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| NAME | Karen Breneman Kirkness |
| UNIVERSITY | The University of Edinburgh |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference attended (full name) with city and dates* |
| 7th Annual International Symposium of Clinical and Applied Anatomy, 17 – 20th September 2015, Bratislava, Slovakia |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? |
| I anticipated that by participating as a presenter at the ISCAA this year, I would get the chance to refine my project for presentation at an international level. I also intended to gain academic experience by communicating my work to a wide selection of anatomists with whom I hoped to establish a professional rapport. I wished to learn about exciting projects current in the field of human anatomy, and to connect with other independent researchers that have similar interests to mine. |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar. |
| Reflecting upon my experience at the symposium, I am pleased with the high quality of the presentations as well as the overall enthusiasm of the organisers. These made the event a success for everyone in attendance. The atmosphere was very positive and this engendered the feeling of friendly sharing both during the official sessions as well as in the social program in the evenings. By the end of the Symposium, some exciting opportunities had arisen for myself and I witnessed many other participants establishing collaborations.In the process, I met and got to know the work of other researchers and academics interested in 3D printing applications in clinical and applied anatomy. |
| REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant)* |
| Through my experience presenting my MSc project at the ISCAA in Bratislava this year, I increased my confidence as a public speaker and widened my network of academic contacts. I got invaluable experience answering impromptu questions about my work and was able to refine my listening skills in order to contribute to discussions about the work of other presenters.  |
| REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future? |
| This learning experience has laid the foundation for further anatomy conferences, as I have been asked to submit early application to the next ISCAA meeting in 2016. I will put this learning experience into practice during any future teaching and/or presentation session, as I have gained so much more confidence in speaking about my own or other work in an academic setting. |
| SIGNATURE | Karen Breneman Kirkness | DATE | 10/10/2015 |

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