Debriefing session for short-term student volunteers returning from Paraguay

A debriefing session for the ninth dispatch of short-term student volunteers under the Obihiro-JICA Volunteer Team Partnership Program was held at Kashiwa Plaza on November 17 (Fri.). The students (Momona Hashimoto, Hiroshi Hirata, Minori Araki (all third year, School of Agriculture) and Junnosuke Mae (fourth year, School of Cooperative Veterinary Medicine)) had worked in Paraguay from August 17 (Thu.) to September 24 (Sun.)

The four students – the last short-term volunteers in the first phase of the project – conducted surveys of local dairy farms with focus on four considerations (milking hygiene, reproduction management, feeding, and general management) in conjunction with long-term volunteers also dispatched to the area. The four also incorporated data from past short-term volunteers to report on project results and related issues.

This final dispatch of the first phase created significant interest, with more than 50 students, faculty members and others attending the session to listen to the reports. After the session, attendees asked the students a variety of questions on the survey results and life in Paraguay. The students overcame their nervousness to give comprehensive answers.

The second phase will start with the next dispatch.