

Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the Circulation of Talented Researchers
Japan-ASEAN Collaboration Research Program on Innovative Humanosphere in Southeast Asia
In search of Wisdom toward Compatibility Growth and Community in the World

Report

Period of inviting: April 1, 2015 to February 11, 2016

Place of Accepted: Kyoto University

Name: YU Xiao

Institute/University: National University of Singapore

With the generous support from Brain Circulation Program, I was able to continue my research at Kyoto University. The research stay at Kyoto University was productive. I finished one journal article, two book reviews, three funding applications and drafted several versions for the new project proposal. In addition, by attending extensive Japanese courses, my Japanese has also improved a lot.

For the Brian-Circulation program, I attended the 3th workshop on May 25, 2015 and the 5th workshop on January 25, 2016. Thanks to talented members of the program, I received useful feedbacks for my research. The conversations with them were always stimulating. I also presented the new research plan at Matsuda-Sensei's seminar on June 5, inter-disciplinary seminar at Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit on November 5 and Kansai Regional Meeting on China Environment on November 27. By engaging in these lively discussions I gained many fresh ideas and insights.

At the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), I attended several interesting seminars and public lectures. The workshop "From Dissertation to Book" on June 10 hosted by Prof. Thongchai Winichakul and Prof. Chie Ikeya worked especially well for me since I was preparing the book manuscript. The "Southeast Asian Studies in Asia" Conference organized by the Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies in Asia (SEASIA) on December 12 and 13 was amazing. Not only the sessions were inspiring, the experience of working as a staff was also refreshing. It was an extra bonus to meet my supervisor and friend from Singapore at the conference. I also went to attend the activities at Research Institute of Human and Nature (RIHN), for example, the conference "Beyond Stakeholder Engagement: The People, Cultures, and Ecologies of New Water Governance" on March 22. In addition, I established networks with experts on China environment in Kansai area by joining their regular meetings, for instance, the workshop on public participation in environmental governance in China on December 24.

In the department of sociology, I joined the reading group of graduate students. This was a vibrant academic community and I benefited a lot from frequent discussions with excellent young researchers. Following Matsuda-sensei's research team, I went a field trip to Kumano on 27 and 28 June. That was my second time to the Kumano field, based on which I began to develop my research project on rural Japan.

In all, this was a fruitful research stay. Hopefully I can come back to Kyoto University in the future. Special thanks for the generous support from Ochiai-sensei and Matsuda-Sensei. Sincere gratitude also goes to Matsui-san, Tanaka-san and Akedo-san, who made my stay in Kyoto easier. Lastly, I would like to thank my Japanese teachers for two semesters and Date-san, Yoshida-san, Nukata-san, Xu-san and Guo-san who did language exchange with me.

