



DISCOVERING OUR DISTANT ANCESTORS

WHILE THE REST OF THE WORLD was in the grip of rules and restrictions due to Covid-19, Dr. Kazuya Toda could be found deep in the heart of Africa.

A recipient of the 2021 Canon Foundation in Europe-Kyoto University Japan-Africa Exchange Program, Dr. Toda has spent these last 6 months investigating why female bonobos are highly gregarious with each other beyond kinship by comparing physiological and socio-ecological features between female bonobos and chimpanzees.

He writes "Two Pan species, chimpanzees and bonobos, are our closest relatives living in the present. The results of DNA have proven that we share approximately 98.7% of our DNA with chimps and bonobos. They have a similar social organization model of multi-female and multi-male groups where males remain in the natal group and females usually transfer between groups. However some differences in social relationships can be recognized between the sister species. For example, female bonobos form more "affiliative" relationships with each other beyond kinship and generation than female chimpanzees. I am greatly interested in the benefits outweighing the costs of which female bonobos are associated with a wide of unrelated females. Research on the factors driving their social structure can give us a hint for a better understanding of social systems evolution.

For 6 months, I lived on campsites in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Republic of Uganda to conduct field research on wild bonobos and chimpanzees.

Life on the field sites was fresh and exciting for me. The bonobos and chimpanzees showed me many interesting behaviors. I worked with local assistants (called "trackers"), people who can track footprints in the forest and are excellent in the five senses. I communicated with Congolese and Ugandan trackers using Lingala and English, respectively. The tracking of wild apes from one night bed site to the next night bed site was really tough. It was not unusual to travel through the forest for more than 10km per day. While the apes slept, I talked with trackers and learned a lot of things (e.g., traditional knowledge and culture in their own tribe and country). I also saw that the market is greatly expanding by rapid population growth. I would like to continue to be involved with research projects in Africa and see how human lifestyles and natural resources change and evolve over time.

Dr. Toda is a researcher at the Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University.

The Japan-Africa Exchange Program is an initiative by the Canon Foundation in Europe and Kyoto University which offers fellowships to highly qualified researchers in research fields related to African Studies. The program is intended to support 1) fellows from KU who want to do research in Africa, and 2) scholars from Kyoto University's partner universities and institutes in Africa who want to do research in Kyoto. The fellowships are for a minimum period of three months up to maximum one year between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023.

This year's application deadline is November 15th, 2021. More details about the program and the application procedure can be found at http://www.africanit.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/news/20210617_1078/



David Bateson

NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

David Bateson, Senior Vice-President Legal, Intellectual Property, Privacy & Sustainability at Canon Europe in the UK succeeded Paul Kers as Chairman from May 2021. During Paul's time as Chairman, his support was key to launching the joint Japan-Africa Exchange Program with Kyoto University. Since the Program started, some 15 researchers have travelled between Africa and Japan to support ongoing development and expansion of African studies in Kyoto.

The African Studies Centre at Kyoto University focusses on research and studies regarding Africa's natural environment in relation to its peoples, cultures and endogenous development including the preservation of wild life in the area. These fields tie in perfectly with Canon's corporate philosophy of kyosei – contributing to the harmony and well-being of mankind by nature. We thank Paul for his dedication to the Foundation and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

We welcome David who joined Canon in 2006 and is based at Canon's headquarters in London. His in-depth knowledge and expertise in many business sectors and diverse corporate cultures throughout EMEA makes him ideally suited to head the Foundation and take it forward.

THE 2021-22 CANON FOUNDATION IN EUROPE FELLOWS



MR. OR COHEN-SASSON
FROM Tel Aviv University, Israel
TO Tsukuba University, Japan
HOST Prof. Hisao Shiomi
RESEARCH FIELD Law
PROJECT TITLE "Patent Law at the Age of Big Data"
- At times, the changing technological environment poses challenges to the law. Such challenges often arise due to blind-spots in the lawmakers' viewpoint, limiting the law's capacity to handle emerging technologies properly. Cohen-Sasson's work investigates cases of law-technology discrepancies and strives to provide solutions to such incompatibilities



DR. CLAUDIA DI BIAGIO
FROM Université de Paris and Univ Paris Est Creteil, CNRS, LISA, F-75013 Paris, France
TO National Institute for Environmental Studies, Tsukuba, Japan
HOST Prof. Hiroshi Tanimoto
RESEARCH FIELD Physics
PROJECT TITLE Climate change and role of Secondary Organic Aerosols



DR. TAKAAKI DOHI
FROM Tohoku University
TO Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Germany
HOST Prof. Dr. Mathias Kläui
RESEARCH FIELD Mechanical Engineering
PROJECT TITLE Antiferromagnetic skyrmions - a path to non-conventional computing. Spintronics, Magnetic topological spin structures



DR. FATMANIL DONER
FROM Istanbul Medeniyyet University, Turkey
TO Kyoto University, Japan
HOST Prof. Dr. Shuji Hisano
RESEARCH FIELD Politics and International Relations
PROJECT TITLE "The faces of neoliberal rural transformation in Japan and Turkey". The research will study the consequences of the neoliberal transformation in the countryside of Japan and Turkey by addressing the real agents of the agricultural policies



MS. PAULA FERNÁNDEZ GONZÁLEZ
FROM Oxford University, Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, Oxford, UK
TO University of Tokyo, Japan
HOST Dr. Jason G. Karlin
RESEARCH FIELD Anthropology
PROJECT TITLE Women's empowerment through social media activism in Japan: growing from the influence of a global feminist community present in social media platforms



DR. ENRICO GARALDI
FROM Max-Planck-Institut fuer Astrophysik, Garching bei Muenchen, Germany
TO Osaka University, Japan
HOST Prof. Kentaro Nagamine
RESEARCH FIELD Physics
PROJECT TITLE Astrophysics. Understanding high-z cosmic dust



DR. PRISCILA GOMEZ POLO
FROM Bezmialem Vakif University, Istanbul, Turkey
TO University of Ryukyus
HOST Dr. Yu Matsuyama
RESEARCH FIELD Biosciences
PROJECT TITLE The role of endosymbionts in the developmental genetic networks of leafhoppers (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae)



PROF. VISA IMMONEN
FROM University of Turku, Finland
TO University of Tokyo, Japan
HOST Assoc. Prof. Akira Matsuda
RESEARCH FIELD History
PROJECT TITLE Participatory methods at archaeological museums and sites: a comparative perspective



MR. KENSUKE IWATA
FROM Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan
TO University of Padua, Italy
HOST Prof. Luca Illetterati
RESEARCH FIELD Philosophy and Religion
PROJECT TITLE The function of Art in Hegel's System from the Perspective of His Language Theory



PROF. M. CRISTINA LONGO
FROM University of Catania, Italy
TO Yokohama National University, Japan
HOST Prof. Masanori Yasumoto
RESEARCH FIELD Business Economics and Management
PROJECT TITLE Multi-mode strategies for standardization. Comparing the European and Japanese standardization models



MR. JOVAN MATIC
FROM University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia
TO Ishoken, Tajimi City Pottery Design/Ceramics Lab., Japan
HOST Mrs. Yuri Ogino
RESEARCH FIELD Art
PROJECT TITLE Contemporary Japanese Ceramics. Looking at alternative solutions using ceramics to the old traditions that are losing meaning in today's world, exploring why impetus for change is lacking and trying to understand how that change happens



DR. GIOVANNA MIONI
FROM University of Padova, Italy
TO University of Tokyo, Japan
HOST Prof. Yuko Yotsumoto
RESEARCH FIELD Psychology
PROJECT TITLE Probing explicit and implicit timing considering modalities and temporal range: an electroencephalography and electric stimulation study



MR. RYOZA MIZUNO
FROM Tokyo Individualized Educational Institute, Japan
TO London School of Economics, UK
HOST Dr. Dina Gusejnova
RESEARCH FIELD History
PROJECT TITLE The International Thought of Arnold J. Toynbee: The Rise of Anti-colonial Nationalism and the Decline of the British Empire



DR. YUYA MIZUNO
FROM Keio University, Tokyo, Japan
TO King's College London, UK
HOST Prof. Oliver Howes
RESEARCH FIELD Medicine
PROJECT TITLE A multimodal, translational study to clarify the role of microglial dysfunction in patients with schizophrenia



DR. SAMUEL ROSS
FROM Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
TO Okinawa Inst of Science and Technology, Japan
HOST Dr. Dave Armitage
RESEARCH FIELD Environmental Studies: Ecology
PROJECT TITLE Identifying winners and losers in the Anthropocene using an acoustic monitoring network



MRS. DANIELA TRAVAGLINI
FROM Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
TO Tsuda University, Tokyo and Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan
HOSTS Prof. Saeko Kimura and Prof. Junji Tsuchiya
RESEARCH FIELD Literature
Project title: Literature of catastrophe: a comparative study from Hiroshima to Fukushima



DR. VANESSA MARIA TÖNSMEIER
FROM Maastricht University, the Netherlands
TO Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan
HOST Prof. Hirofumi Kato
RESEARCH FIELD Law (specialization: international cultural heritage & human rights law, indigenous rights)
PROJECT TITLE Community-engaged research on Ainu repatriation and the revitalization of cultural practices



DR. ROSA VAN HENSBERGEN
FROM Queens' College, University of Cambridge, UK
TO Keio University Art Center, Tokyo, Japan
HOST Prof. Yohko Watanabe
RESEARCH FIELD Literature
PROJECT TITLE Tatsumi Hijikata Choreographing with Words



MR. NAOYA YAMAGUCHI
FROM New York University, School of Medicine, New York, USA
TO University of Cambridge, UK
HOST Prof. Lalita Ramakrishnan
RESEARCH FIELD Biosciences
PROJECT TITLE The mechanism of tuberculosis granuloma formation

CO-SPONSORED CANON FOUNDATION FELLOW WITH THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE



DR. MAKOTO FUKUMOTO
FROM University of California, Berkeley, USA
TO The European University Institute, San Domenico di Fiesole, Italy
RESEARCH FIELD Politics
PROJECT TITLE Widening regional inequality in advanced economies and political economy problems regarding policy responses to it

2021 CANON FOUNDATION IN EUROPE KYOTO UNIVERSITY JAPAN-AFRICA EXCHANGE PROGRAM



DR. MORGANE ALLANIC
FROM Kyoto University, Wildlife Research Center, Japan
TO University of Kinshasa, D.R. Congo
HOST Mr. Baudouin Michel
RESEARCH FIELD Environmental Studies
PROJECT TITLE Establishment of sustainable bonobo research and conservation in collaboration with local people in Mballi, DR Congo



DR. KAZUYA TODA
FROM Kyoto University, Primate Research Institute, Japan
TO University of Kinshasa, D.C. Congo and Makerere University, Uganda
HOST Dr. Jean M. Malekani and Dr. Eric Sande
RESEARCH FIELD Anthropology
PROJECT TITLE Physiological and socio-ecological mechanisms underlying high gregariousness beyond kinship in female bonobos



SPOTLIGHT ON TOMOKO SUZUKI, 2020 CANON FOUNDATION FELLOW FROM BORDER RESTRICTIONS TO THE INFINITE DIVERSITY OF GALAXIES

MY MEETING WITH DR. TOMOKO SUZUKI coincided with the Solar Eclipse on June 10th. Meeting her on that date seemed fitting since Tomoko's research field is in Astronomy.

She was granted a 2020 Canon Foundation Fellowship to carry out research at the Kapteyn Astronomical Institute at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. As part of NOVA (the Netherlands Research School for Astronomy), the Kapteyn Institute is renowned as a world-leading astronomical Institute ranked by an international evaluation board which includes a Nobel Prize winner.

Tomoko was one of the few Japanese Canon Foundation Fellows who made it to Europe in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. Having successfully arranged her visa, she arrived in Amsterdam in September 2020 just in time before the Netherlands went into lockdown.

I had intended to visit her last year but travel restrictions had prevented it from happening. And then finally in early June 2021 with travel restrictions having eased, I grabbed the opportunity to make the 2 hour train trip to Groningen to meet Tomoko and her host professor to find out more about her research at first hand.

She explained that a galaxy is made up of a large collection of stars, interstellar gas, dust and dark matter and that individual galaxies have significant diversity. Investigating how such a diversity of galaxies emerged in the universe is one of the major research topics in the field of astronomy. Tomoko's research aims to investigate the dust-obscured activity in galaxies 11.5-12 billion years ago. She will do this by collaborating with experts specialising in distant galaxies at the Institute and by accessing virtually ALMA (the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array) in Chile which is operated by the European Southern Observatory (ESO) and its international partners.

Tomoko's host professor, Prof. Dr. Caputi, originally from Argentina, moved to the Kapteyn Institute 9 years ago where she now leads a public survey project together with the ESO on behalf of the Institute.

Having not been able to really see much of the Netherlands since she arrived, Tomoko hopes to do a bit of travelling around before she returns to Japan in September where she has been accepted at the Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe (IPMU) in Tokyo as a postdoctoral Fellow for three years.

Main photo: Hubble Gazes at a Galactic Menagerie. This packed image taken with the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope showcases the galaxy cluster ACO 5295, as well as a jostling crowd of background galaxies and foreground stars. Image courtesy of ESA/Hubble & NASA, F. Paçaud, D. Co.



Prof. Dr. Caputi (left) and Dr. Suzuki (right).

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Canon Foundation in Europe was founded in 1987 to enhance cultural and scientific understanding between Japan and Europe. This objective is achieved by providing Research Fellowships to postgraduate students and researchers. Over the years, we have extended our range of programmes.

Canon Foundation in Europe Research Fellowships for Europeans and Japanese who wish to carry out research in Japan and Europe respectively. Research can be carried out in all research fields for 3 months minimum to 1 year maximum. Applicants must already have at least their Master's degree within the last 10 years. The next application deadline is 15 September 2022 for applications starting in 2023. Registration for the online application form re-opens on 1 February 2022.

Co-sponsored Research Fellowship-European University Institute are for Japanese nationals who want to carry out post-doctoral research at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. The successful candidate will participate in the Max Weber programme at the Institute. The next application deadline is 18 October 2021. Applications should be made directly through the European University Institute website.

The Japan-Africa Exchange Program Kyoto University is for scholars from Kyoto University who want to do research in Africa related to African Studies and for scholars within and beyond Kyoto University's partner institutes in Africa who want to do research at Kyoto. The next application deadline is 15 November 2021. To apply, please contact the Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University.

Access the online application form which re-opens on 1 February 2022

STAY CONNECTED

P.O. Box 2262, 1180 EG Amstelveen, The Netherlands

Visiting address: Bovenkerkerweg 59, 1185 XB Amstelveen

Telephone +31 20 545 8934

Contact person: Suzy Cohen

Email: foundation@canon-europe.com

<https://www.canonfoundation.org>

