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 AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | Dr. Shane Browne |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | @Sbrowne4 |
| UNIVERSITY | Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland University of Medicine and Health Sciences |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* |
| Attendance and presentation at the Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA), September 5th-8th, Gwangju, Korea. |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?*Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* |
| The 21st Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists hosted by the Korean Association of Anatomists in the Kimdaejung Convention Centre in Gwangju Korea brings together anatomists from around the world focused around the topic of innovative anatomy (iNNO-ANAT). This was the first IFAA congress to be held post-pandemic and the first I was to attend, and I was excited at the great opportunity to meet with my fellow anatomists, forge new connections and present work from my research group. The scientific program of the congress is quite diverse but promised many exciting symposia around the theme of iNNO-ANAT which included topics such as equality and diversity in anatomy, inclusion of technology and recent advances in anatomical teaching, ethical issues in body donation, and tissue engineering. The topic of tissue engineering is of particular interest to my research, and includes biomaterial development, stem cells and development, in vitro models and 3d printing. I identified a number of tissue engineering sessions that I would attend, one of which I was presenting in. Anatomical knowledge forms the basis of engineering accurate tissue structures for modelling and repair, and thus I was excited at the prospect of engaging with other anatomists at all stages working in this exciting area, and forging new connections. |
| 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 Kimdaejung Convention Centre provided an ideal venue for the IFAA, with a large hall for the plenary sessions, an exhibition hall for poster presentations and sponsor stands, and a number of smaller session rooms for the various symposia. The welcome reception was held on the first evening of the conference and showcased some traditional Korean music and dancing, providing a relaxed environment to mix with fellow anatomists to begin the conference.Throughout the conference I attended many interesting sessions that showcased the best of anatomical research. In particular I enjoyed the sessions focused on equality and diversity in Anatomy – identifying best practice in anatomical teaching and research. There were some interesting discussions on practical ways that we as anatomists can incorporate best practice within our teaching.My own presentation was on Saturday 7th September in a symposia entitled ‘Intersection of Cell Biology, Tissue Engineering and Precision Medicine’. This was a very engaging session and there were some insightful questions on my presentation from the audience, while I thoroughly enjoyed the presentations of the other speakers in the symposia. The networking dinner was held that evening, and provided another opportunity to meet with fellow anatomists and expand my network. In addition, the entertainment including more traditional Korean singing and dancing was another highlight.I attended a number of other sessions focused on Tissue Engineering held on Sunday 8th September where there were some very impressive presentations on 3d printing and organoids and how these technologies can be used for disease modelling. These sessions provided opportunities for me to make connections with other anatomists that work in the field of Tissue Engineering and expand my professional network. |
| 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 was my first opportunity to present my work at an Anatomy conference, and one that I thoroughly enjoyed. Given it was a different audience to whom I usually present, I adjusted my presentation to account for the different background knowledge of attendees. This also provided an opportunity to get feedback from a different type of audience, and I believe this is invaluable for my research going forward.From my engagement with fellow anatomists from all over the world at the IFAA and the attendance at various symposia, I have learned much. This includes learnings related to both my teaching and research. Attendance at sessions focused on EDI identified practices to ensure increased inclusivity in anatomy teaching and research, and also pointed towards a number of resources and initiatives to support this.Sessions focused on Tissue Engineering identified new approaches and techniques to can be incorporated within my research. In addition, I have enhanced my professional network, in particular of anatomists that work in the field of Tissue Engineering.  |
| 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.* |
| From what I have learned at the IFAA, there are a number of outcomes related to my teaching and research practice.Related to my teaching I have a greater understanding of the need, and most importantly the means, to incorporate equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) within my anatomy teaching practice. As mentioned, I will leverage the resources I learned of in this conference to improve the inclusivity in my teaching. Furthermore, colleagues I have met with at the IFAA will also provide advice to discuss my approaches.Regarding my research, the concepts and ideas I have learned of at this conference will influence ongoing and future projects in my own research group. This includes new approaches that we can try ourselves independently, as well as the opportunity to reach out to connections I have made at the IFAA for advice and collaborations. |
| 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 | Shane Browne | DATE | 13/09/2024 |

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

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