

Project No. : 15001 Core Institution in Japan: Kyoto University

**JSPS Core-to-Core Program Strategic Research Networks-
FY2006 Research Report**

Project No.	15001
Research Theme	Primate Origins of Human Evolution
Duration of Project	April 1.2006 March 31.2009
Core Institution in Japan	Kyoto University

Implementing Organizations

Country	Japan
Core Institution	Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University
Co-Chair (name and title)	Tetsuro Matsuzawa, Professor
Number of Cooperating Institutions	18
Cooperating Institutions	Tokyo University, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Hokkaido University, Gifu University, Graduate University for Advanced Studies, National Institute of Genetics, National Institute of Informatics, Medical Institute of Biomedical Innovation, University of Shiga Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture University, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Meiji Gakuin University, Sugiyama Jyogakuen University, Obihiro University of Agriculture Veterinary Medicine, Okinawa University, Ochanomizu University, St. Marianna University School of Medicine, Great Ape Research Institute Hayashibara

Country	Germany
Core Institution	Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
Co-Chair (name and title)	Dr. Michael Tomasello
Number of Cooperating Institutions	2
Cooperating Institutions	Deutsches Primatenzentrum GmbH, Munchen University
Matching Fund	Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften

Country	U.S.A.
Core Institution	Department of Anthropology, Harvard University
Co-Chair (name and title)	Dr. Richard W. Wrangham
Number of Cooperating Institutions	5
Cooperating Institutions	University of Wisconsin, Emory University, Dartmouth University, California University, University of Michigan
Matching Fund	James McDonnell Foundation

Country	England
Core Institution	Cambridge University
Co-Chair (name and title)	Dr. William McGrew
Number of Cooperating Institutions	4
Cooperating Institutions	Oxford University, St. Andrew University, Starling University, Liverpool University
Matching Fund	BBSRC

Country	Italy
Core Institution	Institute for Science and Technology of Cognition
Co-Chair (name and title)	Professor Elisabetta Visalberghi
Number of Cooperating Institutions	2
Cooperating Institutions	Parma University, International Institute for Advanced Studies
Matching Fund	

Result of Program Implementation

The HOPE project aimed to study the "Primate Origins of Human Evolution"

The HOPE project has been built and expanded as a cooperative network of the centre for primate research in three different areas by the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany, and Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, USA.

We have conducted some primate (including human) research in psychological, morphological, physiological, and sociological aspects, and further on genome which lies under all other aspect.

These studies were to quest for the answer of fundamental questions for humanity, i.g. "where we came from" or "what human nature is".

Our interdisciplinary collaboration, HOPE can give some suggestion for the object of public concern, like "where will we go".

We believe that we achieved our goal during this exchange term.

Achievements in FY2006 (Self Review)

Development of human cognitive function and these evolutionary bases were investigated by collaboration of the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan and the group of the comparative cognitive development of Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany. The German group worked mainly on the social intelligence and the Japanese group worked on the manufacture intelligence. Genome study on primates has been held on by collaboration of the comparative genomics development group in the Max Planck Institute and the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University. Furthermore morphological approaches and fossil records related to language or cognition have also been discussed.

With Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany, and Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, USA, we held on field work of great apes focused on chimpanzee's habitat in Eastern, Central and Western Africa. In 2006, we also had intensive communications among cores on the basic mammalogical study. It included various field researches and some inventory works in natural history museums in USA, European and Southeast Asian countries. The fruitful results based on field regions were obtained by some research teams in 2006.

Future Plan (Measures toward Achieving Research Objectives)

This cooperative project for study (i.e. Hope project) produced many outstanding achievements.

These achievements brought novel paradigm diversion in several research areas in human, primate, and other mammal studies. Actually the plan could publish various articles in 2006, however, we will continuously try to establish many important results also in 2007. In addition, our collaboration brought success not only in research subject but also the relationships among researchers in different countries and different study areas. Moreover the project succeeded in training students for the future researches and corroborations. Therefore we strongly recommend expanding this research corroboration taking a stance on interdisciplinary researches and nurturing young researchers.