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AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | | Elena Patera | | |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* | | @ArtedelCuerpoH1 | | |
| UNIVERSITY | | University of Liverpool | | |
| NAME OF AWARD | | Anatomical Society Departmental Seminar Grant | | |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* | | | | |
| To host Dr Rocky Cheung, Senior Lecturer in Anatomy at King’s College London and alumnus of the BSc in Anatomy & Human Biology from the University of Liverpool to give a seminar to Year 1-3 undergraduate students enrolled in the BSc in Anatomy & Human Biology program at the University of Liverpool, regarding his journey within the field of anatomy, and inform students on what a career anatomy entails as well as the opportunities that the field offers.  Location: Life Sciences Building, Lecture Theatre 3, University of Liverpool  Date: 4th of April 2025  Time: 14:00-15:00 (for Year 3 students) & 15:00-16:00 (for Year 1 & 2 students) | | | | |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| While organizing a departmental seminar featuring Dr Rocky Cheung, senior lecturer in Anatomy from King's College London who is an alumnus of the BSc Anatomy and Human Biology program from the University of Liverpool I anticipated many benefits for the current Year 1–3 students enrolled in this program.  Firstly, I anticipated that this seminar would provide current students with valuable academic and professional insights. I anticipated that Dr Cheung's career path will demonstrate how foundational knowledge in anatomy can translate into a successful role in academia as well as what working in academia as an anatomist entails.  Secondly, I anticipated that since Dr Cheung is an alumnus of the program, this will add a powerful motivational element to the connection that could potentially be formed between the students and Dr Cheung. I anticipated that students would relate to the speaker’s journey to some extent as they were going to get to hear from someone who once sat in the same lecture theatre as them, now excelling professionally. Also, I anticipated that students will be encouraged to explore what anatomy looks like as a career as well as consider future paths such as teaching, research, or further study.  I anticipated that this seminar would also serve as a valuable networking opportunity for the students as they would have the opportunity to directly interact with a professional academic, potentially opening doors for mentorship, references, or future collaboration. For the department, this could have strengthened alumni engagement and help build its profile as a connected and supportive academic community. Lastly, I anticipated that this seminar would encourage the development of soft skills through active participation via Q&As. | | | | |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event.  *Minimum number of words between 200-400. Please write in coherent paragraphs.* | | | | |
| Organizing and hosting the departmental seminar was a rewarding and enriching experience. From the initial planning stages to the execution of the event, I was deeply involved in coordinating logistics, liaising with the guest speaker, and promoting the seminar to students across all three years of the BSc Anatomy and Human Biology program. It was a privilege to welcome Dr Rocky Cheung senior lecturer in Anatomy from King's College London who is an esteemed academic and a proud alumnus of the BSc Anatomy & Human Biology program at the University of Liverpool.  As the host, I had the opportunity to introduce Dr Rocky Cheung to our current students and help facilitate a meaningful dialogue between the speaker and the students, ensuring the session was engaging and informative. Seeing the students actively participate and provide their answers anonymously in the Mentimeter quizzes and connect with someone who had once been in their shoes was incredibly fulfilling. Dr Cheung's insights into his academic journey and career in anatomy offered both inspiration and practical advice, and I was happy to see that this seminar sparked genuine curiosity and enthusiasm among the attendees.  This experience not only enhanced my organizational and communication skills but also reinforced the importance of alumni engagement and student support. It was gratifying to contribute to the academic and professional development of a fellow anatomist and our students through such a dynamic and impactful seminar. | | | | |
| 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.* | | | | |
| By organizing and hosting this departmental seminar, I gained valuable skills in event coordination, communication, and professional networking. From the planning phase to the final delivery, I developed my ability to manage timelines, communicate effectively with academic professionals, and promote events to a diverse student audience. Hosting the seminar also enhanced my public speaking skills and confidence in leading formal academic events. One of the most important things I gained was the ability to communicated with various individuals and bridge communication between different academic levels. For instance, I needed to liaise with the program director to ensure that the date and time of the seminar did not clash with any commitments students had based on their timetable. Also, I needed to communicated with the program director to ensure that we were able to secure a lecture theatre for the seminar. Connecting the speaker with the program director and with current undergraduate students. I also learned how to foster engagement by creating an environment where students felt comfortable asking questions and participating actively. This experience taught me the value of initiative, leadership, and attention to detail in organizing impactful events. Most importantly, it helped me understand better the significance of community within academia and how alumni engagement can inspire current students and how simple efforts to bring people together can have lasting educational and motivational effects. It was incredibly rewarding to play a part in facilitating that connection and contributing to a shared learning experience that extended beyond the classroom. | | | | |
| 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.* | | | | |
| This learning experience has shown me the value of proactive engagement and how impactful well-organized academic events can be. In the future, I plan to apply these skills by continuing to create opportunities that connect students with professionals, alumni, and academics. I’ve seen firsthand how a single seminar can inspire students and strengthen their sense of direction within their field. I also gained practical skills in event coordination, communication, and leadership, which I will carry forward into future roles—whether in academia, research, or professional settings. One key takeaway was the importance of thoughtful scheduling. This seminar took place on the last day of teaching, just before the Easter break, which likely contributed to a lower turnout as some students might have already left campus. Next time, I will aim to schedule events at a time that ensures maximum student availability and engagement. This experience also reinforced how vital it is to create space for informal mentoring and open discussion. Whether organizing future seminars, leading group projects, or contributing to student development initiatives, I’ll be more confident in facilitating meaningful exchanges that go beyond the classroom. Ultimately, this experience has motivated me to keep building inclusive and impactful academic communities. | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| Yes | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |
| Dr Rocky Cheung has consented for this image to be shared within this report. | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | E.Patera | | DATE | 22.04.2025 |

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

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

*DS 202425 R3 Report EP – Website Version 250425*

*A person standing in front of a podium

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