

AWARDEE REPORT FORM

NAME	Ruth Levey		
UNIVERSITY	National University of Ireland Galway		
NAME OF AWARD	Barclay Smith Award 2015/16 (Round 4)		

PURPOSE OF AWARD conference attended (full name) with city and dates

Anatomical Society Summer Meeting

Brighton and Sussex Medical school, University of Sussex, UK.

19-21st July 2016

REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?

Being a recent graduate of an Honours Bachelor of Science in Anatomy, my first aim was to learn. You can read as many scientific papers as you like, however, watching and interacting with researchers face to face can be quite rewarding and allows you to ask a multitude of questions. My second aim was to be inspired. Listening to people who love what they do, can inspire and motivate you to take action and pursue a career in research. And being in the presence of these people can really open your mind to the possibilities that an anatomy degree can offer. My last aim was to have fun and escape from the laboratory and interact with like-minded individuals in a social setting.

COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar.

As the theme of this conference was learning, it allowed me to gain valuable teaching skills. I loved listening to the neuro-anatomy research however, the highlight of the conference for me was most definitely the gender reassignment surgery talk. Drinking a cold beer then watching comprehensive videos of surgery was not something I have ever done before, however I found it hugely interesting and enjoyable. At the poster presentations I was able to present my research and also gain valuable presentation skills. I also enjoyed chatting and viewing other individuals over coffee. Dinner on Brighton pier was both terrifying and delicious.

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

Throughout the conference I gained communication skills, presentation skills and analytical skills when listening to speakers and also viewing posters. I also gained skills with regard to social media and how it can benefit a learning environment.

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

Communication, presentation and analytical skills will undoubtedly benefit me throughout my scientific career. If I was to pursue an academic career, I could apply the social media teaching approaches that were spoken about throughout the conference, and successfully engage with students and promote a new means of learning.

SIGNATURE	Rath Levey	DAT	E 04/08/2016
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If submitted electronically, a type-written name is acceptable in place of a hand-written signature

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