

Findings through JUACEP

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Affiliation at Nagoya University: Department of Mechanical Engineering

Participated program: Medium course 2025

**Research theme: Composites made of a bio-sourced polymer
reinforced with recycled carbon black.**

Advisor at the visiting university: Prof. Edu Ruiz

Affiliation at visiting university (Dept & Univ):

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Polytechnique Montreal



I came to Montreal to deepen my understanding of mechanical engineering, with a particular focus on eco-friendly materials. While this internship was not directly tied to my research in Japan, I chose to take part because I wanted to gain experience working with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. It was my first time living abroad for an extended period, and the experience offered valuable opportunities for both academic growth and personal development.

When I first arrived in Montreal, the laboratory I joined had just been established, and I was the first member to be accepted. At that time, the team consisted only of me and a Ph.D. student, who was also the group leader, although two other interns joined later and helped expand the team. I worked closely with the Ph.D. student on research projects, which required a lot of cooperation and adaptability. Because many aspects of the work were new to both of us, running experiments was often challenging. Even so, the Ph.D. student was always supportive, giving prompt feedback and helpful guidance whenever I ran into difficulties. The professor visited the lab about once a week but stayed closely involved through regular communication and quick responses to any questions or research issues.

Living in Montreal was both exciting and enriching. I was fascinated by the city's unique bilingual culture, where English and French blend into everyday life. While most people can speak English, I often heard French in shops and restaurants, which motivated me to learn a few basic phrases. The city had a lively energy, with cozy cafes, beautiful architecture, and welcoming people from many different cultural backgrounds.

One of the most rewarding parts of my internship was making new friends and exploring new places. When I first arrived, I worried about whether I would be able to connect with others, but there were about 30 other interns in the same program. That made it easy to form friendships and have meaningful conversations with people from many different backgrounds, and I learned a great deal from them.

In addition to making new connections, I also had the chance to travel and see a variety of places during my stay. I visited cities like Toronto, Boston, and Quebec, as well as natural wonders such as Jasper. These trips weren't just about sightseeing, they gave me the chance to experience different cultures and create unforgettable memories.

This experience gave me the confidence to live abroad and work with people from different cultural backgrounds. I was also struck by how warmly many people regard Japan, which made me feel proud of my home country. At the same time, it sparked a strong desire to learn more about other cultures and continue broadening my perspectives. I am truly grateful to my professor for welcoming me into the lab and to the friends who made this journey unforgettable.



Niagara Falls



Quebec City



Musium of Fine Arts,
Boston



Jasper Glacier