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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME | | Aseel Abbad | | |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | | @aseel\_abbad | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | University of Nottingham | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Symington Bequest Fund | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* | | | | |
| Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology: Understanding Developmental Disorders in the Genomic Age, New York, USA, 6th to 8th June 2023. | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? | | | | |
| I attended to deliver a short talk based on my PhD project studying CDK13-Related Disorder and the associated cardiac and developmental defects, and the resulting disruption in gene expression, using a mutant mouse model with a humanized mutation.  I was hoping to meet scientists with similar interests and get feedback and exchange experiences, and to know the people in my field, hear about their latest work, communicate with them about it and ask questions, which could give me ideas and new ways of thinking. I was also looking forward to form connections that could be extremely helpful to me in my future career, such as future employers and collaborators. | | | | |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event. | | | | |
| The conference took place over two days at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Tarrytown, New York. The town was beautiful, and the venue was an interesting place to visit.  The program consisted of a range of presentations, short talks, and panel discussions. Most topics were on developmental diseases and using animal models, which is very relevant to my current work.  There were posters sessions as well, which was a good chance to discuss with the presenters and ask questions.  I had a chance to deliver a short talk and participated with a poster too which received positive feedback and was found interesting by attendees. I had lots of stimulating discussions and suggestions for the future.  The coffee breaks were a great chance to socialize, and I was lucky to meet very important researchers in my field, and potential employers. | | | | |
| REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant.* For public engagement/outreach awards what did your audience gain and how did you evaluate success? | | | | |
| I gained confidence and experience in communicating my research and discussing other people’s work and experiences. | | | | |
| REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future? For public engagement/outreach awards how with the materials/knowledge generated by this activity be used in the future? | | | | |
| Attending the conference made me realize some areas in my knowledge that I need to improve.  I also got some suggestions that I can work on in my PhD project.  I had a chance to form helpful connections for my career after finishing my PhD.  The design of my poster was slightly unconventional, but it received positive feedback. I was happy with that, and I will stick with it in the future. | | | | |
| Data Protection/GDPR: I consent to the data included in this submission being collected, processed and stored by the Anatomical Society. Answer YES or NO in the Box below | | | | |
| YES | | | | |
| Graphical Images: If you include graphical images you must obtain consent from people appearing in any photos and confirm that you have consent. A consent statement from you must accompany each report if relevant. A short narrative should accompany the image. Answer N/A not applicable, YES or NO in the box below | | | | |
| N/A | | | | |
| Copyright: If you submit images you must either own the copyright to the image or have gained the explicit permission of the copyright holder for the image to be submitted as part of the report for upload to the Society’s website, Newsletter, social media and so forth. A copyright statement must accompany each report if relevant. Answer N/A not applicable, YES or NO in the box below | | | | |
| N/A | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Aseel Abbad | | DATE | 23/06/2023 |

*If submitted electronically, a type-written name is acceptable in place of a hand-written signature*

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-220922 – International Conference*