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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | | Tarimobo Michael Otobo | | |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | | @taripanebi | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | University of Toronto | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Symington Bequest Award | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* | | | | |
| The purpose of the award was to attend the American Association of Anatomy Annual Scientific Conference - Anatomy Connected 2023, in Washington DC, United State of America from March 25 – 27. | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| The annual scientific conference of the American Association of Anatomy (AAA) offers various opportunities for the dissemination of research, networking, and professional development. In 2023, I was hoping to take a long overdue break from my graduate studies to share parts of my PhD research which was accepted as a poster presentation and receive feedback. I wanted to reconnect with peers and revive old professional friendships and mentors that will help me review my strategic plan for post-doctoral research scholarship. Also, wanted to take the opportunity to see the beautiful United State of America capital city of Washington. | | | | |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event.  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| I had a revealing and splendid conference experience. First, I was excited to know that I was selected as a poster finalist for the AAA postdoctoral poster award by the committee for early career anatomist. This meant I had poster judges coming to my poster presentation and afterwards, provided valuable feedback that enriched my research and subsequent publication of the project. It was engaging, as I presented my poster entitled, Estimation of point values of Sacroiliac Joint MRI Lesions for the assessment of interventions in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis. During my presentation, I met new people and developed collaborations that I foster today with the hope of diversifying my research interest.  Also, I attended presentations on educational research topics because of my renewed interest in anatomical science education research, in particular, educational research design and methods. The AAA has a surplus of experts in educational research, so I had considerable hours with expert to discuss my interest and archive suggested resources.  Beyond personal career focused engagements at the conference, I was excited to experience the breath of anatomical science research in multiple facet that were presented. It was particularly impressive to listen to cutting edge discoveries in a global scientific gathering and leaving the conference more knowledgeable and updated on the current trends in anatomical sciences.  Finally, I took some time out my busy conference schedule to visit places of historical significance. Notably the White House, the Capitol, the Museum of African American History, and the Smithsonian Institute, among others.  Overall, my experience at the AAA Anatomy Connected 2023 conference was holistic, comprising of educational, personal career development, social engagement and enlightenment opportunities. | | | | |
| 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 skills I gained attending the AAA anatomy connected conference were presentation and interpersonal skills.  For presentation and public speaking skill, I was able to reinforce my presentation and public speaking skills by putting myself out and speaking to people about my project. The feedback I received helped me to reflect on the areas of my strengths and opportunities for improvement. The opportunity to present a complex topic within a limited time was a skill I will continue to use in the future.  For interpersonal skill, I was able to develop new friendships across divers attendees at the conference. The nuances of interdisciplinary research can be doubting but rewarding and become the opportunity for career success. As an earlier career researcher, I understand the need for the development of interdisciplinary collaborations and the AAA Anatomy Connected 2023 conference provided numerous opportunities for me to develop interpersonal skills that will foster my long term research goals. | | | | |
| 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.* | | | | |
| My learning experience from the AAA Anatomy connected conference was valuable soon after the conference as I was preparing to publish my research project. I was able to refine parts of my poster presentation to reflect the feedback I received from colleagues and poster judges. These revisions significantly reduced the editorial process of my submission for publication. I am hoping to continue applying this objective critical approach in future research projects.  I plan to prepare my postdoctoral research blueprint with the support I received from my mentors during the conference. Worthy of mention is the valuable resources I received for grantsmanship that is specifically tailored to anatomical science research and education. As I plan on my future research career, no doubt successful funding will be critical for my career progression and these skills will readily come to use.  Furthermore, I hope to pilot educational research from modelling exceptional projects at the conference and apply the design skill and robust methodological approach in education research. I hope to rely on my new network of colleagues on future collaborations across multiple institutions in different countries to partner on research projects as I aspire to become an independent researcher. | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| 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 | Tarimobo Michael Otobo | | DATE | 11/10/2023 |

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

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-171023*