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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* | | | | |
| American Association of Anatomists at EB2015 Boston 27 March - 1 April 2015 | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? | | | | |
| Improve knowledge in relation to topics being presented at AAA sumposia and workshops.  Gain understanding of the how the AAA works and how it compares to the Anatomical Society.  Make new scientific contacts.  Meet Officers of the AAA  Get feedback from 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 numerous scientific associations under one roof and exposed attendees to the latest developments in a variety of fields. I focussed on the AAA sessions and presented a poster at one their poster sessions. I found the mix of anatomy education sessions and more traditional research sessions very rewarding. Highlights for me included the AAA Neurobiology Mini-meeting plenaries given by Stanley Prusiner and Eric Kandel, the spinal cord injury and repair strategy symposium and the Anatomical Society sponsored symposium on the creation of tissue-like structures in vitro using advanced technologies. | | | | |
| REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant)* | | | | |
| The anatomy education sessions were useful in eluciding some new practices in teaching and examining in anatomy. | | | | |
| REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future? | | | | |
| Specific items of knowledge gained in the reserch 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 might be perturbed by environmental influences.  Ideas I gained about how medical students optimally acquire anatomical knowledge can be incorporated into our teaching practices in the Univerisity of Limerick | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Kieran McDermott | | DATE | 18-5-15 |

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