

The Ph.D. Program in Human Biology is a 5-year transdisciplinary degree program established in 2011 as one of the Leading Graduate School Doctoral Programs funded by MEXT, Japan. For nurturing the future global leaders, who will be able to create a rich and sustainable human society, this program takes unique and innovative educational and research approaches. This HBP Newsletter tells you about the current activities of HBP and the students.

## Vietnam Visit in Aug. 2012

Aya Takemura of a HBP student visited Vietnam for 5 days to participate in the Appropriate Technology Learning Course. By conducting field-research and interviews in Vietnam, she experienced the real issues and problems in the region and country wide, which may help her developing new ideas for novel products and approaches to resolve the problems in the future.

### Itinerary

Aug. 13

- Cho Ray Hospital
- Institute of Tropical Biology

Aug. 14

- Ho Chi Minh City Biotech Center
- Pasteur institute

Aug. 15

- Urban area in HCMC
- Binh Chanh District

Aug. 16

- HCMC or Ben Tre Province in Mekong Delta
- The center of health information and education of Ben Tre House in the countryside

Aug. 17

- Independent Palace
- War Museum in HCMC



Utilizing agricultural wastes of coffee beans for fertilizing plants in Biotechnology center, which might be applicable to other developing countries.



Cho Ray Hospital was overflowing with patients.



A well in a private house in Ben Tre, provides the residents with drinking water.



### ~Comment from Aya~

Vietnam is a country apparently developing to meet accelerated globalization; while, I found accumulating local issues and problems; people drink water from well and even rain water, and cross busy roads without signals by avoiding motor-bikes and cars. The hospitals are overflowing with people and the patients need to wait all day to see doctors, local clinics only provide services for care but cure, and unpaved roads are full of litter.

## The 2nd HBP Initiation Seminar on Sep. 7th/8th 2012

The 2nd HBP Initiation Seminar was held to welcome new HBP students in Sep. 2012. The HBP students learned about the objective of the program and detailed curriculum, and had a chance to interact with other HBP students and teaching staff in the seminar.

The various promising career paths after graduating from HBP were introduced to students by leading researchers in global research communities and corporate institutes, government administrators, and CEOs. Students then discussed their own career goals and study plans for achieving their dreams in the future with lecturers and instructors.

5 years sounds long; however, students realize that it may not be long enough to deliver their achievements.



Newly Joined students!  
Such a global environment...



Discussed among professors and students about program directions and future goals beyond the boundary between Teachers and Students.