



## AWARDEE REPORT FORM

NAME	Mr Yarrow Scantling-Birch
UNIVERSITY	University of Southampton
NAME OF AWARD	Support for Student Societies Award
PURPOSE OF AWARD <i>conference attended (full name) with city and dates</i>	
Neurosurgery Undergraduate Symposium (NUGS) 2.0 – Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 Southampton General Hospital, Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD	
REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?	
<p>Neurosurgery is a diverse and challenging specialty, yet there is little exposure to it in the undergraduate medical school curriculum. The aims of our symposium were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide a broader understanding of what a career in neurosurgery involves;</li> <li>2. Outline the challenges of the various neurosurgical subspecialties; and</li> <li>3. Provide an opportunity to forge collaborations between trainees and students.</li> </ol>	
COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar.	
<p>The conference was a busy day that hosted 50 attendees with a sizeable proportion travelling from outside Southampton. We had 2 cohorts of attendees, those who were set on pursuing a neurosurgical career and those who wished to find out more about the profession. The day consisted of a series of talks held in the morning, a lunchtime poster session and afternoon workshops (see figure 1 and 2).</p> <p>Our morning ran smoothly, with an introductory lecture from our Honorary President Mr Waters. He delivered an insightful and realistic talk into his paediatric career, full of both highs and lows. Following this, our next two invitational keynote speakers were Mr Zrinzo and Mr Vaqas – both presenting cutting-edge research in their respective fields. One of the guests described Mr Zrinzo’s talk as “quite literally the best talk I have ever been to.” All three speakers were in the true sense great champions of their respective specialties, and we were lucky to have them.</p>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p><b>Lecture 1</b> – <a href="#">The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Paediatric Neurosurgery</a> 10:05 – 11:00 <i>Mr Ryan Waters</i> (Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon, UHS)</p> <p><b>Lecture 2</b> – <a href="#">The Stimulating World of Functional Neurosurgery</a> 11:00 – 11:55 <i>Mr Ludvic Zrinzo</i> (Consultant Functional Neurosurgeon, UCLH)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Break</b> 11:55 – 12:10 <i>Grab a refreshment &amp; snack, bring back to lecture theatre</i></p> <p><b>Lecture 3</b> – <a href="#">iKnife and Future Technology in Neuro-oncology</a> 12:10 – 13:05 <i>Mr Babar Vaqas</i> (Senior Neuro-oncology Fellow, Charing Cross Hospital)</p> </div>	
<b>Figure 1</b> – Conference plan – Morning lectures	

The lunchtime interval was an opportunity for our attendees to present original research and a chance to compete for prizes, as well as an excellent opportunity for other students to network with neurosurgeons.

The afternoon featured several popular workshops that were run by neurosurgical trainees. We were thrilled to be joined by Dr Dasgupta, who had recently received a neurosurgical training number and was in a great position to co-run one of the workshops. However, the main highlight of the afternoon was our Medtronic Burr Hole Drilling workshop, which dominated the feedback ratings; we were very fortunate to have access to their neurosurgical equipment. This workshop rounded off with a competition – in true neurosurgical style – where the finalist faced our resident consultant, Mr Waters. To our amazement, one of the attendees outperformed our consultant in the final round.

Workshop 1 (30 min)	Workshop 2 (30 min)	Workshop 3 (45 min)
My Journey from Student to Neurosurgical Trainee	The History of Psychosurgery	Medtronic: Burr-Hole Drilling
Mr Samuel Hall (Neurosurgery ST3, UHS)	Mr Dom Mahoney (RSM Prize Winner, Bristol)	Mr Chris Flack (Medtronic)

**Figure 2** – Conference plan – Afternoon workshops

REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? (*does not apply to equipment grant*)

There were many skills that were learnt from this conference, these included:

- Organisation & administration: a total of 8 months were dedicated to planning; requiring prompt communication, budgeting, meeting deadlines and friendly hospitality on the day.
- Securing funding: The MDU, Wesleyan & Anatomical Society were all approached and kindly provided sponsorship.
- Advertisement & communication: Various sponsors, student societies, senior Faculty members and keynote speakers assisted in publicising the event.
- Teamwork & leadership: This was a two-man team, hence tasks had to be divided equally & deadlines had to be met proficiently.

REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future?

NUGS 2.0 has made significant strides from our first symposium, with an increase in attendees and calibre of speakers. We plan to use what we have learnt to organise another conference in the near future and to translate our skills into our clinical practice, which features teamwork and leadership.

Furthermore, with the insight from our first conference, we were able to audit our second conference. This data will be analysed and published in a medical education journal, which would prove beneficial to our progression as clinicians.

We hope to collaborate further with the Anatomical Society in regards to any future events. Without their kind sponsorship, this day would not have been possible.

We thank the Anatomical Society for their support.

NUGS Committee 2017-18

SIGNATURE		DATE	15-06-2018
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*If submitted electronically, a type-written name is acceptable in place of a hand-written signature*

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**Figure 3** – Two attendees enjoying the Medtronic Burr Hole Drilling workshop. The students are using neurosurgical tools, the same ones used in theatres, and practicing their burr-hole technique on a sterile sheep scapula. This workshop was kindly sponsored by Medtronic.



**Figure 4** – Dr Dasgupta presenting his slides on how to secure a neurosurgical ST1 training number. Dr Dasgupta co-ran one of the workshops with Mr Hall. He was in an excellent position to talk about his experiences since he had recently secured a competitive training number in London.