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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | | Dr Scott Abbott Paterson | | |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | | @sxpat | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | University of Bristol | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Symington Bequest Fund Award – Round 4 34/35 | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* | | | | |
| To contribute to funding attendance at the **The 21st Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA), Korea, 5th to 8th September 2024** | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| I was fortunate enough to be invited to present three topics at this conference: 1) a validity study of a novel assessment in anatomy education (**The Anatomy Structured Critical Examination (ASCE) - A Validity Examination**), 2) a description of collaboration with multiple UK HEIs examining the discipline’s relationship with the terms ‘sex’ and ‘gender’ (**Anatomy Teaching beyond the Binary - Rethinking Sex and Gender**), and 3) a review of the Anatomy Collective for Equality’s alternative Hackathon event format as an inclusive event (**The Anatomy Collective for Equality: Taking Action**) in the Anatomy Collective for Equality’s Inclusive Anatomy symposium (**Promoting Inclusive Practices in Anatomy Education**).  Having the opportunity to share this work with international colleagues was anticipated to be beneficial in a number of ways, namely 1) through the promulgation of good practice, and hopeful wider adoption of these practices, 2) identification of collaborators engaged in similar activity to increase sustainability and impact of the work, and 3) to build a reputation for Anatomy education in the UK as discipline leading in terms of inclusive practice.  In addition to the anticipated benefits specific to presenting at an international conference and on this platform, the networking and information sharing opportunities presented benefits relating to 1) expansion of knowledge, 2) expansion of my network of practice, and 3) exposure to a diverse set of ideas relating to the discipline and discipline knowledge. | | | | |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event.  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| The conference provided a comprehensive and diverse exploration of the field of anatomy, with a wide range of presentations that covered many aspects of the discipline. The Kimdaejung Convention Center (KDJ Center) in Gwangju, Korea, served as a large and well-equipped venue, fitting for a conference of this scale.  **Venue and Location:** While the KDJ Center was more than adequate for the conference, there was a lack of context or explanation as to why Gwangju was chosen as the host city. Some background information highlighting its significance—whether cultural, historical, or disciplinary—would have added depth to the experience. My visit to Korea was enlightening, but I felt that another location, possibly closer to Seoul, might have offered a more engaging setting.  **Programme Highlights:** One of the most notable sessions was the interactive debate on public dissection in anatomy (Symposium 15: "Are You for or Against Public Dissection? An Open Debate"). This session provided a fascinating insight into the range of beliefs within the discipline. However, the 80-minute duration was insufficient to fully explore the topic’s nuances. It would be beneficial to see similar discussions at UK events, allowing more time for an in-depth examination of all perspectives.  **Programme Structure:** The programme was diverse and interesting. The event's schedule was packed with various concurrent sessions, many of which focused on similar themes. This overlap sometimes forced attendees to choose between equally relevant topics, limiting the opportunity for strategic symposium planning. A more streamlined programme structure could enhance the overall experience.  **Travel Considerations:** The conference's location necessitated that many delegates leave midway through the final day's presentations to accommodate travel schedules. This detracted from the concluding sessions, and the programme could have been adjusted to better suit the delegates' travel needs.  **Concluding Thoughts:** Overall, the conference was a valuable learning experience, offering diverse content and the opportunity to engage with professionals from around the world. With slight adjustments to the programme and a more thoughtfully chosen location, future events could provide an even more impactful experience. | | | | |
| 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?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| This conference provided a valuable platform to connect with professionals interested in my presented subjects. I received numerous requests for continued discussions and information sharing, which has expanded my network. These new connections are crucial for fostering collaborative research and promoting ongoing dialogue within the field.  Additionally, the conference served as an excellent opportunity to highlight my work on inclusivity. I was able to increase awareness of organizations like the Anatomy Collective for Equality and discuss the initiatives being undertaken by the Anatomical Society’s Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) committee. This not only showcased the UK as a leader in inclusivity efforts but also encouraged others to consider adopting similar practices at their institutions.  The engagement with attendees following my presentations suggested a genuine interest in implementing inclusivity changes within their own institutions. Many expressed intentions to integrate these concepts into their work, indicating that my efforts could lead to a broader, more positive impact across the field. This was a key measure of success for me, as it reflected the potential for sustainable change within the wider anatomy community. Overall, the conference enhanced my communication, professional networking, and advocacy skills, while also advancing the conversation on inclusivity in anatomy. | | | | |
| 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?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| The work I presented at the conference is ongoing, and the insights gained from this experience will directly support its further development. The presentations and discussions I engaged in have deepened my understanding of key topics, offering a richer and more nuanced perspective that I can now apply to my current projects. By incorporating this new knowledge, I aim to enhance the quality and impact of my work, ensuring that it remains relevant and effective within this area of study.  Additionally, the conference provided an invaluable opportunity to connect with other professionals and researchers in my field. These interactions have opened new avenues for potential collaborations, which I am eager to explore further. I am hopeful that these collaborations will play an important role in shaping future initiatives, enabling us to approach challenges more comprehensively and with a range of perspectives.  This collaborative spirit is crucial for driving meaningful change and the implementation of best practices for the future. Working together allows us to address complex issues more effectively and creatively, fostering innovation. Overall, the knowledge exchange and network-building at the conference have laid the groundwork for ongoing professional growth and the potential for impactful, collective progress in the field. | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| NA | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| NA | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Dr Scott Abbott Paterson | | DATE | 2/10/24 |

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

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-171023 – International Conference*