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 AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | Aaron Barron |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | @Aaron\_Barron1 |
| UNIVERSITY | University College Cork |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* |
| Attendance at 2nd FinnBrain International Congress: Prenatal and Early Stress-Implications for Later Childhood Development and Health and FinnBrain Summer School of Neuroscience, Turku, Finland. |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? |
| To listen to world-leading experts on the effects perinatal stress on child development;To disseminate my research on the relationship between the immune system and brain in children;To learn the skills required for neuroimaging analysis |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event. |
| The 2nd FinnBrain International Congress: Prenatal and Early Stress-Implications for Later Childhood Development and Health was a wonderfully well-organized conference in Turku, Finland. There was a wonderful diversity of talks, which, while multidisciplinary, all shared the common theme of gestational or early life stress and child development. I heard wonderful talks from researchers, including world-leading experts such as Christine Heim and Martin Teicher. I presented my research relationship between the immune system and brain in children both in the format of a poster presentation and an oral flash talk to all attendees, and had lively and stimulating discussions about my work. In the summer school in the following week, I learned the basics of pre-processing and statistical analysis for brain magnetic resonance images in a structured, expert-led, and hands-on manner. At both the conference and training course, I made new connections and friends, and learned technical skills and gained theoretical insights which will help me in the final months of my PhD and beyond. |
| 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? |
| The most important skills are technical details and experience in how to apply several types of analyses to human brain images (depending on the context/tissue type/hypothesis test). I also gained networking, critical thinking, and communication skills during the conference. |
| 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? |
| I will apply the explicit, technical skills to my own work immediately. Specifically, I will now add a new analysis to my PhD thesis, which is voxel-based morphometry used to study cerebrocortical grey matter. I’ve also expanded my neuroimaging analytical toolkit, so that I can now perform new types of experiments using the same data I already have. |
| 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 | Aaron Barron | DATE | 16/06/23 |

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

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-220922 – International Conference*