

**Evaluation Sheet of Guest Professor Program,
Graduate School of Science, Osaka Prefecture University**

The following information will be used as a reference material for our evaluation of the program. We appreciate your kind cooperation. We appreciate your sending this form by e-mail to kiriye@mi.s.osakafu-u.ac.jp. Prof. Kouyemon Iriye, Graduate School of Science, Osaka Prefecture University.

1. If there are comments or advice for the graduate students who took your lecture in “Science Communication”, we appreciate your writing them below.

The first lecture was difficult because the students were a bit tense and blocked, so they found difficult to interact with me. In the second lecture they were more relaxed and interactions were easier. My advice to all students attending these kind of lectures is that they should feel part of the programme in the sense that programme success also depends of them and how much it benefits them. The programme provides them an excellent opportunity to improve their English level in a practical way and this is very important for them and for their formation.

2. If there are comments or advice for the graduate students of your host professor, we appreciate them.

Students at the host professor group have been fantastic. I have enjoyed their company very much and we have had a lot of interactions and discussions. They have attended and assisted me in every moment and we have enjoyed many lunches and dinners together, including beers and sake. I am very thankful to them. In my opinion, this attitude has also been very beneficial for them concerning the practice of English as it forced them to expand and increase their vocabulary beyond academic limits. However, their attitude in the lectures did not differ from the rest of the students. My conclusion is that there is an educational blockade that should be corrected.

3. If there are comments or advice for the undergraduate students who took your lecture, we appreciate them.

Although they were more relaxed than the graduated students, my advice is the same as above. They should make every possible effort to interact with the visiting professor and speak to him. If the lectures are intended to be participative, they should make an effort to overcome their fears to speak and do it. It is in their direct benefit.

4. If there are comments and suggestions for our program, we appreciate them.

The programme is very interesting and it has been a pleasure to participate in it. I am very thankful to the organisers and particularly to Prof. Yuko Hosokoshi for having invited me to take part of the programme. The apartment provided has also been excellent and at a very convenient location for the work in the University and for shopping facilities.

My major difficulty has been to adjust the level of my lectures to the students level. Given the differences between the subject contents from one country to another, it would help receiving clear information of the scope of the programme, aim of the lectures and students background. Prof. Hosokoshi took good care to let me know in advance some of these differences but after finish my lectures I have the feeling that contents of some of them could be too demanding for the students. Particularly considering the extra effort they have to make because of the language. In general I have perceived a lack of information from the programme office regarding what is expected from my contribution.

As a total, I have given 5 lectures, one open seminar, two large group seminars of more than two hours presentation each and a short presentation in the department workshop, five group meetings with different groups in the department, listened in an individual mode to all the students within the host professor group and actively discussed research results with one of the doctorate students resulting in a more adequate interpretation of his results. Although the last is the natural consequence of scientific interactions potentially leading to the preparation of joint publications, the number of presentations was higher than expected and represented a major effort of preparation. A more precise knowledge in advance of contents and scope can help to facilitate the preparation of so many lectures.

Let me offer a final suggestion tending to facilitate the use of the apartment possibilities. The programme office has provided a number of appliances in the apartment to contribute to a comfortable stay in it. In addition, the apartment has a number of commodities, like air condition and heating, bath temperature controller, and other. All them have buttons with key words in Japanese, difficult to understand for the

visitor, which might risk a wrong manipulation of the equipment. My suggestion is to have these key words translated and stick them, when possible, close to the appliance. Important information including a map in English regarding close location of pharmacy, doctor, supermarket, and so on, and emergency phones should also be provided in the apartment.

5. Can we make this sheet open to the public? YES

Name Fernando Palacio Date Nov. 11, 2009

Thank you