



# newsletter

京都大学 農学研究科・農学部国際交流室  
International Exchange Section



## LeeさんとLiさん

### 宮川 恒

農学研究科教授  
応用生命科学専攻  
生物調節化学分野

海外旅行すらまったく縁がないという学生時代を過ごし、その後も研究対象はもっぱら試験管の中でおこることだったので、研究科長になるまでは国際交流と言っても学会活動を通じた経験しかありません。それに学会参加と言っても一方的な発表が中心で、大部分の時間を日本からいっしょに行った人たちと過ごすので団体観光旅行と大差ないものです。

そんな中で、2006年に神戸で開催された農薬化学国際会議の学術プログラム委員長を仰せつかりました。この国際会議はIUPAC（国際純正・応用化学連合）が主催するもので1963年の第1回以来、ほぼ4年に1度開催されています。国際経験豊富でもっと適任の先生方がたくさんおられる中、開催地に近い京大に勤めかつ年頃が相応という理由で選ばれたようです。シンポジウムやポスターセッションの構成などを作っていく過程は、世界中のプログラム委員との電子メールによる共同作業で、ひたすら英語のメールを書いていた記憶があります。農薬化学の守備範囲は広く、合計20のシンポジウムテーマと13のポスターセッションテーマの枠組みを作っていくなかで、もっとも積極的に意見を出してくれた委員の一人が当時アメリカの大手化学メーカーDuPontの研究者だった、Philip Lee博士でした。Leeさんは中国出身で、高校時代に渡米、カリフォルニア大学リバーサイド校で学位を取って農薬など化学品の環境化学に関する研究に従事していました。互いに面識のない中、ほぼ毎日のようにメールをやりとりする内に、なんとなく古い知り合いのようになり、神戸の会場で初めて顔を合わせた時には互いに「ああ、あんたがあんただったのね」とすぐに打ち解けたのを覚えています。Leeさんはこの会議のプロシーディングの共同編集者として交友関係が続いていたところ、2010年からスタートする農学研究科G30特別コースで外国人教員をリクルートすることになり「京都に来ませんか」と声をかけました。



Philip Lee博士と（筆者右）

書類審査と京都での面接を経て2010年3月からの採用が決まり、張り切って来られました。気さくで、とにかく話が好き。一区切り付くと「ビールグラスを傾けながらリラックスしよう」を合言葉に、楽しい時間をたくさん過ごしました。日本語も少し勉強しようと思ったみたいですが、センスは？。「自分の知っている日本語は居酒屋で覚えた『すみません』と『熱燗』だけ。この前、混んでいるバスの中を通してもらうのに『すみません』と言うべきところ『熱燗、熱燗』と言ってしまった。みんな変な顔で見てたよ」という話を聞いて大笑いしたのを覚えています。

赴任して1年経った頃、市内をご機嫌で観光している途中に転倒、膝のお皿を割るという大けがを負ったのが気の毒でした。当時G30教務の小暮さんがサポートしてくれた

おかげでなんとか回復しましたが、その後の行動が制限されることになり残念だったろうと思います。2年間でしたが関係者に強い印象を残して2012年3月に退職、今はデンバーで孫の世話をしながら本を執筆しているそうです。また京都に行きたいというメールが時々来ます。

Leeさんが帰国した年の9月、北京で環太平洋農薬科学会議が開催されました。Leeさんとも再会し、会場で話す中でハワイ大学のQing Xiao Li教授を紹介されました。Liさんは中国出身、農薬科学では名門のUCデービス校で学位を取り、同パークレイ校でポスドクを務めたというばりばりの人でした。Leeさんから翌年にサバティカル休暇を取れるそうなので招待してはどうかという提案があり、外国人招聘研究員制度を利用して来てもらうことにしました。



Qing Xiao Li教授と（筆者左）

2013年の10月から3カ月の予定で赴任したLiさんは本当はものすごくアクティブで忙しく教育研究活動を展開している人ですが、それを感じさせず、とても気さくで話し好き、いつもにこにこ穏やかで親しみやすさにあふれています。毎日コーヒータイムに研究室に現れ雑談を楽しむなか、研究の最新動向もしっかりとフォローしているところがさすがで、よいアドバイスをたくさんいただきました。アルコールに弱く、そこは私にとって少々残念でしたが、酒席でお酒なしでもユーモアたっぷりの楽しい話をたくさんできるのがえらいところ。3ヶ月の滞在はあっという間に過ぎ、Liさんはハワイの忙しい生活に戻っていきました。

2016年の冬、韓国の卒業生から「ソウル大学のキム・ジョンファン副学長一行が京都を訪問するのだが、京都大学のどなたかにつないでもらえないか」と頼まれ、川添副学長との面会をアレンジしました。その後、懇親会に招かれ話していたところ、キムさんがポスドク時代にLiさんと同じ研究室で働いていた時以来の親友だと言うことがわかり大盛り上がり。乾杯に次ぎ乾杯で正体を失いました。このLiさんとの縁で、その後ソウル大学に招待をしていただき、部局間交流協定の締結に至りました。

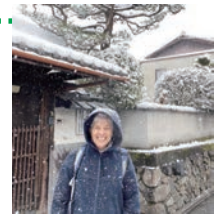
この年の11月、京大と浙江大学との共同会議が開催されました。その日程に先立って上海で農薬科学の国際会議があり、そこにLiさんも招待されていたので浙江にも京都大学のメンバーとして参加してもらいました。上海から杭州への移動について具体的な計画を立てていなかったところLiさんが手配してくれて、中国在来線の旅を初めて経験しました。約3時間、車内の雰囲気はかなり違い、途中でTVショッピングのような販売があったり、よくわからない演説が始まったりと緊張したのですが、Liさんが隣にいて心強くて貴重な経験をしました。

振り返ってみて決して豊富とは言えない自分の国際交流の経験の中でも、文化や考え方の違いに気づかされ、視野が広がる楽しい思いをたくさんしました。今はコロナ禍でストップしていますが、世界との距離は本当に近くなりました。日本が世界の中でこれからも存在感を示し続けるために、これを読む皆さんには積極的に国際交流にチャレンジし、多様性を尊重する態度、発想の柔軟性を身につけながら人としての魅力を磨いてほしいと思います。

**Karen A. Kainer**

Professor, University of Florida, USA  
 Visiting Professor, Laboratory of Tropical Forest Resources and Environment,  
 Division of Forest and Biomaterials Science  
 November 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

## Illumination from the East



As a scientist whose career has centered on forests and forest-based communities in the Western Hemisphere, an 8-month stay at Kyoto University allowed me to expand my professional horizons eastward. It also provided a delightful glimpse into the serene traditional capital of Japan where quiet beauty is around every corner. A Kyoto devoid of international tourists is a rare occurrence - one that certainly shaped my extraordinary experience. Indeed, the global pandemic had an overarching influence on all activities and visit outcomes. Visa acquisition and country entry were delayed over a year, but with the adept assistance of the Japanese Consulate in Miami, my faculty host Dr. KITAJIMA Kaoru, and the Graduate School of Agriculture's International Exchange Section (particularly IMAEDA Sakiko), I squeezed into Japan between the Delta and Omicron strains. Released from quarantine on 15 November 2022, I was free to begin my professional and personal adventure.

Professionally, this rich experience as a Visiting Research Scholar deepened my understanding of smallholder and community forest management practiced in tropical Asia and in Japan. Dr. Kitajima opened the realm of Asian and African tropical forests through her Tropical Forest lab group, individual meetings with Asian graduate students, teaching graduate-level courses, and delivering guest lectures. Weekly lab meetings consisted of critical discussions of research proposals as well as preliminary and final presentations of research findings. Dr. Kitajima also facilitated my participation in a 3-day seminar on Climate Change and Forests by NAKATA Hiroshi of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Delivery of Community Forest Management (sole instructor), Tropical Forests under a Changing Climate (with Dr. Kitajima), and a guest lecture in a third course also enabled rich thematic reflections. Finally, students from Myanmar, China, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Japan were kind enough to meet for enlightening one-on-one discussions. Learning about tropical Asia was complemented by engaging with Japan's forest realities.

Approximately 67% of Japan's territory is covered by forests, including massive areas of planted forests that were part of larger land restoration efforts following the Greater East Asian War. Because market and ecological conditions to harvest these now mature ~50-year-old forests has been restrictive, Japan depends almost entirely on imports for wood-based construction materials and other forest products. The juxtaposition of Japan's tremendous forest wealth and limited forest management has not gone unnoticed, however. Increasingly, government, a growing forest industry and motivated entrepreneurs and innovators are building capacity to manage extant forests for economic revitalization of rural areas, to improve forest health, and to support deeply embedded values of biocultural conservation. These goals are challenged by the fact that approximately 1.1 million (94%) of today's private forest owners in Japan are smallholders. Most own less than 2 hectares. As a novice to Japan's forest realities, visits to ongoing forest-centered initiatives with linguistically and culturally proficient partners was essential. Generous Japanese colleagues (principally Kyoto University's Dr. NAITO Daisuke and also Dr. YAMADA Masaaki of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology) organized four forest/farm visits when covid presence was less pronounced: two in December 2021 and two in June 2022.

December visits to Kawakami Village in Nara Prefecture and Narita in Chiba Prefecture served as critical orientations to Japanese forest and farm realities. Recently retired professor Dr. KANZAKI Mamoru has led Kyoto University's engagement with Kawakami Village, which forms part of a UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Biosphere Reserve. As the designation implies, Dr. Kanzaki's efforts have integrated capacity building (such as the educational visit we were lucky enough to be part of) with scientific exploration, and examination of long-standing village-led manage-

ment of the biocultural heritage of the Yoshino River basin. Here, natural, cultural, and sacred forest values mix with watershed protection and 500-year-old forests of exceptional quality planted during the late Tokugawa restoration. June visits to Nishiawakura Village and Himi in Okayama and Toyama Prefectures, respectively, revealed alternative pathways to integrate management of 60-year-old plantations that desperately need thinning, with aging villager populations and few forest workers. With Dr. Naito, we learned that Nishiawakura has boldly embraced a 100-year Forest Vision, creating demand for lumber with a mid-sized sawmill and ensuring supply through a forest management body entrusted by the Village and over 600 owners of small forest parcels. In Toyama, we observed forest cooperative workers (some of Brazilian Japanese descent) and efforts to experiment with new products via value-added processing of wood harvests. In between, during the Sakura season, I took a deep dive into English-language gray and scientific literature on Japanese forest history, management, and governance, including important translated works by MATSUSHITA Koji, also of the Graduate School of Agriculture.

On a personal level, my Japan stay allowed me to glimpse a different way of living, working, and being through a largely Kyoto-centered lens. Countrywide restrictions on travel were significant and social and professional activities were limited and always masked. Although language learning was thus constrained (one of my biggest disappointments), high-points were many: The simple beauty and attention to detail evident at all scales - from the cityscape to the smallest shrine; phenomenal cuisine; the kindness of citizens to help clueless foreigners; and the calm of the streets with drivers taking great care to ensure pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Personally, I also take with me the notion of *meiwaku* and professionally, the importance of *shakkei*. Back in my University of Florida lab, I also am thrilled to keep one foot in Japan by hosting Kyoto University graduate student KONDO Riri from the Kitajima lab. For me, the sun continues to rise from the East.



The KITAJIMA Kaoru (bottom row, 2nd from left) lab group served as an anchor to learn about Asian forests and to meet motivated students.



(NAITO-sensei far left, KAINER Karen and her husband DAIN Jonathon to her left) to Nishiawakura Village where TABATA Sunao (far right) and a veteran forest worker are among those implementing a highly innovative 100-year Forest Vision, honoring those who planted trees over 50 years ago and looking forward to the next 50.

## ◆ 招へい研究員 Visiting Researcher ◆

January 2023

**王 雷 Wang Lei: January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

蘇州大学教授(中国) Professor, Soochow University, China  
 共同研究課題: 「農村地域の景観再生と環境保全に関する日中比較研究」

Joint research title: “A Comparative Study on Rural Landscape and Environmental Conservation”

受入れ: 地域環境科学専攻 星野 敏 教授

Host: Prof. Satoshi Hoshino, Division of Environmental Science and Technology



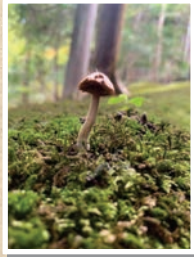
## How mushrooms led me to Kyoto .....

**Kim Schiphof** Master's student from Australia/The Netherlands  
Laboratory of Forest Biochemistry, Division of Forest and Biomaterials Science  
October 2021 - Present



Although these past few years have had their challenges, they also led me to Japan and for that I could not be more thankful. Originally, I did not have Japan on my list of potential places to study but during quarantine and lockdown I found myself wanting a change from where I had been living and studying during my undergraduate studies. I had very little direction as to what I wanted to do when I graduated, all I knew was I really enjoyed research.

During the pandemic one of my final courses in my undergraduate degree was an evolution course and they had a special lecture on fungal evolution. I had always been fascinated by DNA and biotechnology and fungi being so unique and having an incredibly wide range of capabilities really intrigued me. I figured if they have all these different functions they must have some really cool biology and DNA. So I looked into what kind of laboratories around the world specialised in fungi and molecular genetics.



Cool mushroom I saw at Ginkakuji temple

Japan kept coming up as one of the best places to go to for research in relation to genetics, fungi and agriculture. Once I stumbled upon my current laboratory (Lab of Forest Biochemistry) and read a few of the previously published work from the lab, Kyoto University instantly moved up to the top of my list and I officially started my masters in October of 2021. My first semester was an interesting one as it was still in the height of the pandemic and I spent that semester doing online research and taking classes from Australia. As soon as border restrictions for students eased, with the help of my supervisors I was able to enter Japan for my second semester (just in time for cherry blossom season!).

I have been in Japan for almost six months and have learnt so much about Japan's language and culture and have met many wonderful friends through university sports clubs and my laboratory.

My research is looking into understanding the roles of var-

ious genes in oyster mushrooms to better understand mushroom structure for applications to mushroom materials and agriculture. So far I have been doing mostly genetic experiments to remove genes that I think are important from the fungi, and then run experiments to see what kinds of impacts the loss of this gene has to try to understand the role of the genes!

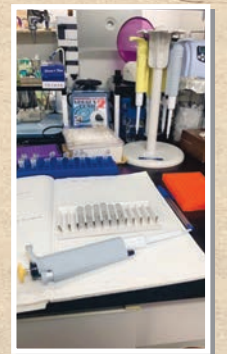
I think I have been very lucky with my laboratory. Although I started learning Japanese when I arrived, I am nowhere near fluent. But my laboratory members and supervisors have all been very accommodating and friendly. Although there have been many early mornings and late nights and numerous accounts where I have realised I have a lot to learn and spent hours trying to understand different genetic concepts, I honestly could not have asked for a better experience so far.



One day field study trip to Shiga prefecture

On top of this I have visited many shrines and temples around Kyoto with various people from my laboratory and other friends I have met along the way and have been studying Japanese through the graduate school. I was also lucky enough to attend a field trip organised by the international exchange office and attended my first festival! I have discovered new favourite foods including tanuki udon and anything matcha and have filled up on my fair share of kakigori this summer.

Overall I am loving my time at Kyodai and hope to continue my studies and stay here for many more years to come, and will always be incredibly grateful to my supervisors for giving me the opportunity to study here and realise there is much more to the world than just the places I grew up in.



My lab setup on one of my first days in Japan



Members of my Japanese class in the graduate school of agriculture

### ◆ 招へい研究員特別講演 Special Lectures by Visiting Researchers ◆

◆ **Prof. Karen Ann Kainer**  
(University of Florida, USA)  
"From the University of Florida to Kyoto University and back again: A brief report from a tropical forestry professor"  
June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022



Prof. Kainer

◆ **Prof. Suming Chen**  
(National Taiwan University, Taiwan)  
"Collaboration and Networking for Better Tomorrow"  
August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022



Prof. Chen (center)

◆ **Prof. Etti Or**  
(Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center, Israel)  
"Global warming??? It's already warm here... Regulation and modulation of grapevine dormancy in the desert"  
July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022



Prof. Or (left)

◆ **Dr. Thomas Strang**  
(Canadian Conservation Institute, Canada)  
"A life shared with pests, and some very nice people"  
September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022



Dr. Strang (right)

◆渡部真理先生ご退職のお知らせ Retirement of Japanese Teacher Ms. Mari Watanabe◆

2022年9月末で、日本語講師の渡部真理先生が退職されます。真理先生は、2007年から国際交流室の日本語教室の講師として、たくさんの留学生や研究者に日本語を教えてくださいました。長年にわたるお勤めにスタッフ一同から感謝いたします。10月から、渡部真理先生の後任として、前川佳世子先生が着任されます。

Our Japanese teacher, Ms. Mari Watanabe, will retire at the end of September 2022. Mari-sensei has taught Japanese to many international students and researchers since 2007. We wholeheartedly thank her for her many years of hard work in our Japanese class. Starting October, Ms. Kayoko Maekawa will take over Mari-sensei's job.



渡部真理先生からのメッセージ Message from Mari-sensei

出会ったすべてのみなさま。ありがとうございました！2007年4月から62か国562名の学習者が日本語教室のインタビューに来てくれました。1回だけの人、数か月の人、卒業まで5年間通った人とさまざまな出会いと交流があり、たくさんの学びがありました。学生のころアメリカ留学で「もらったもの」への感謝と恩返しで始めた日本語教師の仕事ですが、他の機関を含めると少なくとも1500人の学習者に恩を返して来たつもりです。そのみなさんがいつかどこかでだれかに何かを伝えてくれて、さらには平和に繋がればいいなと願っています。今後は20年続けている「京都にほんごRings」というボランティアネットワークの活動に軸足を置いて、京都市とともに地域の日本語教室を支援していく所存です。国際交流室の活動は安全な共生社会に繋がるものです。末永く応援しております！みなさまどうぞお元気で！！ありがとうございました！！

Thank you everyone! I started teaching Japanese as a way of giving thanks and giving back to what I received while studying in the United States in 1979.

I hope that people I met in my Japanese class will tell something to someone, someday, somewhere, and that it will lead to world peace!! If you come to Kyoto, please feel free to contact me. O genki de!



日本語教室からの景色  
View from the classroom

2022年度前期行事 Events in the First Semester, 2022

April

- 行事** チューター・新入生ガイダンス  
Guidance for New International Students and Tutors  
(歓迎パーティーは中止 Welcome Party was canceled)
- 会場** ガイダンス資料をインターネット上で公開  
Guidance materials made available online

June 2<sup>nd</sup>

参加人数 27名

- 行事** 日帰り見学会  
One-Day Study Trip
- 会場** 針江 生水の郷 (滋賀県高島市)  
Harie Sho-zu No Sato (Takashima City, Shiga Prefecture)



June 8<sup>th</sup>

参加人数 21名

- 行事** 留学生交流会  
International Student Meet & Greet
- 会場** 大会議室  
Conference Room



July 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>

参加人数 90名

- 行事** リサイクルイベント  
Recycle Event
- 会場** 国際交流室  
International Exchange Section



2022年度後期行事予定 Event Schedule in the Second Semester, 2022

日付 / Date	行事 / Event	会場 / Venue
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	チューター・新入生ガイダンス Guidance for New International Students and Tutors 歓迎パーティーは中止 Welcome Party to be canceled	大会議室 Conference Room
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	日帰り見学会 One-Day Study Trip	京北 (茅刈り体験、干し柿作りなど) Keihoku Area (thatch mowing, making dried persimmons, etc.)
未定 TBD	ほっこりカフェ International Café Meeting	国際交流室 International Exchange Section
未定 TBD	リサイクルイベント Recycle Event	国際交流室 International Exchange Section
未定 TBD	もちつき大会 Mochitsuki (Rice Cake Making)	未定 TBD
未定 TBD	茶道教室 Tea Ceremony	未定 TBD
未定 TBD	書道教室 Japanese Calligraphy	未定 TBD

発行

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ホームページ

