

環境科学同窓会通信 第 14 号

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## 環境科学院で魅力的な研究に出会いました

漢那直也（日本学術振興会特別研究員 PD）

私は環境科学院で2015年に博士課程を修了しました。私はもともと沖縄出身で、琉球大学入学時まで、沖縄から外へ出たことがありませんでした。当時、琉大院への進学を考えていましたが、海外での単身バックパッカー旅行に憧れ、一念発起して休学を決意しました。とにかくお金が欲しかった私は、高時給アルバイトを始めました。ある時には、地球深部探査船「ちきゅう」の乗船アルバイト。一ヶ月間の船上生活で、研究の最前線を目の当たりにしました。またある時には、沖縄の某環境研究所の調査アルバイト。マングース罫の設置・回収など、現地調査を経験しました。半年間で貯めた100万円を握りしめ、念願の単身バックパッカー旅行へ出かけました。

帰国後、海外で経験したことよりも、乗船アルバイトで経験した船上生活と、某環境研究所の現地調査で覚えた高揚感が忘れられず、船上で海の環境学を学びたいと、漠然と考えるようになりました。様々な大学院を調べましたが、「自分でフィールドに行き、自分で環境試料をサンプリングし、自分で分析する」ことの大切さを、当時の私にわかりやすく、明確に発信していた環境科学院に興味を持ちました。興奮冷めやらぬうちに、環境科学院への進学を決め、大学院ではオホーツク海の流氷に関わる物質循環の研究に取り組みました。初めて流氷を見たときの衝撃は、今でも忘れることができません。海外で目にしたどんな景色よりも、流氷は美しく、ダイナミックでした。現在も、私は流氷に関わる研究を続けています。環境科学院で、魅力的な研究に出会い、刺激のある充実した人生を送っています。

写真：ソフトボール大会で仲の良い先輩と一緒に（筆者は写真右）



## My Study Abroad Memory

魏志順/ Zhishun WEI (湖北工業大學 (Hubei University of Technology) 講師)

From April 2011 to March 2014, I had the honor to study in School of Environmental Sciences of Hokkaido University. Three years of my doctoral research have benefited me a lot, becoming a valuable life experience. My research area was focused on heterogeneous photocatalysis, which has been intensively investigated after famous report published in 1972 in Nature by Honda and Fujishima on water splitting. It is believed that photocatalysis especially that under solar radiation might effectively alleviate the global energy and environmental problems, and thus more and more attention has been paid to this research field in many countries. My tutors were Professor Bunsho Ohtani and Professor Ewa Kowalska, from whom I have benefited a lot.

During my doctoral study, I had opportunity to meet many foreign scientists from different countries who came to our laboratory for research visits, and also I had opportunity to visit Europe for exchanging study. Those experiences made me understand the culture and customs of many different countries. In particular, I am very grateful to Professor Ewa Kowalska and Poland. I got an opportunity to meet many Polish friends and go to Poland, and thus I might say that I know the culture and some customs of Poland. Till now I have kept in touch with many Polish researchers.

In the laboratory, my experimental skills had been greatly improved under the help of lab members. The research atmosphere and conditions of Hokkaido were very good, and I had opportunity to use many advanced equipment at the Institute of Catalysis (ICAT; former Catalysis Research Center - CRC). In addition, I traveled with Japanese and Chinese friends to experience Japanese local culture in many places. I have got a knowledge not only on my scientific topic, but also on the social and cultural aspects of the world, that has greatly inspired me in my present life.

Presently I am working at Hubei University of Technology in China. My research area is still on photocatalysis, as I think this is important and perspective field for human life and our globe. I am able to carry out relevant research work well after back to China due to the good experience I gained in Japan. Moreover, I share my experience and good memory of Hokkaido University with my students. I hope they can also get an opportunity to study in different countries to get to know more cultures and customs, and thus to have wide view of the world. When I guide students in scientific research, I always remember the time when I discussed with Professor Ewa Kowalska and team members, and I would like to share the knowledge and skills what I have obtained to my students.

Although I left Hokkaido University several years ago, a lot of good memories are still always in my mind. I hope it will be possible for me to visit my friends at Hokkaido University (and also Tokyo Olympic Games in Japan) in near future.





Taken from Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan



Taken from Hubei University of Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China

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