This report is supposed to be published on the MIRAI website in order to publicize MIRAI activities and outcomes as a funded project by SJSF.

FY2024 Scandinavia-Japan Sasakawa Foundation MIRAI Global Challenges Winter School Participation Report

Name of participant	Asaeda Mayuka
University	Hiroshima University
Department	Department of Oral Epidemiology,
(Graduate School, Faculty)	Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences
Major (keywords)	Oral Function Oral Epidemiology Oral Hygiene
Link to your researcher profile	https://researchmap.jp/19880824
(if any)	

1. What is the purpose of your participation in the Winter School?

Interaction with young researchers in other fields, contribution to Global Challenge, interest in overseas healthcare systems

2. What did you gain from participating in the Winter School (so to say, key takeaways)? What did you feel was good about participating? Please include the reasons.

Discussions with researchers from different fields and countries gave me new perspectives on global issues. I had some questions such as "Do we have anything in common in distant Sweden, where values and institutions are different?", "What is the significance of working together?" In fact, I found that in today's diverse society, distance and differences in values are rather commonplace, and that this was an opportunity to reaffirm the importance of thinking flexibly and without being bound by such differences.

In addition, my motivation for my own research was genuinely enhanced by my involvement with the young researchers. Although it was more difficult than I had imagined to explain about my research to researchers in other fields with whom I rarely have opportunities to interact, I was able to realize the significance of interactions between different fields.

3. How would you like to make use of the outcomes and networks you gained at the Winter School in your research activities in the future? Please describe specifically, and, in particular, please let us know any initiatives you would like to try in MIRAI.

I have been conducting surveys and research based on domestic data, but now I would like

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to take advantage of this network and try to conduct surveys and collaborative research overseas. Due to cost issues, I would like to proactively consider including funding for overseas activities in my budget when applying for research grants. In addition, I would like to use my experience of participating in this Winter School to be actively involved in efforts to support young researchers who are interested in MIRAI.

4. Please feel free to share your ideas on how to make MIRAI more interdisciplinary and function as a platform to promote the development and exchange of young researchers (e.g., what opportunities and initiatives would further accelerate exchange).

I believe that MIRAI's public relations activities should be strengthened: it would be effective to hold briefing sessions on activities and exchange meetings with people who have participated in MIRAI. I believe that by holding these meetings not on a university-by-university basis, but for all participating universities in Japan, will have the opportunity to become interested in MIRAI. (If held online, Swedish universities could also participate)

※本報告書は、MIRAI および助成事業をひろく広報する観点から、MIRAI ホームページ等にて公開を予定しています。

2024 年度 スカンジナビア・ニッポン ササカワ財団助成 MIRAI Global Challenges Winter School 参加報告書

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1. Winter School に参加した目的を聞かせてください。

他分野の若手研究者との交流、Global Challenge への貢献、海外の医療制度への興味

2. Winter School に参加して得られたもの(key takeaways)、参加してよかったと感じた点を、その理由を含めて聞かせてください。

異なる分野や国の研究者とのディスカッションを通じて、グローバルな課題に対する新たな視点が得られた。価値観も制度も異なる遠いスウェーデンの地で、共通点はあるのか?共同することの意義はあるのか?と少し疑問に感じていたが、現代の多様性に富む社会において、距離や価値観の違いはむしろ当たり前であり、その違いにとらわれず柔軟な思考を持つことの重要性を再認識する機会となった。

また、若い研究者たちとの関わりを通じて、純粋に自分の研究へのモチベーションが高まった。普段関わる機会の少ない他分野の研究者に、自分の研究について説明することは、想像以上に難しかったが、異分野間の交流の意義を実感することができた。

3. Winter School で得た成果やネットワークを今後、どのように自身の研究活動に活かしていきたいか、具体的に聞かせてください。特に、MIRAI の中で今後チャレンジしたい取組みがあれば、ぜひお知らせください。

これまで国内データに基づく調査研究を行ってきたが、今回のネットワークを活用し、海外での調査や共同研究にも挑戦してみたいと思った。コスト面の課題もあるため、研究費助成を申請する際には、積極的に海外での活動資金を予算に組み込むことを検討したい。また、Winter School への参加経験者として、MIRAI に関心を持つ若手研究者を支援する取り組みにも積極的に関わりたい。

4. MIRAI を学際的、かつ、若手研究者の育成・交流を促進するプラットフォームとしてさらに機能させるためのアイデアなどを自由に聞かせてください(今後、どういった機会・取組みがあれば、交流がさらに加速するかなど)。

MIRAI の広報活動を強化すること。活動に関する説明会や、参加経験者との交流会を開催することが効果的だと考える。これを大学単位ではなく、日本国内の参加大学全体で実施することで、より多くの人が興味を持つきっかけとなると思う。(オンライン開催であれば、スウェーデンの大学の参加も検討)