

Becca Asquith Research Report

14 day research visit to Professor Masao Matsouka at the Institute for Virus Research, Kyoto University supported by a JSPS Invitation Fellowship (short-term).

Academic activities.

- Discussions with Professor Masao Matsouka at the Institute for Virus Research, Kyoto University.
- Presented a research seminar to HTLV-1 researchers at Kyoto University.
- Discussions with Dr Michi Miura, Dr Kenji Sugata and Dr Jum-ichiro Yasumaga at Kyoto University.
- Research visit to the RIKEN Research Center for Allergy and Immunology, Yokohama City.
- Discussions with Dr Shinji Nakaoka at the Laboratory for Mathematical Modeling of the Immune System.
- Presented a research seminar to immunologists at the RIKEN Research Centre.

During my visit to Kyoto University we discussed two collaborative projects. In the first we will use interdisciplinary techniques to assess whether certain HLA class I alleles are associated with different adult T cell leukemia prevalence, whether the probability of preventing ATL is related to the immune response to HBZ and whether these immune responses are enhanced by an inhibitory KIR. In the second we will address the question “Why is HBZ so poorly immunogenic”

During my visit to the RIKEN Research Center I initiated a collaboration with Dr Shinji Nakaoka. We will study the rules underlying the programme of lymphocyte survival (proliferation and death) in vivo.

Other comments

I am very grateful to the JSPS for funding this research visit. I believe that the collaborations initiated, friendships formed and new ideas proposed will help to further the research of myself and the scientists I met in Japan. I hope to have another opportunity to visit Japan soon.

Contact details

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