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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | | Kieran McDermott | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | University of Limerick | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Symington Bequest | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference attended (full name) with city and dates* | | | | |
| 22nd Biennial Meeting of the International Society of Developmental Neuroscience, 22nd to 25th May 2018, Nara, Japan | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? | | | | |
| Improve knowledge in relation to topics being presented at ISDN symposia and workshops.  Gain understanding of the how the ISDN works and how it compares to the Anatomical Society.  Make new scientific contacts.  Attend the ISDN business meeting and meet Officers of the ISDN.  Get feedback from the international developmental neurobiology research community on the work I am presenting. | | | | |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar. | | | | |
| I greatly enjoyed attending this conference and I thank the Anatomical Society for awarding me a Symington Bequest Fund award to enable me to attend. The conference brought together the leading researchers in the field of developmental neuroscience under one roof and exposed attendees to the latest developments in a variety of sub-fields. I presented a poster entitled ‘Effect of maternal immune activation with lipopolysaccharide on pre- and early postnatal development of oligodendrocytes, myelin and microglia in the spinal cord’. This was viewed by a large number of the delegates and led to some very interesting and fruitful exchanges.  Other highlights of the meeting were plenary talks by:  Andre Goffinet on Reelin, Cajal Retzius cells and cortical folding, Arturo Alvarez-Buylla on the origin and retention of neural stem cells in the adult human brain, Kelly Monk on regulation of myelination by glia.  In all there were 9 separate symposia comprising about 40 invited speakers. I also made contact with the Officers of the Society and gained some useful insight into its operation which I hope to share with colleagues in the Anatomical Society in due course. | | | | |
| REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant)* | | | | |
| Gained some new detailed knowledge especially in the area of novel regulators of cell lineage, differentiation and neural diversity in the central and peripheral nervous system. This new information will inform and guide current research activity in the lab and future directions. | | | | |
| REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future? | | | | |
| Specific items of knowledge gained in the research sessions may be incorporated into my ongoing research work in particular looking at how neural cells develop normally in the embryonic and foetal brain and how such normal development can be perturbed by environmental influences. | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Kieran McDermott | | DATE | 5-7-18 |

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

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-BLANKCO-SEAL-date110216*