

## What I learned from the diversity of cultures

**Name:** Takamasa Horibe

**Affiliation (Dept & Univ):** Aerospace Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:** Series Elasticity for Haptic Interface

**Univ. Michigan:** Prof. Brent Gillespie

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Mechanical Engineering



The reason I applied to this program is to enlarge my view field. Before I participated in this program, I have been experienced many opportunities that totally changed my stereotype. When I was in Nagoya University, I met many friends who have different way to think from what I did and they changed my university life. They have a bottomless curiosity and are so active to learn not only in the lecture but also out of the lecture. They invited me to join some activities taken by foreign students and it was a first time for me to be involved foreign culture. I learned a diversity of idea and got to want to know what I do not know. Since then I got to try to know and accept the wide knowledge.

I experienced tons of culture shocks through this program. What I thought at first time in America is that there are still a lot of things I don't know. Actually the way to research of American people is completely opposite from that in Japan. They focus on how to make projects success and tackle researches so speedy. While when I did my research in Japan I often used to be stuck in a small problem and stop there in order to know the every little details, which is probably the basic style of Japanese researcher. I still don't know which style is better however I even have never thought deeply about my stile because I have no idea that there are the other stiles. Such an experience dramatically enlarged my idea or how I think. Of course I learned a lot of things in the American laboratory though I could also contribute for them as a Japanese student. We don't move speedy but we can see the detail and notice what they never notice. They told me that my style is typical Japanese style and it is new thing for them. By seeing the Japanese culture from out of Japan, I noticed many aspects that I never know if I didn't go out from Japan.

What changed my way of think is not only research. I talked a lot with my friends or my roommates and they are very ambitious. One of them studies international culture and we discussed each other about our culture. He told me what he knows about Japan or what he feels for Japan. It was very interesting because he told me not only a good thing but also a bad thing in Japan and I can't know how foreign people think of Japan.

Of course I went to travel somewhere on weekend and every places were amazing. The scale was totally different from Japanese one. I saw the real space shuttle at NASA's museum and I cannot forget about the scenery. That is one of the best trip for me as a student in aerospace engineering.

I could have a lot of friends in America and they all inspired my ideas and viewpoints. This is exactly what I wanted to learn through this program and I feel I could grow up and next step is not only be inspired by others but also inspire others. In addition I could also re-recognized a goodness of Japan, for example how delicious the Japanese food is! Hamburgers, steaks, BBQ, they were very good, however I always missed traditional Japanese food rice and miso soup.

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name: Hiroto Izuoka**

**Affiliation : Mechanical Science and Engineering, Nagoya University**

**Participated program: Medium 2015**

**Research theme: Nanofluidic-Flow-Assisted-Assembly of Well-Dispersed Plasmonic Nanostructures into Nanoslit Sensors**

**Advisor at Univ. Michigan: Prof. Xiaogan Liang**

**Affiliation (Dept.): Department of Mechanical Engineering**



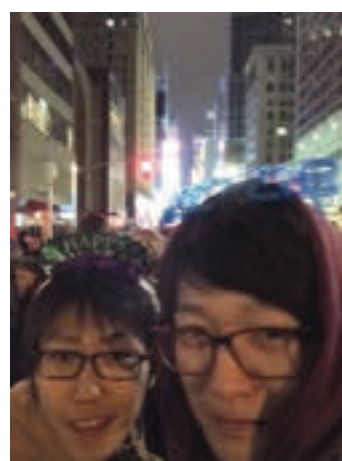
The whole experience I had through the JUACEP program is amazing. I really believe the experience in the US changed my perspective a lot. The stay in the US made me realize so many things that I would never realize without JUACEP.

I belonged to the Nanoengineering and Nanodevices laboratory Prof. Xiaogan Liang supervises at University of Michigan. The research project I was assigned to is establishing a new coating method of plasmonic nanoparticles on solid surfaces for biosensors. I spent most of my working time in cleanroom. The cleanroom in University of Michigan is a huge facility which has literally any equipment needed for the research. I also felt that collaboration between laboratories is stronger regardless of department than in Japan. My group also collaborates with other groups, actually. Opinions from the outside of the group definitely helped to make the progress. Of course, I sometimes faced difficulty in my research, but I felt satisfaction I've never had every time I overcame such challenges. You might know that JUACEP program is not for English training. I'm pretty sure JUACEP gave me a great experience I wouldn't get through any other programs.

One more thing I really want to share is about a lot of Asian students studying in the US. The most interesting characteristic of our lab is that all of the students are from Asian countries. I didn't know that such many Asian students are studying abroad until I went to the US. Once you get there, you must realize the number of Japanese students in US is still small. I hope more Nagoya University students get to have some interest in studying abroad and decide to go. I promise your decision will help you in different ways and you'll never regret it.

In addition, I enjoyed traveling in the US during my stay. I went to New York to celebrate the New Year with my roommate who is from Mongolia. We are standing in front of the Times Square for 8 hours. Although such kind of experience seems stupid, I recommend you to try something you can't do in Japan.

Finally, I really appreciate JUACEP for giving me such a wonderful time.



## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Michihiro Kanie

**Affiliation:** Department of Micro-Nano Systems Engineering,  
Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015



**Research theme:** • 3D-Printing of Porous & Solid Silicone Structure,  
• Pin-on-disk Wear Study of the Fused Deposition  
Modeling Materials

**Advisor at Univ. Michigan:** Prof. Albert J. Shih

**Affiliation:** Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan

I belong to the group of Prof. Albert J. Shih lab for 6 months in JUACEP program. He continuously supported my study and research. I joined the project of "Silicone Printing". Originally, I do research for 3D-printing in Japan. That's why I am very interested in his lab. I got a lot of knowledge about 3D-printing Systems, Software, Code and Materials.

He is really kind to share a lot of things not only research with me like house party. It was so great time. I remember I was very surprised when I went to his house first time because his house is so big. We took a walk around his house and took 30 minutes. Also, the dishes of his wife were really delicious. I ate a lot of traditional Taiwanese dishes.

Also, I really like lab-mate. Not only research, we often went to lunch and dinner, were chatting, played foosball and held a party. They absolutely made my life in Ann Arbor wonderful. They should definitely play a great role around the world in the future. I will meet them in the future.

Actually, this is the first time to go abroad for me. Everything is new for me like view, road and food. When I went to a restaurant just after I arrived at Ann Arbor, I was surprised because a clerk started to clean up floor when I still was eating. Almost Japanese should think it is very rude. Of course, I don't care that too much now. I mean it is easy to get used to the atmosphere in America for me. Because of my personality like talkative and outgoing, I made a lot of friends here. I often joined parties and events like Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. Fortunately, there are many people from different countries. It was so nice chance to know their culture and teach Japanese one. Now, I care not to see everything based on only Japanese values. It is very important to keep Japanese values like polite, kind and respectful, and understand other culture. For example, American are really aggressive and outgoing unlike Japanese are shy. We should not be shy not to be able to say our opinion. I want to be a person with good point of personality in each country.

Also, I tripped to many places in America like New York, Boston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and San Diego. Each place has each specialty. Especially, I like Boston because the view of seaport and glass buildings at night was so beautiful, and a clam chowder was really tasty.

At last, I would sincerely like to thank the Japan-US Advanced Collaborative Education Program (JUACEP) and staff for giving me the great experience. I will greatly take advantage of this experience. Thank you.



Prof. Shih's Group



Thanksgiving



Halloween



Lunch & Dinner

## Findings through JUACEP

**Kiichi Okuno**

**Dept. of Mechanical Science and Engineering**

**Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University, Japan**

**Participated program: 6-month stay 2015**



**Research theme: Vibration-Based Identification of Interphase Damping of Bamboo FRP**

**Advisor at University of Michigan: Prof. Bogdan Epureanu**

**Affiliation: Dept. of Mechanical Engineering**

Firstly, I'd like to mention my research project at University of Michigan. During the stay, I worked on modeling the vibration phenomena of unidirectional FRP (Fiber Reinforced Plastics) and clarifying the interphase damping of the materials. Since neither vibration nor modeling is related to my research project in Japan at all, it was hard to understand things at first. But I studied hard to acquire new knowledge, tried hard to complete modeling the complicated phenomena and worked hard to get a good result. Thanks to my professor's professional and kind support, I made a good progress in my research and gained a lot of skills necessary to be a better engineer in the future. In addition to my own research project, I also joined weekly research meetings in my lab, and it was a great opportunity to get to know how the students in one of the best ME program in the world would approach their own problems and solve them. I was very surprised and inspired by their wide knowledge and experiences gained by intense studies for classes and several internships.

Other than the research, I've got too many to share in this report. This was my first time living abroad, and I had a lot of experiences that I had never had before. Let me list up some of the things I experienced for the first time in my life through this program; having a roommate (actually I had two during the stay), living in a college dorm, some foods that I had never had (turkey on Thanksgiving for example), going to a church, going to a house party, giving a Kendo lecture to non-Japanese people, watching a football game at an insanely big stadium, NBA games, driving a left-wheel car on the right side of a road,,, I could just keep going on and on like this. And more than anything, I made some close friends there! It was amazing to share my surprise, confusion, excitement, and joy with them. I'd like to thank all of them for the awesome days we spent together. I will never forget them. I'm looking forward to seeing them again when they come to Japan, or maybe when I visit the states.

Through these experiences, I've realized how unique and closed Japan is, how different and difficult it is to live in a foreign country with people from different backgrounds, and also the importance of being aware of these things. I'd always thought these convenient systems in clean cities, society with politeness and privacy, and people working until very late night are normal. But everything normal in Japan is not necessarily normal, sometimes even extraordinary, in other countries. I feel a little more confident now that I've got this completely different perspective because I'm sure this will help me go up my career ladder faster.



**With one of my best**



**Kendo lecture**



**My laboratory**

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Ryo Yamaguchi

**Affiliation (Dept & Univ):** Mechanical Science and Engineering,  
Graduate School of Engineering,  
Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:**

**Advisor at Univ. Michigan:** Prof. Peter F. Green

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Material Science and Engineering, University of Michigan



I spent 6 months in Ann Arbor, Michigan. First, I explain my research work that I had done in University of Michigan. I belonged to the laboratory for complex materials and thin film research. In this laboratory I examined the glass transition temperature and the physical aging rate of the star shaped polystyrene (SPS) and SPS nanocomposites which contain polystyrene grafted gold nanoparticles. Because no one has examined nanocomposites system before, I had to look for the annealing condition to bring nanocomposite films to equilibrium state. Therefore I could not acquire enough data that I expected.

Secondly, I would like to share what I learned from my daily life in Ann Arbor. Although there are not many Japanese students in University of Michigan, there a lot of students who are interested in Japanese culture such as animations and comics. I bitterly regret that I had not watched Japanese animations and read Japanese comics. While I lived with Chinese students, we talked about history education that we had gotten in each country. There should be only one fact, but we learned completely different history. We realized that we have to think from several points of view to understand each other. From these experiences, I strongly felt that I should have learned about Japanese culture and history before studying abroad.

Thirdly I introduce some pleasant memories. I enjoyed watching a football game and a NBA game. As for the football game, there were over 100,000 people in the stadium although the game was the university football game. I also enjoyed traveling in U.S.A. such as New York, Pittsburgh San Francisco and Los Angeles. Each city has distinctive culture and atmosphere. However, people were kind to help me whenever I went. To be honest, there are still a lot of places where I want to visit hopefully I will come back someday.

Finally, I would like to express gratitude to the persons concerned. Especially I appreciate JUACEP to give me such a precious opportunity and kindly support, Prof. Umehara to send me on studying abroad and Prof. Green to accept me and give me a lot of invaluable advice. I will try to make use of this experience in the future.



**Home party with lab mates**



**Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY**

## The life in Ann Arbor and my experience

**Name:** Shintaro Oyama

**Affiliation:** Mechanical Science and Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Short 2015

**Research theme:** Effects of Micropores on Pseudocapacitive Charge Storage in Vanadium Nitrides

**Advisor at Univ. Michigan:** Prof. Levi Thompson

**Affiliation:** Department of Chemical Engineering



I had spent in the University of Michigan for 2 months and researched about electrochemistry under Prof. Levi Thompson and with Thompson group. I would like to introduce the life in Ann Arbor and share my experience.

The University of Michigan is located in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It takes 45 minutes from Detroit to Ann Arbor, and Ann Arbor is one of college town in USA. I rarely felt in danger for 2 months, so I could say that Ann Arbor is one of the best cities to live in. And there are some grocery store dealing with Japanese food, drink, seasoning in Ann Arbor, so I was able to make and eat Japanese dishes by myself.

In the University of Michigan, I studied about electrochemistry, especially supercapacitors, in Thompson group, and the research region is completely different from my major in Japan. Firstly, I thought it was difficult to study under him, but Prof. Thompson readily complied with my request to join his group. Thanks to Prof. Thompson, my mentor and Thompson group members, I was able to study and progress my research project in UM. I really appreciate them.

I played badminton with many Taiwanese every Monday, and played soccer with many people from many kinds of countries every Thursday. It was very exciting. I can make many friends there. On some weekend, I went BBQ with other laboratory members, went to Chicago with Japanese friends, watched football game at "Big House" or drank with laboratory members. I really enjoyed whole of life in Ann Arbor.

Finally, I would like to thank JUACEP for Financial support to my study-abroad life, and thank my supervisor, Prof. Noritsugu Umehara for allowing me to join this program. I'm sure this study-abroad life has changed my life.



Mentor and me



Laboratory building



Friends who played soccer together



Chicago's night view

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name: Takahiro Hatano**

**Affiliation: Mechanical Science and Engineering, Nagoya University**

**Participated program: Medium 2015**

**Research theme: Micro/Nano Sensing Technique on Diamond Tip  
Using Microwave**

**Advisor at UCLA: Prof. Xiaochun Li**

**Affiliation: Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering**



This 6 months I had lived in Los Angeles are irreplaceable time for me. Los Angeles has a variety of races and wonderful climate. This is the reason why I chose to study at UCLA. There were many excellent students in UCLA. However, their vision of the future was different from the one of excellent Japanese students. Some of them said to me, "Will you start to work right away after finishing university? There might be more important thing you should for your future." Therefore, I became to think that I broke a shell of the sense of values which rooted in myself and I wanted to think about how I live in the life.

In my research, I studied micro/nano sensing technique. In the first several months, I had gained knowledges on my research theme. As the next step, I set up experimental condition. However, I had some troubles. The apparatus which I wanted to use didn't exist. So I asked private company to do the experiment, but it cost too high. Finally I could not conduct an experiment, but I gained various knowledges and learned attitude towards research.

In my daily life, I usually go to university on weekdays and hung out or go to trip with my friends on weekends. UCLA has a well-equipped gym, so I often go there after finishing researching. Furthermore, Los Angeles has a lot of funny places, such as Santa Monica, Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Venice beach and Universal Studios. It is also easy to go to Las Vegas, Grand Canyon, San Diego, San Francisco and Disneyland Resort. Therefore I spent a very satisfying weekend. It rains little, and Los Angeles has a comfortable climate.

I would like to thank JUACEP for providing me this precious study opportunity. This exchange program gave me a chance to think about how to live my life properly.



UCLA



Driving around Los Angeles



Farewell dinner with lab members

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Yusuke Kasai

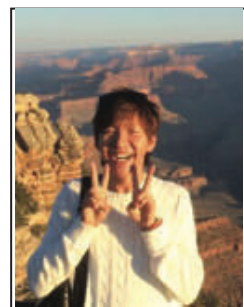
**Affiliation:** Micro-Nano Systems Engineering

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:** Study of Trapped Air under Shear Flow  
Using Transparent Single Trench

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Chang Jin Kim

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering



First of all, I would like to appreciate JUACEP gave me such a great opportunity to study in UCLA. The days I experienced in these 6 months will definitely be the foundation for my life.

Regarding study, I learned how to present in English. Our lab had group meeting every week and presented our progress of research for our professor. At first, because of my poor English and presentation skills, I could not communicate in group meeting well. However, practicing presentation every week, I gradually improved my skills and became confident to speak English. In the last month of exchange program, I taught 2 undergrad students to let them continue my research. I felt glad that they can continue my research and I became to teach my research in English as their senior. After the last meeting, our labmates held a farewell party for me. I thought it was pretty fortunate to be able to belong to this lab.

Regarding the life in Los Angeles, I touched a lot of cultures. I joined American home party many times. We bring not money but stuff such as drinks or snacks to the party, and we can meet our friends' friends. It is so fun and very good opportunity to learn other cultures. I really like American party, so after going back to Japan, I want to hold a party like this. In the end of January, we cooked Japanese foods and invited whole friends we met ever for the party. We talked about our memories, first impressions, future plans, etc. That was one of the most precious memories during this exchange program.



Farewell party with labmates



Farewell party with friends in LA



## Life in LA

**Name:** Taichi Nakao

**Affiliation:** Micro-Nano Systems Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:**

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Suneel Kodambaka

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Materials Science and Engineering



I had been in UCLA for half year as a visiting researcher. I worked in-situ microscopy lab under Prof. Suneel Kodambaka who is my supervisor. My research project was about materials expected to apply the semiconductor industry. I think this project was worthwhile to do for me because my experimental results were actually sent to research institute. In fact, I could work very comfortably in this lab. My supervisor really cared about me like as I could do experiment soon when I arrived at UCLA and my lab mate was also very kind to me especially when I had a trouble in my life and I learned how to use some equipment. I'm so grateful to Kodambaka group.

In daily life, I usually spent the time with my lab mate. Actually, we often went to a bar after finishing our group meeting to drink many kinds of beer. It was so fun because there are many kinds of beer in LA we can't drink in Japan. We also went to the local brewery named as Absolution Brewing Company. Moreover, we often did home party. Japanese students were sometimes host, and other times American students were host. We could share the own culture each other.

I also went to trip around US, for example many kinds of National Park. There is really vast nature in US. The places I like in particular are Yosemite National Park and Death Valley National Park. Summer is good season for Yosemite, but I recommend going there even in winter because we can see wonderful view like the top covered snow of mountain. On the other hand, winter is good season for Death Valley National Park because it's really hot like about 125°F in summer. Here we can see many kinds of view, great landscape from top of the mountain, salt lake, and desert.

Finally, I could learn so many things I can't learn in Japan, English skill, culture, and friends around the world. Definitely, these experiences will be good effect to my future carrier. I would like to express highly appreciate to all people who supported this my awesome experiences.



## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Shogo Okishio

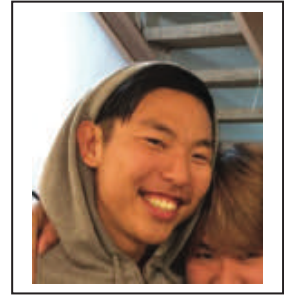
**Affiliation (Dept & Univ):** Aerospace Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:** Measuring thermal conductivity of regolith simulant

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Pilon

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering



My experience through the JUACEP program was simply amazing and unforgettable. I would love to write down so many things that happened during the stay in this paper but I have to pick up some since there is only a limited space here. It is really difficult to determine the best ones to talk about so I will start with the earnest topic. I felt that the research at UCLA was as tough as the ones in Nagoya University. I struggled to obtain the fine results and after all I was unable to make that happen. This was one of my regrets through the program. I did not feel much difference in the ability of student between Nagoya University and UCLA, although it is the one of the top university in the world. However I did feel the difference in future plans they talk about. I feel the students in Japan do not talk much about their own plans to strangers even if they had one and since I am the one who does not have specific plans, I was not able to talk what I want to do when people asked me about it. That reminded me that I need to think more about the purpose of the study now for the future.

Those were the most earnest opinions of my life and I will move on to the fun part. There were lots of experiences which I would have had any chance of trying them if I were staying in Japan. One of the most memorable things is that I joined the intermural futsal and soccer competition. First, I love playing soccer. I found out that there are some intramural competitions held in each quarters and started to look for the team. Since I did not know anyone who plays soccer here, I registered as a free agent and attended to the mandatory meeting. I thought this is a little bit unique style because I have never seen this kind of meeting being held in Japan for intramural competitions. In the meeting, I came up to this one team with holding a pizza in my hand. In this team, we played a league match once a week. We only gathered when we play the game or practice, however, it was absolutely enjoyable to play with them. We did pretty well in the futsal competition. Then in the next quarter, we gathered again as a soccer team with adding some guys. I only had one chance to play the league for this quarter but I was really glad that I had a chance to be in a team with them.

I definitely say that the most precious thing of this program is the opportunity of meeting new people. I guess I have met a thousand of people through this program. There are so many wonderful people out there and when you think back about the experiences of the entire program, you will probably recall about them and wish to have an opportunity to meet them again.

In the end, as the last sentence of the paper, I would like to thank my parents and my supervisors letting me to have this wonderful opportunity in the U.S.



## What I studied in LA

**Name:** Takamichi Suhara

**Affiliation:** Materials, Physics and Energy Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:** Electrical Transport Properties of Undoped  
BaSi<sub>2</sub> Evaporated Thin Films

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Kang L. Wang

**Affiliation:** Electrical Engineering



First of all, I'd like to express my appreciation to everyone I have met in United States. In addition, I thank JUACEP for giving such a great opportunity. The stay in Los Angeles for six month definitely change my future life.

I think UCLA is the best place to study ever. There are various students or researcher from the various countries and area. I could learn a lot of things not only research but also culture, life, people and so on. In addition, LA is very comfortable place to live and has a lot of enjoyable spots such as beaches, amusement parks and national parks. Therefore, I didn't have to worry about where I go in weekends or vacations. If I raise a bad point of LA, it's prices of stuffs. Especially, the fee for housing is very expensive here in LA.

For research in UCLA, it was a very good experience. In fact, there were a lot of difficulties for my research. I have never been able to get any results for first four months. It was very difficult time for me. The most important problem for me was communications. DRL in UCLA, which is a laboratory I joined during my stay, have so many students and researchers as many as forty people. Therefore, I needed to do any actions from me in first. Because I am shy, it was very difficult for me. However, I could remove embarrassment gradually. No, I needed to remove that. Of course, there are other difficulties than communication. It's definitely not easy to research at other places much less in other countries, however, I believe those difficulties must contribute to my life after going back to Japan. Thank you LA. Thank you US.



Research



Football game of UCLA

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Masaki Sato

**Affiliation (Dept & Univ):** Materials, Physics and Energy Engineering

**Participated program:** Medium 2015

**Research theme:** Growth and Characterization of Single-Crystalline  
Zr(0002)/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>(0001) and ZrC(111)/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>(0001) Thin Films

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Suneel Kodambaka

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Materials Science and Engineering



I stayed in ULCA for 6 months and studied materials engineering same as I do in Nagoya University. For research, I conducted a research of growth of thin films. That is exactly different from what I'm studying in Nagoya Univ. Therefore, in the first month, I was studying hard about this kind of area of study and practiced hard for experiment. Thanks to detailed advice and continuous support by my lab mates, Josh FankHauser and Dr. Abbas Ebnonnasir, I could get skilled enough to do experiments by myself. Prof. Kodambaka always gave me very helpful and incisive advices. I worked in lab and did experiments almost all weekdays. It resulted in 2 papers being prepared for publish.

I went hang out with lab mates so many times. We went bars almost every week. I'm very happy that I met these wonderful people. We shared almost all happy, fun and crazy time.

We hosted three Japanese parties. I think, people in USA are very interested in and excited for Japanese food. Of course, sushi is the most famous. But, some are really interested in authentic ones. I was very happy that many people asked me about the recipes.

For traveling, in winter break, I visited Vancouver, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. I tried 20 different Breweries and more than 60 different crafted beers. Beer in USA is very different from them in Japan. I didn't like bitter beer so much before I went to USA. But, now I'm kind of addicted to them. I'm not alcoholic though. We can't find many of them in Japan. Therefore, I really want to go beer tour to USA and try many different types of beer.

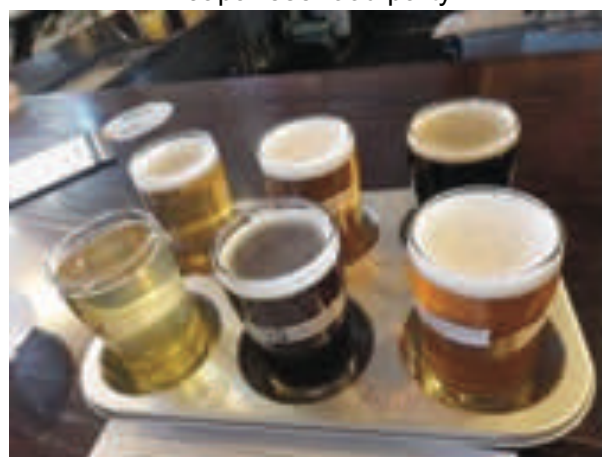
In conclusion, I gained my weight by 15 pounds in 6 month. I had to be more careful about health but, beer and the Mexican foods didn't allow me to eat healthy.



Lab members



Japanese food party



BEER

## Findings through JUACEP

**Name:** Junya Kato

**Affiliation (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, UCLA):**

**Participated program:** Short 2015

**Research theme: Dynamics of Dynamics of a Rotating Shaft  
in Magnetic Bearing**

**Advisor at UCLA/Univ. Michigan:** Prof. Tsu-Chin Tsao

**Affiliation: Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering**



From August 3 to September 28, I did the research internship at UCLA through JUACEP program. In the laboratory which I belonged there are only Ph.D students, and all of them were older than me. So their experiences of life are really interesting. All of them have transfer from other university or colleges once at minimum, and some of them are foreign students. So by only studying in the laboratory they can place themselves in global environment. This is the really big difference from Japanese university. As a result of talking about them and knowing their experience I'd like to success in the world too.

I was also stimulated by American culture. At first I learned importance of making an assertion. In America we can't have my way without telling what I we want. Most of Japanese is not good at doing that, but if we can do, our life in America can be comfortable. Secondly, American people always enjoy their life each in their own way. When I went to the park holiday, I surprised. In the one park, there were so many kind of ways to spend time for example basketball, baseball, taking a nap, BBQ, skateboard, playing guitar, and anything like that. They enjoy what they want to do without caring about what others think of them. I think this culture is really great.

The stay at the Los Angeles where it is always sunny was exiting and fruitful for me. And the experience can't be replaced.



## Awesome Experience

**Name:** Shunsuke Okumura

**Affiliation (Dept & Univ):** Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering,  
Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Short 2015

**Research theme:** Optimization of Deposition Conditions of Hexagonal Zr

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Suneel Kodambaka

**Affiliation (Dept.):** Department Materials Science and Engineering



I had been in the US for 2 months, extremely short time. Basically I went to the lab and did my research and traveled on weekends. On weekdays, did my research from 10 am to 6 pm. All members in Kodambaka lab where I had been went to lunch together, so I could talk with the members in English. Friday is a pizza day, which means we had been to a pizza restaurant on every Friday. American pizza is not only big but also delicious. All senior members were so kind to me and always helped me. And experimental equipment was high-tech. Therefore, I enjoyed laboratory life.



On weekends, I traveled, hung out with my friends and experienced various things. I went to Universal Studio, surfing, Las Vegas, Grand Canyon, camping, music festival, etc. with my friends. All of them are quite awesome. Of course it took much money, but we enjoyed weekends.

I thought it was nice that weekdays and weekends are distinguishable in America.



## UCLA Life

**Name:** Ikuya Onozato

**Affiliation:** Mechanical engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Short 2015

**Research theme:** Laser beams for 2D and 3D Worm Tracker

**Advisor at UCLA:** Prof. Katsushi Arisaka

**Affiliation:** Physics and Astronomy



### Research

I visited University of California, Los Angeles for two months and worked in Prof. Arisaka laboratory. I did my research at Physics and Astronomy, while my department in Japan is Mechanical Engineering, so it was too hard to understand everything related to research. Furthermore, I could not communicate with laboratory members enough because my English skill was not good. However, thanks for the kindness of Prof. Arisaka and other lab members, I could make some progress by the end of summer and also do good communication with them. In our laboratory, not only doing research, but also professor held lab party at the end of every summer session and I spent great time!

### LA Life

On weekdays, I went my lab at least from 9am to 6pm and I was thinking about my research after I came back to my hotel or apartment. Therefore, I did not have free time to go somewhere, but my English skill got better due to this work.

On holidays, we went to many places, for example, Hollywood, Anta Monica, and Dodger Stadium and so on, while I went lab or library sometimes. Besides the places there are a lot of kind foods, including hamburger, hot dog, ramen and especially Korean barbeque in LA, so I did not miss Japanese foods

Finally, I'd like to appreciate everyone, especially JUACEP, who gave me the great opportunity to study in UCLA for 2 months.



## Precious days in LA

**Name:** Asami Yokoyama

**Affiliation:** Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering,  
Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

**Participated program:** Short 2015



**Research theme:** Thermoresponsive NanoVelcro Substrate  
Technology  
for CTC Purification and AR-v7 Mutation Analysis of Castration-  
Resistant Prostate Cancer

**Advisor at UCLA :** Prof. Hsian-Rong Tseng

**Affiliation:** Department of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology, UCLA

All experiences in JUACEP were very exciting and stimulating for me. I am sure these experiences will change my future life dramatically.

I visited UCLA for 2 months and studied about Circulating Tumor Cells of prostate cancer in Prof. Hsian-Rong Tseng research group. Only a few students in the group and many staffs worked there. First communicating in English was very stressful for me because I couldn't speak English very well and understand what they were saying. However they were very kind and taught me everything about lab rules and their research field. A few weeks later after my program started I became to feel comfortable to talk with them and I studied from basic medical knowledge to applied one thanks to their help. They had a meeting everyday and that was helpful for me to learn medical expert English and research objects. And using real clinical samples was also precious experience for me because it is hard to handle them in my Japanese laboratory. From this experience I deeply recognized importance of research in Japan.



With Prof. Tseng



Temaki-sushi party



BBQ with JUACEP members

In addition, I visit many places in LA weekend and every experience was precious. Especially nature in USA, for example, Grand Canyon, sea in Santa Monica and uncountable stars was so impressive for me and I will never forget these scenes.

It was the first time for me to stay abroad for long time and so until just before my departure I was very nervous. But thanks to JUACEP's support I could spent precious time in LA for this 2 months. I appreciate all help both in USA and Japan for my studying abroad. If there is another opportunity, I would like to stay and live abroad for longer.