

*Voice of the International Students*

# VIS

医学研究科  
国際連携室だより

(June 2015  
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## What is VIS ?

The International Relations Office of the Faculty of Medicine issues VIS to send out the live messages from International Students of Graduate School and School of Medicine and promote the exchange of intercultural information. We hope VIS helps to cultivate intercultural communications and boost international exchanges.

VIS の発行の目的は、医学研究科・医学部の学生の生の声を外に出すことと、異文化間の情報交換を促進することです。

VIS が異文化間のコミュニケーションを養い、国際交流を実行していくうえで役に立つことを望んでいます。

## Amazing Experience



(Left to Right)  
**Sulak Kanoksirirath,**  
**Bowornnun Thirach,**  
**Phakatip Suansuk (Thailand)**  
2nd Year Medical Students,

**Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University**

受入分野：組織細胞学分野、細胞生理学分野、解剖発生学分野、神経薬理学分野

**W**e are medical students from Thailand participating in the Research Elective Exchange Program at the Graduate School of Medicine. This is our first time in

Japan. What an amazing experience!

Hokkaido University provided us more than we had expected. We were so lucky to have the opportunity to come here even for a very short time. We learnt a lot and enjoyed our time every day.

We had teachers and staff who were extremely friendly to guide us in both working and living in Sapporo. Not only did we study but also traveled around Hokkaido. We have seen and enjoyed Japanese culture, foods and buildings that connect us with their history. We were so impressed.

We truly thank all teachers, staff and Japanese people who have done so much for us. We promise that we will keep everything happened during our stay in Japan in the deepest part of our hearts forever, and will come back here again!



# WELCOME NEW GRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

April is the month we start our new cycle of academic year. 26 international students from 8 countries are currently studying in the Graduate School of Medicine. We are taking this opportunity to introduce some of new graduate international students. We hope every student's time at Hokudai to be full of great challenges and even greater rewards!



I found being in Japan for years with my husband, a PhD Student at Hokkaido University, was also a good chance for me to study since I have been interested in the medical system in Japan. One of my dreams is to visit Japan, Germany and USA. I also love snow countries. Being in Hokkaido, I already achieved two of my dreams.

Always I ask myself how

Japan became highly advanced even after exposure to many disasters. I came to Japan and learned that Japan respects human beings and time. Everyone works very hard and this will be enough for any country to be advanced. I am constantly amazed by Japanese civilization.

I can move from one place to another easily and safely. I'm a Muslim and can find halal food as well. I really enjoy living in Japan, and would like to live here as long as I can.

**Shimaa Said (Egypt)** Master's student, Department of Pediatrics 所属分野：小児科学分野



Time flies so fast. It has been more than three years since I came to Sapporo.

I enjoy all four seasons in Sapporo. I enjoyed the snow festival at Odori Park. Food is really amazing. Everyone I met here are very kind and helpful. Partying under the cherry blossoms was unforgettable.

Participation in Hokudai sai (Hokkaido University Festival) was also a unique experience for me. I also visited some famous places in and around Sapporo. Lakes, mountains and rivers are very beautiful in Hokkaido.

We were blessed with a baby boy in January of 2015. Now I am enjoying my student life as well as my family life with my little prince every day.

**Prabha Nepal (Nepal)** PhD student, Department of Cell Physiology 所属分野：細胞生理学分野



**N**ot as a human doctor but as a veterinarian, I have practiced veterinary orthopedic internship program in Rakuno Gakuen University in Ebetsu for two years. During that period, I have experienced more than 100 cases of canine anterior cruciate ligament ruptures and sequential meniscal damages or osteoarthritis.

However, ruptured ligaments are removed during surgery and the stifle joints in which

### **Kim Wooyoung (South Korea)**

**PhD student, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery** 所属分野：整形外科科学分野

ruptured ligaments were removed frequently bring about secondary osteoarthritis or meniscal diseases. To my surprise, human medicine also has almost the same problems.

Those facts made think; “Why should ruptured ligaments always be trimmed and removed? Is there no way to regenerate them? Really impossible?” It was such questions that made me decide to be a researcher.



**I**t is a wonderful opportunity to study in Hokkaido University. Here I meet many people coming from different countries. I have a chance to know the world and different cultures.

When I first came to Sapporo, I was amazed by the clean blue sky. With the help of a taxi driver, finally I was able to find my dormitory. During the first month in the dormitory, I got to know a lot of students

### **Dou Shenshen (China)**

**PhD student, Department of Stem Cell Biology** 所属分野：幹細胞生物学分野

from different countries. I talked to them at the tea party every week. Although now I live all by myself, I still contact with many friends whom I met in the dormitory.

My life in Japan is just like an adventure. Every day I meet different people and learn something new. Now, a life in the laboratory is a brand new adventure for me. I live a fulfilled life and I enjoy it.



**T**his is my second year in Japan. For me, Sapporo is a friendly place and people here are very kind and gentle.

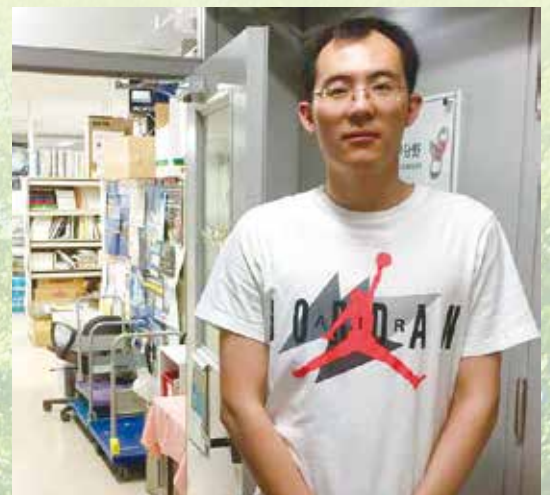
When I came here one year ago, I could not speak much Japanese, and the life here was totally different from the life in my country. So adjusting to the new life was a little difficult for me. But my teachers and friends at school gave me their hands when I needed without any doubts. Due to their

### **Wang Zifeng (China)**

**PhD student, Department of Neurosurgery** 所属分野：脳神経外科学分野

help, I got used to the life here quickly.

Not only friendly, but also people in Sapporo are warm hearted. I once lost my way to a supermarket. I was very worried. A kind old lady patiently showed me the way to the supermarket. She even drew a simple map for me which moved me most. Sapporo brings me warmth and touches my heart every day.





## Heartwarming memories in Hokudai



**Ian Yu Hin Leung,  
Tsz On Lam (Hong Kong)**  
Final (5th) Year Medical Students,  
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine,  
the University of Hong Kong  
受入診療科：循環器内科、内科Ⅱ

The five weeks in the departments of Cardiovascular Medicine and Second Internal Medicine in Hokkaido University Hospital was a memorable experience for us.

All of the doctors were extremely friendly to answer any questions from us. Although the daily conversations were in Japanese, many doctors could speak fluent English and would kindly translate for us. The doctors in Cardiovascular Medicine also gave us tutorials regarding advanced subjects not taught in Hong Kong, such as echocardiography and angiography. The doctors in Second Internal

Medicine treated us for lunch every day, and even allowed us to practice blood-taking on their vessels! Both departments were so hospitable to invite us to barbecue and drinking parties, giving us a taste of the Japanese culture.

Besides, we became good friends with many medical students in Hokudai. Not only did we learn together in the hospital, they also brought us delicious sushi, shabu-shabu and so on. We communicated in both English and Japanese, and with them everyday was a lot of fun. We still keep in touch even after we left Hokkaido!

We are so blessed to have this attachment, which gave us much medical knowledge and, more importantly, unforgettable memories with everyone we met.



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