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 AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | Dr Joanna Tomlinson |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | @jclt0mlins0n |
| UNIVERSITY | University of Bristol |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest Fund |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* |
| To attend International Society of Morphological Sciences Congress, in Lisbon on the 23rd-26th July.  |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?*Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* |
| As anticipated, I presented my work collected as part of post-doctoral work at the University of Otago in 2022, on '***Effect of different preconditioning protocols during biomechanical testing of the human iliotibial band*** ' in collaboration with Dr Mario Scholze from Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany and Dr Johann Zwirner from University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany (see picture attached). It was great to speak with other anatomists about the project, showcase this methodology and my learnings. This provoked discussions with other anatomists interested in musculoskeletal biomechanics, and I hope we will be able to collaborate together in the future. I am also looking forward to the work being shared more widely as the abstract being published in the Anatomical Record. The main benefits of attending this conference were meeting anatomists interested in biomechanics and musculoskeletal anatomy, and discussing with them about my research in order to offer strategies to improve and develop the work further. Also, the potential to disseminate these findings more widely via publication online. Furthermore, I attended many of the education sessions and learnt about the different technologies used in teaching globally, such as paper puzzles, and learning outside the classroom. This helped me consider what may be useful at the University of Bristol. This includes great benefit of learning more about different perspectives on ethics surrounding anatomy to inform my teaching for the Applied Anatomy students.  |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event.*Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* |
| Last month on 23rd-26th July, I went to NOVA Medical School in Lisbon for the International Society of Morphological Sciences Congress. This congress is held every 2 years by the group and on alternate years in liaison with the International Federation of the Associations of Anatomists. On the first day, the opening welcome talk was held in the beautiful NOVA medical school's impressive Room Herophilos. On the top of the walls is a mural depicting the evolution of medicine and the important scholars that have informed these advancements. This art was developed to inspire their medical students to aspire to contribute to this wisdom and develop new innovations in their careers. Each of their rooms is named after a famous figure from medical history, we had talks in their Morgagni, Vesalius, Da Vinci, Malpighi, and Galenus rooms.Across the other 3 days, there were multiple talks and discussions on ethics, clinical anatomy, education, and comparative anatomy, accompanied with lots of great opportunities to network with other anatomists, including a cocktail reception with traditional Portuguese musicians, a wine-tasting evening, and a gala dinner at the Odem dos Medicos. It was a great opportunity to meet anatomists, catch up with old colleagues, and colleagues i've only met previously online, including Professor Beverly Kramer, Dr Jon Cornwall, and Dr Erin Hutchinson. I also co-delivered an **ISMS-PEAP networking workshop**for early career anatomists as part of my role on the IFAA Presidents Emerging Anatomists Programme committee to support development of mentorship relationships. This was a great success and allowed anatomists from Africa, Asia, Europe and North and South America to connect in an informal setting over lunch (see group and room photos attached). |
| 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.* |
| The most important thing gained was the opportunity to meet with other anatomists, and discuss each of our anatomy contexts and viewpoints, including share our challenges and approaches to work, while also jointly postulating areas to make change. One topic of interest is anatomy ethics and anatomical imaging. I teach our year 2 Applied Anatomy students at the University of Bristol about this topic within their Photography element of their Visualising Anatomy Through Imaging unit. This teaching comprises a lecture on the physics behind photography, a seminar on the ethics of anatomical imaging and a practical where students can practice photography skills and consider what criteria are important in the process of acquiring anatomical images from a technical and ethical point of view. The discussions at the symposium at ISMS on ‘*From Donors to Digital: Ethical Frontiers in Anatomical Science*’ was particularly insightful and will inform my teaching. It was very helpful to have been witness to the latest ideas surrounding this topic from leading bioethicists and the AAA Bioethics Unicorns, which I believe are important for ensuring the curriculum remains relevant. I also discussed this topic with anatomists in South Africa, who have challenges within their legal system, as unclaimed donors may be used for anatomical investigation, although these are not always accepted by institutions, other institutions also have no established body donation scheme and therefore rely on other universities to support their provision of donated materials for teaching. This really highlighted the importance of collegial support in developing paperwork.Subsequently, I attended the IFAA PEAP webinar delivered by Professor Niels Hammer, on ‘Legal framework for body donation in central Europe’, to gain a better understanding of the system that dictates body donation in the DACH countries.  |
| 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.* |
| There are many ways I will apply what I have learnt at ISMS to my future work:* The conference organisation, including advertising, scheduling and events has informed my ideas about what makes a conference successful to promote effective networking. I plan to apply this to my organisation of Early Career Anatomists Conferences and other future anatomy events, such as supporting colleagues in the delivery of the upcoming Anatomical Society Conference at the University of Bristol. The various activities delivered by the congress all supported meaningful conversations on anatomy, and supporting understanding different cultures and contexts. The conference was very friendly and inclusive, and there were many opportunities to speak with different people both involved in organising the event and attending from the President of IFAA and President of ISMS to PhD students presenting their work, which was achieved naturally without formalised means.
* I plan to look for ways to collaborate with other anatomists globally interested in biomechanics and musculoskeletal anatomy to further research in these fields and researchers situated locally to ensure a sustainable research pipeline. I have reached out to anatomists about multi-institutional projects we have discussed at ISMS and plan to implement these in 2025/2026 academic year, which builds on my prior research within field of peripheral nerve anatomy. The conference has broadened my understanding on who works in the field, the current technological advancements globally, and expected standard of research quality, therefore facilitates me being able to reach out to others for advice, and read more broadly to inspire work.
* I plan to apply what I have learnt about bioethics to my teaching on this topic area at the University of Bristol, including within the Applied Anatomy programme, but also the Gateway to Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science.
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| 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 | Joanna Tomlinson | DATE | 04/09/2025 |

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

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