2017 International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) Annual Meeting

『学会見聞記』

2017国際幹細胞研究協会（ISSCR）年次総会

2017 International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) Annual Meeting

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The 15th ISSCR annual meeting was organized from 2017/6/14 to 2017/6/17 at Boston convention and exhibition center in Boston, Massachusetts, United States, a historic city with scientists and institutions that played a key role in the ISSCR's founding. This conference was the largest forum for stem cell and regenerative medicine professionals in all over the world, which involved technologies and emerging areas of stem cell discovery. The goal of ISSCR annual meeting is to provide investigators with an unparalleled array of opportunities to learn about the latest discoveries and scientific breakthroughs from colleagues and leaders in the field. Each year it gathers key experts in the field of stem cell and regenerative medicine, which is the guarantee of the highest level of content. Indeed, there are nearly 4,000 stem cell researchers from around the world attended this meeting.

This conference was full of most cutting-edge aspects of stem cell and most important topics relative to regenerative medicine. Its program was separated into plenary and concurrent talks, focus session and the named lecture. There was an outstanding lineup of international speaker in 2017 ISSCR, include Professor Shinya Yamanaka from Kyoto University in Japan, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2012 for his discovery of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs); Professor Rudolf Jaenisch from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in US, who generated the first transgenic mice; George Church from Harvard University in US, who developed the first direct genomic sequencing method and helped initiate the Human Genome Project in 1984. Each of them gave the wonderful speeches about their own works and latest findings in the plenary. Especially, professor Yamanaka presented the recent progress in iPS cell research and application, and he reported transplant of autologous iPSC-derived retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) cell sheet in patient is feasible and iPSCs stock bank have been established in different countries. This was my first time to meet such many famous scientists in this field and I was very exciting and thrilling to hear such remarkable presentations. During 4 days of this annual meeting, I heard one high-quality presentation after another, inspiring statements and fierce discussions of key scientific issue between presenter and attendee. Everyone asked questions or shared their interesting research each other friendly and humble.

Poster session also was an important part of the conference, which started from 6:30pm to 8:30pm every night. Around 2000 posters were exhibited in the large exhibition hall in the meeting, which were divided into various scientific topics. My poster presentation on 14th June was Baf53a is involved in proliferation of mouse ES cells by regulating p53-p21 pathway and Baf53b compensates for Baf53a function, which was classified into pluripotency with poster number #W-2014. Many peer researchers came to my poster and were very interested in my research topic and absorbed in my presentation. At that time, they asked me many significant questions and gave me some recommendations, which was very helpful and valuable for my research, most impressive for me is one of postdoctoral fellow from Stanford university discussed with me about the mechanism of how Baf53a represses p53; Those are very important questions which involve in Baf53a precise functions in ES cells. I am examining and trying to clarify the mechanism of repression of p53 by Baf53a in ES cells using several methods. It was my pleasure and happiness moment for me to share my research at the high-level symposium with so many excellent researchers and to face-to-face communicate with them about my research.

This conference resembles a big scientific community. Without this conference, I couldn't know stem cell research increasingly moves toward medical application with the insight of mechanism of stem cell. I also acquired some inspiration and good ideas during talking with other investigators. What's more, I made the good friends with some peers, which might let us have further interflow or cooperation about stem cell research in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank my professor Takashi Yokota, who gave me an opportunity to join the annual meeting about stem cells, and Dr. Tadayuki Akagi and Dr. Atsushi Ueda who gave me a lot of valuable advises and Kanazawa University that supported me the budget to participate this wonderful conference.