



AWARDEE REPORT FORM

NAME	James Charles
UNIVERSITY	Royal Veterinary College, University of London
NAME OF AWARD	Symington Bequest Fund
PURPOSE OF AWARD <i>conference attended (full name) with city and dates</i>	
Accommodation at International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology, Washington D.C, USA. June 29 th -July 3 rd .	
REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits?	
As I am currently approaching the end of my PhD, I felt this meeting would represent an ideal opportunity to present the significant findings of my PhD research, as well as network with peers and senior researchers in an attempt to find work beyond my PhD.	
COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar.	
<p>The International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology (ICVM) was a very well attended meeting, and furthermore was extremely friendly and welcoming for early career researchers and PhD students such as myself. The vast majority of the sessions were of high interest to me and strongly related to my PhD research, which gave me great opportunities to talk with many of the speakers about their research and discuss how it may impact and/or improve my own work.</p> <p>I presented my research ("Musculoskeletal modelling and simulations of locomotion in the mouse hindlimb: the role of high-resolution scanning and contrast imaging") as part of the diffusible iodine-based contrast enhanced microCT (diceCT) scanning symposium, which included researchers detailing the many different uses of this relatively recent technique of visualising soft tissue anatomy with CT scanning. I, along with many of my fellow symposium presenters, were astounded by the high popularity and attendance of the symposium throughout the day, and I was further excited by the huge range of uses of this technique, which extend far beyond how I used it to enable the creation of small animal biomechanical models.</p> <p>This meeting was also a fantastic networking opportunity for me. Given I am nearing the end of my PhD research, I sought out every opportunity to approach more senior researchers to introduce myself and make them aware of my skills and research interests in the event they are looking to hire a postdoctoral researcher. I also used my symposium talk to advertise my skills to audience members!</p>	

REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant)*

This was the first talk I had given at a conference during my PhD, which is a valuable skill and experience I can call upon later in my career. The networking at this meeting was also valuable, not only for the possibility of finding my next job but also for any possible future job hunting.

REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future?

All the experience I gained at ICVM can be easily applied to further meetings I attend in my future research career, and also in any future job hunting.

SIGNATURE



DATE

13/7/16

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

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