

## バーモント大学からの交換留学報告 (期間: 2015年12月1日~2015年12月9日)

2015年12月1日(火)から9日間、協定校の米国バーモント大学医学部生のローラ・グリーシンジャーさんとリチャード・スミスさんが、病理学スチューデント・フェローシッププログラムの一環として本学にて研修を行った。(国際交流センター 赤井卓也記)

## Pathology is a “Universal Language”

Richard Smith

(University of Vermont College of Medicine)

The pathology department at UVM has been sending students to Japan for several years, and entering the program, I was excited to be able to take this training.

Coming to this program, I was excited to learn about medicine in another region of the world, and the similarities and differences in the system. I was particularly interested in learning about the Japanese national healthcare system, and what individuals thought about nationalized coverage. As someone who still may go into primary care, I was eager to see how doctors and patients interacted, and what the quality of the care was like.

This experience was wonderful in many ways. It was great to see how the pathology department functions, and although there were some differences. It was great to see just how much my education at UVM prepared me for pathology here. Pathology is really a “universal language” and although disease frequencies may differ, or the amount of specimens may change, lots of fundamentals are essentially the same.

I had a great time attending Anamizu general hospital. Going on the home visit was one of the best experiences I have ever had in my entire medical education. It was amazing to see what rural Japanese culture was like, and I will never forget that.

The aging population of Anamizu no doubt was affecting the cultural landscape. We saw patients who were



公立穴水総合病院での訪問診療研修



研修を終えて。左から、グリーシンジャーさん、勝田学長、スミスさん

on their own, as their children moved into the cities to find work. It was a humbling experience and I am honored to have been able to see it first-hand.

I was fascinated to learn about the national health care system, and the pros and cons of having a state run system. I was shocked by the efficiency of patient care within the hospital setting, being able to send a patient to see a specialist immediately.

It was great speaking with the medical students of KMU. I learned a great deal about how the medical education works and how it differs from the United States. It is amazing to me that students decide to become doctors while still in high school, as opposed to US students who often take a great deal of time off before perusing their medical education. The students were wonderful and I will never forget their generous hospitality and extraordinary kindness while I stayed here at KMU.

Entering my fourth year of medical education, we in the states have to decide our future path towards residency. I was torn between pathology and primary care coming into this program, and honestly my experience at Anamizu was so powerful and rewarding that the scales are tipping back towards primary care as a profession. That being said, I had such a wonderful time in the pathology department at KMU, and could certainly see myself as a pathologist in the future. The thing I do know is that this program certainly has opened my mind to the way different cultures practice medicine, and I will absolutely try to study abroad in the future.