



# Study Abroad and Student Exchange Program in Agriculture and Its Impact

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## Study abroad and student exchange in agriculture education

The importance of short-term study abroad and student exchange (STSASE) programs in agriculture education has been documented in several publications such as NACTA Journal and Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education. In 2016, a STSAE program was organized for undergraduate agriculture students of Kauai Community College, HI, USA and Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (OUAVM), Obihiro, Japan for international agriculture exposure, on-site Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and production agriculture training and student presentation.

## Kauai Community College (KCC) team in Obihiro, Japan

In Summer 2016, five KCC students and a faculty visited OUAVM, Obihiro, Japan for one week. The details of visit are as follows:

### 1. Study abroad team



Fig. 1. Team for the study abroad in agriculture: Five KCC students and a faculty at Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Obihiro, Hokkaido, Japan. Team members from the left are Eman I. Gabour, Mason K. Chock (Kama), Robert A. Petersen, Dr. Sharad P. Marahatta, Michael B. Girod and Randy K. Umetsu (Photo: Masanori).

### 2. Integrated Pest Management (IPM): a part of the training



Fig. 2. Experiments with biological control agent, *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) (A) on tomatoes in greenhouse and (B) cabbage in the field (photo: Maki Ishiwata). (C) KCC student, Rob, observing a Bt treated tomato fruit and (D) spider: a common predator in IPM (photo: Randy).

### 3. Training on potato harvesting and post-harvest technology, and meat processing



Fig. 3. KCC team at the field for (A) harvesting potatoes (with Obihiro team), (B) processing and baking harvested potatoes (photos: Sharad) and (C) in the laboratory for processing pig meat (photo: a volunteer at Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine).

## Collaboration and learning in Japan

### 4. Student presentation and discussion

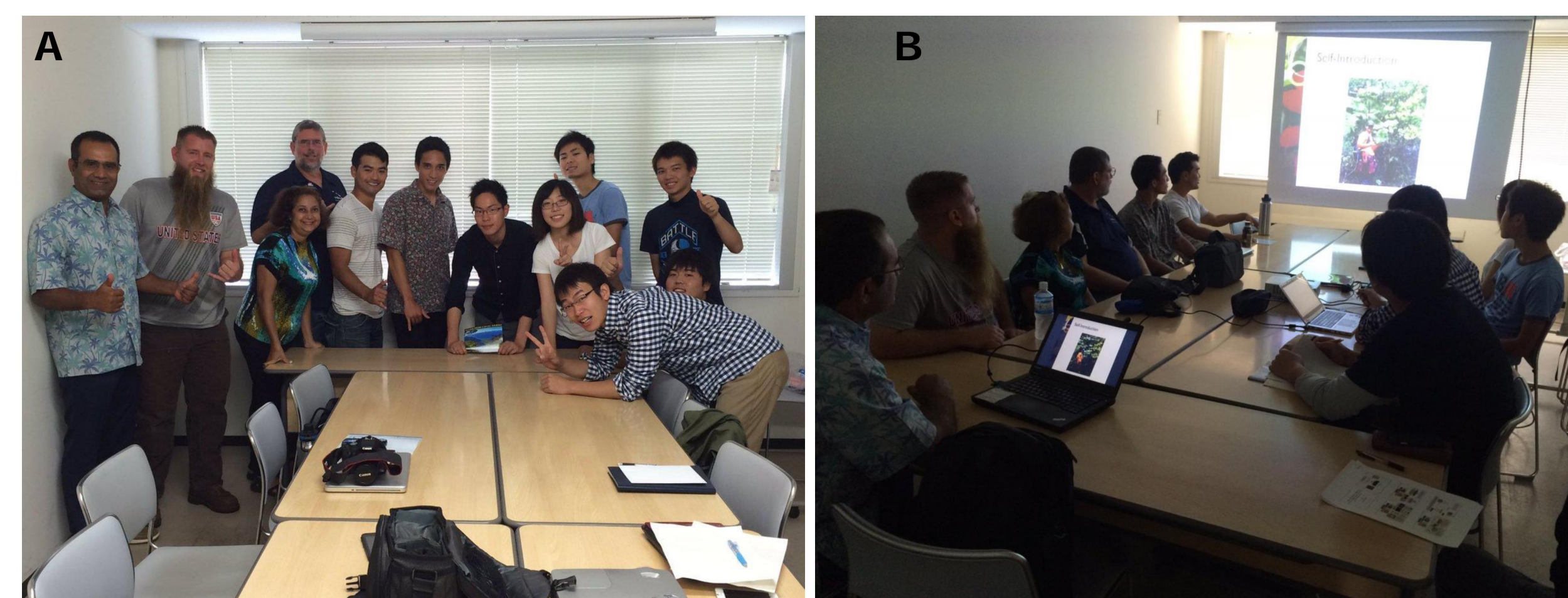


Fig. 4. KCC and Obihiro team: (A) students and KCC faculty, Dr. Sharad P. Marahatta (first from the left), (B) KCC student, Randy Umetsu, (sixth from the left) giving his talk (photos: Masanori).

### 5. Travel and meeting



Fig. 5. (A) KCC team and Dr. Koike (on the far right) travelling from Sapporo to Obihiro (photos: Sharad), and (B) KCC team with President Dr. Kiyoshi Okuda (fifth from the left) and Dr. Koike (on the far right) (photo: volunteer).

### 6. Horse riding, kendo practice and friendship

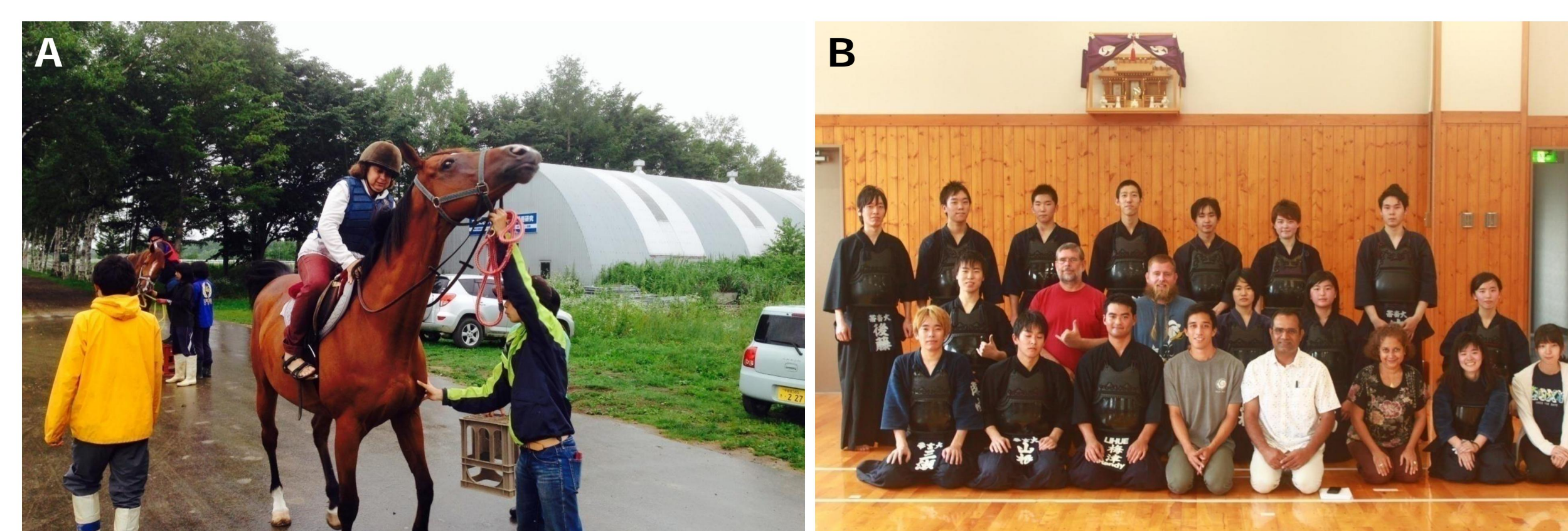


Fig. 6. (A) KCC student, Eman, riding a horse (photo: Sharad) and (B) kendo player, KCC student, Randy, (third from the left on first row) with KCC and Obihiro team after a special kendo practice session (photo: volunteer).

## A day with Obihiro farmers

### 7. Farm tools and equipments



Fig. 7. (A) A tool for primary tillage, Mouldboard plough (photo: Mike), (B) traditional tillage practice shown at Horse Museum, Obihiro (photo: Sharad), (C) KCC students with Obihiro farmers (photo: volunteer) and (D) KCC student, Randy, in a farmers market (photos: Sharad).

### 8. Food

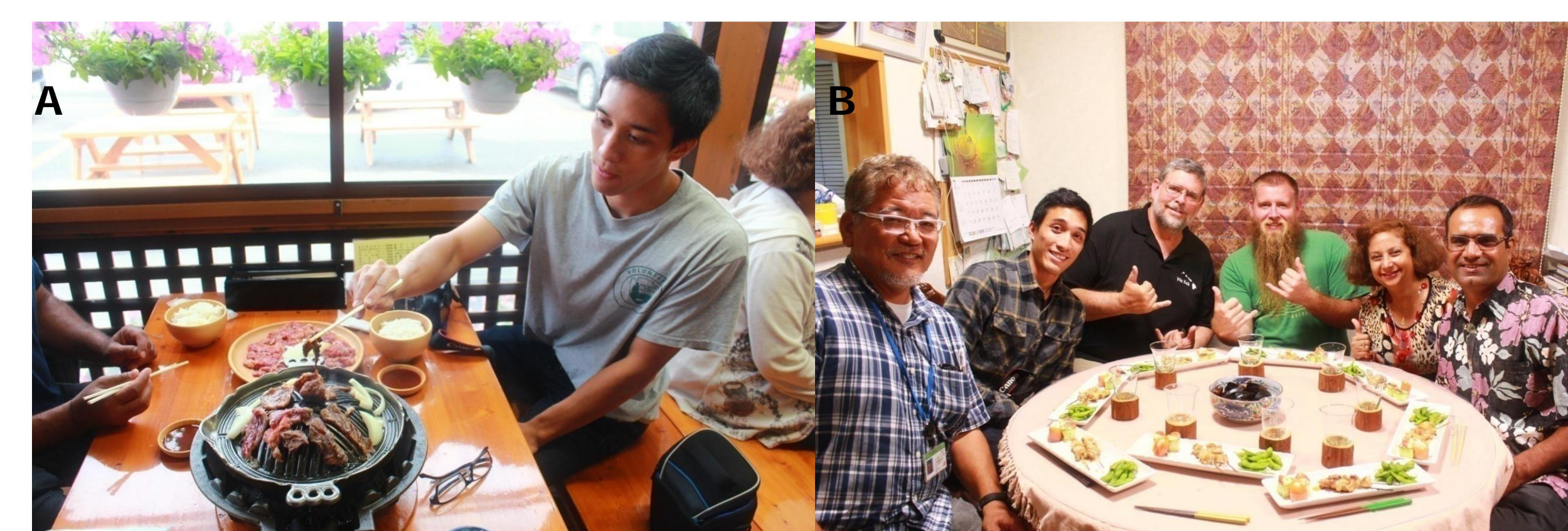


Fig. 8. (A) KCC student, Kama, preparing a popular food item of Obihiro (Jingisukan) and (B) KCC team with Dr. Koike (first from the left) at Dr. Koike's home for dinner (photos: Randy).

## Exchange visit: A faculty and 5 students from Obihiro, Japan visited Kauai in Fall 2016.

### 9. Obihiro University team at Kauai Community College, Hawaii, USA



Fig. 9. Obihiro students (A) at Kauai Community College gate, (B) with KCC students in welcome program, (C) in Plant Biology and Tropical Agriculture (PBT) laboratory and (D) at apiary station for training and (E) one of the Obihiro students, Hiroto, in classroom for his talk (photos: Sharad).

### 10. Field training, island trip and fun



Fig. 10. (A) Fun at Kauai Community College (KCC), field trainings at (B and C) KCC, (D) Syngenta Research facility, (E) taro farmers field, (F, G, and H) Kokee and Waimea canyon area, and (I) Syngenta Research facility.

## Impact

- Institutional relationship and faculty collaboration was increased.

- Student enrolment in agriculture was increased (?).

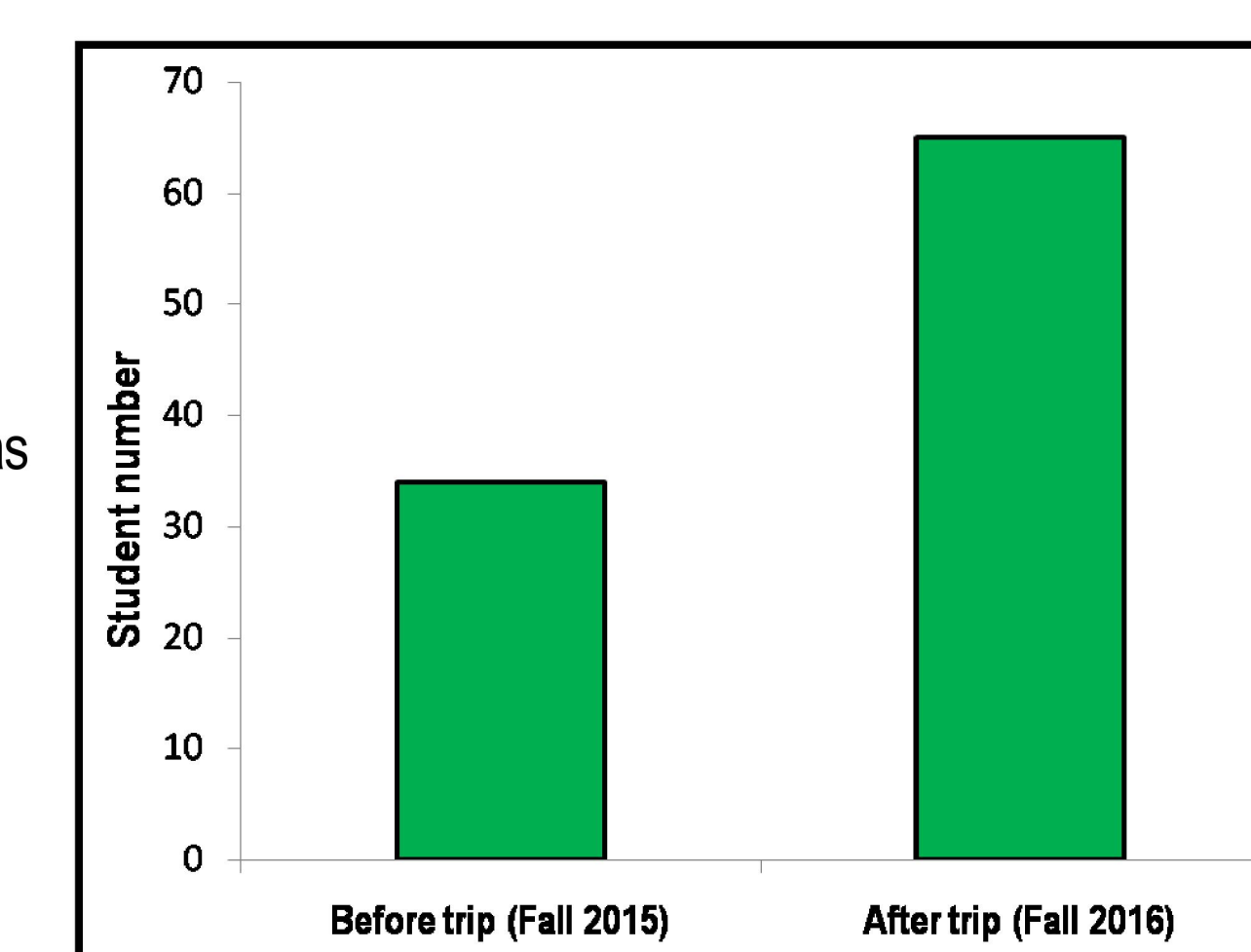


Fig. 11. Student enrolment in agriculture in Fall 2015 and 2016.

## Acknowledgement

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