

(For JSPS Fellow)

Form B-5

Date (日付)

17/2/2015 (Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)

Activity Report -Science Dialogue Program-

(サイエンス・ダイアログ事業 実施報告書)

- Fellow's name (講師氏名): Scott VC Groom (ID No. P14386)

- Participating school (学校名): Wakayama Prefectural Tanabe High School

- Date (実施日時): 28/01/2015 (Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)

- Lecture title (講演題目): (in English)

Evolution of social behaviour in insects: Genetic insight from a socially polymorphic Japanese bee

(in Japanese)

- Lecture summary (講演概要): Please summary your lecture 200-500 words.

Shortly after my arrival in Japan I was invited to travel to Wakayama to present to one of the prefectural Super Global schools, an initiative that looks to increase international connections within designated schools. I presented to approximately 85 10th grade students with a strong interest in science at Tanabe High School, where I was warmly welcomed.

My lecture comprised three sections broadly outlining my life as a scientist and summarising my specific research interests. These sections were titled and comprised the following:

1. My life outside of science;

I began my presentation by outlining some more personal details of my life prior to arriving in Japan. I provided students with insight into the cultural differences between Australia and Japan, such as food and sport, as well as information on my family and hometown.

2. How I became a scientist;

I then gave a summary of how I became a scientist, and offered encouragement and suggestions of how students may follow. This included why I was first interested in science, why I continue to be interested, and why it is important to choose a field you are passionate about. I also provided information on the many international scholarships and opportunities available, and encouraged students to pursue as many as possible.

3. What I do as a scientist;

Finally I summarised my current and previous research, which focusses on the evolution of bees. I informed students that there were more than 20, 000 bee species in the world, and showed them examples of the diversity in body sizes and colours. I then explained the diversity observed in social

behaviour types across species, why this is of interest, and how I intend to investigate the genetic basis for these behaviours in a species of bee native to Japan.

Students appeared interested throughout the presentation, and approached with questions on conclusion. I was also surprised to have a reporter from the local newspaper attend to detail the event. Overall I found the experience very enjoyable and rewarding, and encourage other fellows to participate.

- Language used (使用言語): English and Japanese

- Lecture format (講演形式): Powerpoint presentation with bilingual slides

◆Lecture time (講演時間) 40 min (分), Q&A time (質疑応答時間) 15 min (分)

◆Lecture style (ex.: used projector, conducted experiments)

(講演方法 (例: プロジェクター使用による講演、実験・実習の有無など))

Projector with slides

◆Interpretation (ex.: assistance by accompanied person, provided Japanese explanation by yourself) (通訳 (例: 同行者によるサポート、講師本人による日本語説明))

Provided by accompanying person

◆Name and title of accompanied person (同行者 職・氏名)

Associate Professor Atsushi Kawakita

◆Other note worthy information (その他特筆すべき事項):

- Impressions and opinions from accompanied person (同行者の方から、本事業に対する意見・感想等がありましたら、お願いいたします。):

高校生がとても熱心に話を聞いていたことが印象に残りました。高校生にとって興味を深めるいい機会になったと思います。このような事業を今後も続けていただきたいと思いました。

記入しなければならない様式が多く、フェローの負担が大きかったように思います。一方で、田辺高校でいくつかの分野の研究者が3日続けてサイエンスダイアログを行うことは当日まで知りませんでしたし、どのような経緯でその高校が選ばれたのかなど、フェローにとって当日をイメージできる情報をもっと与えられていたら準備がしやすかったと思います。過去のサイエンスダイアログの様子についての資料などがあってもいいと思います。

田辺高校の先生方には駅まで送迎していただきお弁当を準備して頂いたり、とても親切にいただき、フェローもとても感謝しておりました。