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 AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | Mutahira Lone |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | @mutahira\_lone |
| UNIVERSITY | University College Cork |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest Funding 2023/24  |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* |
| I attended and presented at the International Federation of Association of Anatomists (IFAA), 5th-8th September 2024 in Gwangju, South 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 (IFAA), organized by the Korean Association of Anatomists, took place in September 2024 at the Kimdaejung Convention Centre in Gwangju, Korea. This prestigious event brought together anatomists from 62 countries, all converging under the central theme of "Innovative Anatomy" (inno-ANAT).The scientific program offered a rich variety of symposia covering an array of topics. These included advancements in anatomical education, the integration of cutting-edge technology and innovative pedagogical approaches, as well as discussions on equality, diversity, and inclusion within anatomy. The program also featured sessions on the latest developments in body embalming techniques, clinical anatomy, and much more. I was particularly drawn to the sessions focused on anatomy education, especially those highlighting interactive tools designed to enhance student engagement—an area that closely aligns with my personal interest in Universal Design for Learning (UDL). The emphasis on student-centred approaches resonated with my teaching philosophy. Additionally, I found the sessions on student assessment, the use of 3D printing in anatomy education, and advanced techniques in body embalming highly relevant to my own research interests. These sessions would not only broadened my understanding but also provided an invaluable opportunity to connect with fellow anatomists at various career stages, opening doors for potential collaboration and knowledge exchange in this dynamic field. |
| 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 served as an ideal venue for the IFAA Congress, effortlessly accommodating delegates from 62 countries. The spacious main hall hosted plenary sessions, while the exhibition area showcased an impressive array of poster presentations alongside sponsor stands. Various smaller rooms provided the perfect setting for the specialized symposia. One of the highlights for me was how the organizers seamlessly integrated Korean culture into the event. The welcome reception featured captivating traditional Korean dance, and attendees were given the chance to try on the Hanbok, Korea's traditional attire. Both the networking dinner and conference lunches offered an authentic experience of Korean cuisine, further enriching the cultural exchange.The entire conference was impeccably organized, with every detail—from the oral presentations and poster sessions to the networking events and evening dinners—executed flawlessly and with remarkable punctuality. The conference organizers and technical staff deserve high praise for their precision and attention to detail.On a personal level, attending this global anatomy conference was a deeply valuable experience. It allowed me to listen to talks from leading experts in the field, engage with fellow researchers, and exchange ideas on cutting-edge teaching methods. The theme of this year’s congress, inno-ANAT, with its focus on innovative approaches to anatomy education, aligned perfectly with my own research interests. The sessions provided fresh insights into the latest trends in teaching morphology, histology, and embryology, all of which are central to my work. Moreover, I had the chance to network with peers who shared their experiences of incorporating technology into anatomical education, reaffirming the importance of my own initiatives like 3D models and interactive self-assessment tools. Overall, the conference was an enriching experience that not only reinforced my teaching practices but also opened doors to potential research collaborations and new avenues for innovation in anatomy education. |
| 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.* |
| Attending this global conference allowed me to develop several key skills, with one of the most significant being the ability to present my research to a diverse, international audience. I had the opportunity to deliver both an oral presentation and two poster presentations. The oral presentation, delivered in collaboration with a colleague, focused on "The Utility of Soft Preservation in Anatomy Education, Research, and Clinical Training." Following the presentation, the audience was invited to ask questions and provide feedback. While some questions were directed at our presentation, one particularly engaging question about pre-donation blood tests sparked a broader discussion among the attendees, enriching the overall dialogue.My poster presentations showcased the work of my PhD student, and it was a rewarding experience to represent her research. Engaging with attendees, answering their questions, and receiving constructive feedback offered valuable insights that will undoubtedly contribute to the ongoing development of her project.Another important skill I honed was networking. The conference provided numerous opportunities to connect with fellow educators and researchers, leading to meaningful discussions around potential collaborations for future research projects and public engagement initiatives. These interactions will positively shape my professional journey, helping me refine my outreach efforts and make complex anatomical topics more engaging and accessible to a diverse range of students. Beyond the individual sessions, the conference exposed me to the latest research trends in anatomy and innovative teaching strategies. It was an excellent opportunity to explore new practices that could enhance my own work and expand my approach to both teaching and research. |
| 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.* |
| I plan to apply the insights gained from the conference by integrating the latest advancements in anatomical education into both my teaching and public engagement initiatives. In the classroom, I will incorporate innovative strategies, such as expanded use of 3D models, digital tools, and interactive teaching methods, to enhance student engagement and comprehension. These tools will also play a pivotal role in my outreach activities too, particularly in public engagement workshops aimed at making complex anatomical concepts more accessible and engaging for diverse audiences.The knowledge I acquired will also shape future community outreach projects, allowing me to present topics such as dental morphology and embryology in more interactive and hands-on ways. For instance, I will use resources like plastic teeth, 3D printed teeth and the 3D notational grid to offer participants a tangible understanding of these subjects. These approaches will make anatomy more approachable, fostering a greater appreciation for the field and promoting science education in an engaging and inclusive manner. Additionally, I hope this work will lead to collaborative projects that further advance science communication and education to a wider audience. |
| 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 |
| Yes |
| 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 |
| Yes |
| SIGNATURE | Mutahira Lone | DATE | 03.10. 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*

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