

(For JSPS Fellow)

Form B-5

Date (日付) 17 October 2017

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): Cossu Davide (ID No. P16415)

- Participating school (学校名): Utsunomiya Girls' High School

- Date (実施日時): 16 October 2016

- Lecture title (講演題目): A passion for Multiple Sclerosis

- Name and title of your company (同行者 職・氏名)

Juntendo University School of Medicine

- Lecture format (講演形式):

◆Lecture time (講演時間) 45 min (分), Q&A time (質疑応答時間) 20 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))

Power point presentation by using a projector.

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

The lecture was organized as follow:

1) In the first part I introduced myself, showing some slides of Italy and in particular of my home country, Sardinia. I also showed difference and similarities between Japan and Italy, as well as a comparison between high school's system of both countries.

2) I gave some information about my educational background, focusing on my studies in Europe, and explaining the importance to study experience abroad.

3) I explained the reasons why I decided to become a scientist. I talked about my research experiences. I will try to explain how interesting to be a researcher, and the importance to study universal language (English), both for work and everyday life.

4) I explained why I decide to come to Japan as well as how I overcome the obstacles. Further, I shortly described my present situation as researcher in Juntendo University.

5) In the last part I introduced my main theme of my lecture, trying to talk as easy as possible, using simple words. Here you can find a short abstract:

"Multiple sclerosis is a human disease of the central nervous system, very common in Western countries but rare in Asia. In my hometown, Sardinia Island, the incidence of the disease is one of the highest rate in the world. Like other autoimmune disorders, the causes of the diseases remain poorly understood, for this reason I started my research on this topic several years ago.

During and after my degree, I improved my knowledge and expertise studying abroad, focusing my attention on the role of infectious pathogens like viruses or bacteria in the etiology and progression of the disease.

An important finding of my research was to discover an association between some mycobacteria and multiple sclerosis in Sardinians. Next step was to select other ethnic population in order to test my hypothesis. Therefore, I decided to come to Japan. Because Japan and Sardinian islands share some similarities, and Japan possesses higher standard of research.

Professor Yokoyama, gave me the opportunity to continue my studies in multiple sclerosis research at Juntendo University, sharing his unique experience and providing the optimal setting for the conduction of the studies. I also thanks to the support of JSPS program, the funding sources made my research possible”.

- Overall advice or comments to future participants in the program (今後の講師へのアドバイス):

Even if students are curious and interested in science, it is difficult to get their attention for all the duration of presentation, because the topic it is difficult to understand. For this reason I suggest to talk little bit about current trends, insert some funny slides and short videoclip in the presentation.