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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | | Juan Carlos Palomeque Chávez | | |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | | @J\_C\_Palomeque | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Symington Bequest Fund | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* | | | | |
| Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) EU Chapter Conference 2025, Freiburg, Germany. 20th to 23rd May 2025 | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| The Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) EU Chapter Conference is one of the biggest events that gather some of the best anatomists and researchers focused on tissue engineering and anatomy-related studies. I was really looking forward to this event as it is a great opportunity to network with other people doing impactful research. Additionally, I was schedule to present my latest findings through an oral presentation, allowing me to discuss with other researchers and hear their opinion, comments, and suggestions regarding my studies. The conference was also set to include a variety of sessions and workshops with keynote speakers and leading experts, effectively providing a massive opportunity to expose myself to the latest advancements in gene delivery and wound healing.  Being close to the completion of my PhD, I was expecting this conference to be a prime opportunity to meet other head of laboratories and research groups outside from Ireland to get an idea of possible collaborations that could mould my future research. Essentially, I was looking forward to immersing myself in scientific discussions with multiple researchers and organisations to understand the layout of tissue engineering research, so I can create a future pathway for my own studies. | | | | |
| 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 TERMIS EU Chapter 2025 was a 5-day conference held in person in Freiburg, Germany which gathered the presence of researcher from more than 60 countries as we were informed on the first day, highlighting the impactful nature of this specific event. During this event, there were workshop focused on the development of junior researchers and postgraduate students towards clinical and academic settings. Similarly, a multitude of oral presentation, keynote lectures, and poster sessions were readily available to all attendees focused on a variety of biological applications. Navigation around the conference was facilitated by an app linked to the general schedule that attendees could personalise according to their interests. At the same time, this app allowed the users to create connections with other researchers and establish conversations.  This experience was also complemented with events outside the scientific area of the conference. Social events focused on the networking of young investigators and a Gala dinner held at the concert house in Freiburg. This events allowed for an easier, informal setting to talk to other young researchers and gain insight into other opportunities within academia. Being an international conference, I also got the opportunity to explore the city and learn about German culture, a bit of their history, and customs which I find important for collaborations across multicultural teams. | | | | |
| 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.* | | | | |
| I believe that attending a conference with such a high international cohort and impact allowed me to improve a variety of skills. Firstly, I definitely believe that my communication skills have become better by being allowed to present my findings to a wide range of researchers. Similarly, the opportunity to argue my ideas and findings with other attendees have allowed me to increase my logical thinking which will become essential when I am defending my own thesis. At the same time, these enquiries from other people about my research allowed me to identify possible talking points with my reviewers which will definitely provide an advantage.  Attending talks on multiple disciplines and backgrounds also deepened my understanding on a variety of applications. This also allowed me to increase my capacity to make connections between different research areas. Similarly, attending a variety of talks from multiple speakers enabled my exposure to new technologies and techniques that I could implement in my own research, thus, widening my skill set for future collaborations. Additionally, I was able to visit a variety of professional workshops that further exposed me to real life scenarios useful for clinic and company research collaborations. | | | | |
| 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 will definitely apply what I have learned during this conference in my own research. Firstly, I attended great talks during the conference and experience a variety of communication techniques from different people. I aim to apply this on my own presentation within RCSI and during other conferences. This will also be particularly beneficial during my PhD defence. Additionally, rapid logical thinking is something that I have developed during attendance to conference like TERMIS as different points of view are presented to me about my own research. This will also benefit me in a variety of situations in the future.  I will also apply new techniques and technologies that I was exposed to during the conference in my current and future research. This will improve the quality of multiple studies which in turn will allow me to get further international exposure and improve my own CV.  Finally, the confidence that I gained during this conference by communicating with other researchers from around the other will benefit me by establishing new collaborations and ideas. This will also improve the impact of my research and take it to a newer level that will benefit my future career. | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| N/A | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| N/A | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Juan Carlos Palomeque | | DATE | 16th June 2025 |

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

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-171023 – International Conference*