● Message

I am proud of becoming a member of LGS. In this program, there are abundant time to learn from teachers who are active in various fields. I am going to try to make the most of this opportunities.



## Yusuke Baba

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine

● Theme

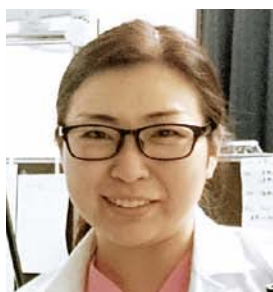
Analysis of a transcription factor Tcf21 in arteriosclerosis and myocardial damage.

● Goal

As an LGS student, not only do I make efforts to find new things, but I want to think about the scheme and continue the research to apply the new findings to clinical field. Since complications induced by metabolic diseases are related to causes of death in our country, I want to do my research that is beneficial to many people through investigating mechanisms of cardiovascular complications. Therefore, I will do my best to gain diverse knowledge in LGS program in which various students join.

● Message

I want to improve myself in LGS program where the students can gain chances to have relationships with people both inside and outside of the university.



## Yukiko Yamaguchi

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Frontier surgery

● Theme

Improvement of the cancer detection rate by upper gastrointestinal endoscopy

● Goal

I'm working as a digestive surgeon at a hospital in Chiba. This year, I decided to go to graduate school and join LGS program. Unfortunately, my research theme hasn't specifically been determined yet. It is known that gastric cancer is the leading cause of death from cancer in Japan. It is important to detect the early gastric cancer lesion by screening. I aim to improve the detection efficiency of screening for gastric cancer.

● Message

All LGS mentors and students have great enthusiasm for study. Joining LGS program is a great opportunity to receive a lot of stimulation. Unfortunately, I have not started my research. I would like to start a study early and catch up with them.



## Hiroaki Kanzaki

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Gastroenterology

● Theme

My research theme has not been determined

● Goal

Through lectures of LGS, I will learn a wide range of therapeutics, effective presentation method and statistical analysis that is necessary for medical research. I will do my best to improve my English communication skills, because I am not good at speaking English. Finally, I want to make a research foundation that lead to the treatment in Gastroenterology.

● Message

Activities as an LGS student will start from the second year. I will do my best to make up for lost time.



## Yusuke Isshiki

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Clinical Cell Biology and Medicine

### ● Theme

The role of polycomb repressive complex 1.1 in normal hematopoiesis and origin of hematological diseases

### ● Goal

Prognosis of some hematological malignancies dramatically improved because of the development of novel agents. However, the prognosis of other hematological malignancies is still poor, and some of them can't be cured by conventional therapies. Since investigation of disease specific gene abnormalities and their molecular mechanisms led to the development of drugs in most of the diseases whose prognosis improved dramatically, investigation of the mechanism of oncogenesis is very important. In recent years, epigenetic abnormalities are considered as one of the important factors in the occurrence of hematological malignancies. Therefore, I'd like to investigate mechanisms of polycomb genes which play important roles in histone modification and to clarify their role in the occurrence of hematological malignancies.

### ● Message

My objectives in LGS are to get many knowledges from other LGS members and to improve my English skill. I believe my experience in LGS will be worth for me.



## MIN MA

〈Affiliation〉 Division of Clinical Neuroscience Center for Forensic Mental Health of Chiba University

### ● Theme

Prenatal immune activation model of schizophrenia

### ● Goal

Mental diseases such as depression disorder and schizophrenia are public health problem worldwide. Although multiple drugs have been used in the treatment of depressive symptoms, their beneficial effects are limited. So it is necessary to develop new therapy for neuropsychiatric diseases, I would like to do my best to invest on the development of the antipsychotic.

### ● Message

I think the research is a fantastic world, We will always get sweet fruits on the excellent platform of LGS.



## Wakako Kuribayashi

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Cell molecular medicine

### ● Theme

Aging of hematopoietic stem cells

### ● Goal

Recently, the epigenetic defect is found in many kinds of hematopoietic malignancies caused by the transformation of the hematopoietic system. However, the relationship between hematopoietic malignancy induced from aging and the transformation of the hematopoietic system are still unclear. So I would like to make these relationships clear and investigate the development of hematopoietic malignancy.

### ● Message

My aim after graduation is the researcher in an oversea lab. I'll try to gain various knowledge during LGS program.



## Hiroki Furuya

〈Affiliation〉 Department of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

### ● Theme

TP63 is a member of p53 family proteins. We recently found the gene expression of TP63 decreased in CD4+ T cell of RA patients after treatment with MTX. My aim is to determine the role of TP63 in Th17 cells and the development of RA by analyzing the effect of overexpression and knock down of TP63 in human CD4+ T cells.

### ● Goal

After graduating from Chiba University in 2012, I spent my junior residency in Chiba Aoba Municipal Hospital and Chiba University Hospital, and my senior residency in Narita Red Cross Hospital.

This year, I enrolled in Leading Graduate School in Chiba University and started my career as an immunologist. I've never experienced any kind of research, so I am very excited and proud to take part in such a nice program. I would like to enjoy and improve myself as far as I can through this program.

### ● Message

I know I have a lot to learn, and I am very excited about that. I would like to do my best and make the most of this program.

## Introductory meeting with 4th LGS year students

LGS 3<sup>rd</sup> year member Jin Kumagai

The course orientation for 4th year members to our program “Nurture of Creative Research Leaders in Immune System Regulation and Innovative Therapeutics” was held in the School of Medicine Large Conference Room on 5th of April 2016. This year we had 8 students newly enrolled as 4th year members. The program coordinators, committees and other faculty staff also attended this course orientation in addition to all LGS members. It started with opening greetings by Dr. Tetsuichiro Saito, our program sub-coordinator. After curriculum guidance, the details of our program were explained by Miaki Uzu, a 2nd year member. The details of Therapeutics subjects and the RIKEN summer program were then explained by Dr. Akiko Suganami and Dr. Ryoji Yagi respectively. Each 4th year member was presented with a white garment, a laptop, and a certificate of having passed the entrance examination.

The Award for excellent graduate student was given to two 2nd year members, Huizi Keiko Li and Seitaro Nakagawa.

All the LGS students and staff gathered, and photographs were taken.

Seven LGS students presented the overseas training report, the domestic training report, and “The 4<sup>th</sup> student meeting of Leading Graduate Schools”.

|                          |                             |   |                            |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1) RIKEN summer program  | Takeshi Susukida (3rd year) | 5) NIH training   | Takuya Nakagawa (3rd year) |
| 2) La Jolla USA training | Yukiyoshi Mita (2nd year)   | 6) Winter camp  | Shintaro Ide (2nd year)    |
| 3) WHO-Charite training  | Tatsuma Shoji (3rd year)    | 7) The 4 <sup>th</sup> student meeting of LGS                   | Huizi Keiko Li (2nd year)  |
| 4) Symposium of IIMVF*   | Toshio Kanno (3rd year)     | (*IIMVF : International Immunological Memory and Vaccine Forum) |                            |

Fourth year students introduced themselves. They were full of enthusiasm and expectation for our program. We accepted 4th year members as colleagues, and I was convinced of the further development of our program.

