Practicum Program in Okayama University (Japan)

The stay for two months will be divided by three terms as follows:

Term 1 (weeks 1-3):

Collection of murine oocytes, spermatozoa and embryos. Culture and manipulation (for making chimera) of murine embryos. Surgical embryo transfer.

Term 2 (weeks 4-6):

In vitro production of porcine embryos. Collection of oocyte-cumulus complexes, in-vitro maturation, in-vitro fertilization, in-vitro culture, analyses of the quality of oocytes and embryos by using immunocytochemistry.

Term 3 (weeks 7-9):

Preparation of boar and bull spermatozoa. Preparation of boar and bull neutrophils from the peripheral blood. Immunological analyses to examine the phagocytosis of spermatozoa by neutrophils. Flow cytometric analyses to determine the character of spermatozoa and neutrophils.

By using spare time, students may have opportunities to visit the section of assisted reproductive technology for human in a medical center and/or experimental farm of Okayama Prefecture. They may be also able to attend to Japanese classes opened by the International Center of Okayama University.