

りましたが、人生も折り返し地点に達すると若い人の育成に自然と興味が湧いてくるというのは私の場合にも当てはまりました。「実験がうまくいかない」「論文・申請書が上手く書けない」「研究者として生きていけるのか?」そのような葛藤・不安が彼らからヒシヒシと伝わってきます。そんな若者たちは、必死の形相で教授室にやって来て、ひとしきり喋ったあと、「本当にお忙しい中、時間を取らせてしまい、すみませんでした。もうこのようなことはしません。」などと殊勝なことを言います。この場を借りて明記したいこととしては、余計な遠慮などしないで来てほしいということです。自分の研究室の若い人に限らず若い人全般に言いたいことですが、そういう葛藤や不安を聞くことは老いた立場としては大いに歓迎なのです。遠慮しないで、どんどん、駄々をコネてほしいと思いますし、それが Mentor と Mentee の関係だと思います。わたしも随分と今までの Mentor の先生方に駄々をこねました。その頃は、守られていることすら気づけなかったと、今さらながら恥ずかしく、その分、一層感謝の気持ちが込み上げますし、そのような流れこそがサイエンスを形作る 1 つの源なのかも最近思います。随分と稚拙な研究室紹介になってしまいましたが、最後にこれまでの減茶苦茶な行動にもかかわらず、沢山の先生方に多大な御恩を賜ったことを感謝申し上げます。とりわけ、臨床医としての基礎を御指導くださった福田正人先生、基礎研究の楽しさ・厳しさをお教え下さいました崎尚先生、加藤忠史先生、澤明先生、河

西春郎先生に心より感謝申し上げます。またこの稚拙な手記をご覧になった若い先生方におかれましては、筆者のようにあまり賢くない者でも楽しく研究できるという事実をお伝えすること、つまりは、自らの能力に限界を設けることなく、一杯、目標に向かい猛進することをおすすめいたします。



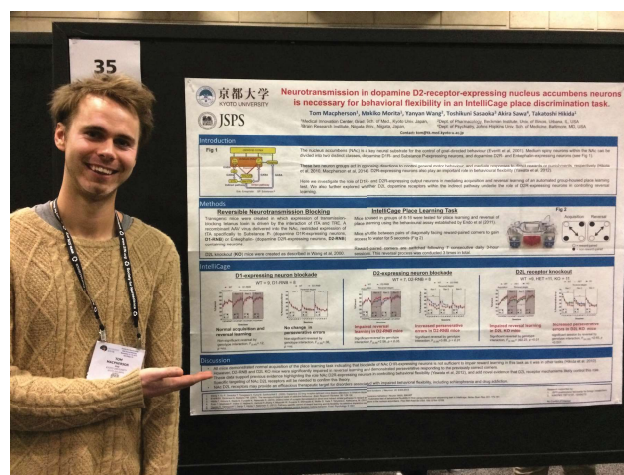
**Brain Night:** 毎月最終週のどこかの夜に教授室で行われます。世界一流の Speaker の Podcast を聞きながら、フランクな雰囲気サイエンスの議論をします。大体、最後はサイエンスとは関係ない口くでもない話になってしまい、終わったあとの空の酒瓶の量が多すぎるのが良いことなのか悪いことなのか微妙です。

## 参加記

### SfN report 2016 (San Diego)

Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine  
Tom Macpherson

Between the 12-16th Nov 2016 I attended the 46th Annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) in San Diego, USA. I was awarded a travel grant through the Japan Neuroscience Society to present the research that I had been conducting during my postdoctoral position at Kyoto University. As part of this travel grant, on the 12th Nov, me and the other recipients of the JNS-SfN exchange travel award, alongside members of the SfN-IBRO international travel award and the Latin America Training Programme (LATP), participated in an International Fellows Orientation Session. We began the session by each introducing ourselves and talking about what we hoped to achieve at the meeting. We

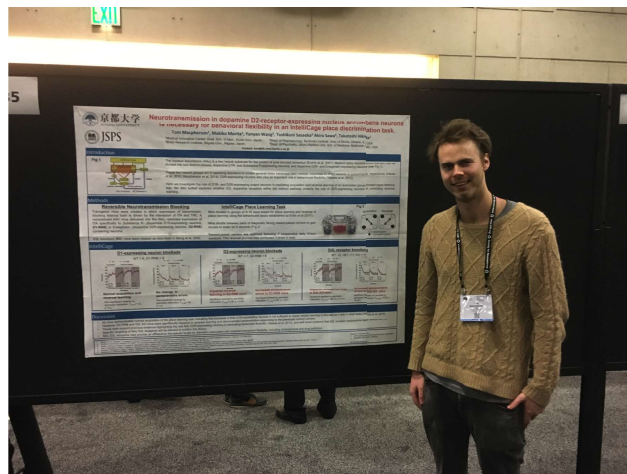




then received helpful advice about presenting our research, networking, and getting the most out of our time at SfN, then spent the remaining time practicing networking with other researchers. After the orientation session I spent some time getting to know my fellow JNS-SfN exchange travel award recipients and we discussed our different areas of Neuroscience research. In the evening of the 12th we all participated in an International Fellows Poster Session where we presented our research to SfN attendees. This was a great opportunity to talk in depth with those that came to visit my poster and to gather some useful feedback on my experiments.

During the remainder of the meeting I divided my time between the poster sessions, minisymposiums, nanosymposiums, and plenary talks. A particular highlight for me was the talk by Yasmin Hurd about the epigenetics of drug addiction. This topic lies close to my own research interests and there were many interesting insights regarding the effects of drugs (particularly cannabis and opiates) and the environment on the brains of humans and animals at various stages of

development. Additionally, this meeting gave me a chance to expand my knowledge of the use of microendoscopes to visualize brain activity in real-time. A wide range of labs, including those of Peter Kalivas, Kenji Doya, and Anatol Kreitzer, were presenting new data using this technique, and this meeting gave me a great opportunity to speak to researchers and industry representatives that had invaluable knowledge of how to effectively use this equipment.



Finally, on the morning of the 16th Nov, I had the opportunity to give a nanosymposium talk about my research exploring the role of dopamine D2 receptor-expressing neurons in the Nucleus Accumbens in controlling behavioral flexibility. This was the largest talk I had given to date and was a fantastic experience that will undoubtedly help me in my future academic career. Additionally, the nanosymposium in which I spoke included many interesting talks in the field of decision-making, ranging from genetic research in drosophila and rodents models, to primate and human studies using fMRI and EEG recording of brain activity during decision-making and learning tasks.

I am very grateful for the opportunity and experiences that the JNS-SfN exchange travel award provided me with, and I would highly recommend others to apply for this award for next year's SfN meeting.

