

Conference Attended: Joint BSI and NVVI Congress 2016

Liverpool- UK 2016

Recipient: Moafaq Samir

Position: Fourth year PhD student

Supervisor: Phil G. Knight

I would like to thank the SRF for awarding me this travel grant to help me to attend this congress in Liverpool-UK. Firstly, please accept my apologies because I applied for this grant to attend the annual conference of Canadian Society for Endocrinology and Metabolism which I registered and sent my abstract and they accepted the abstract for the oral presentation however, I couldn't attend this conference because I applied to renew my visa and was expecting to get my visa within 1 month then I wanted to apply for visa to Canada. Unfortunately the UK visa took 2 months to be issued and I missed the opportunity to attend the conference but I was able to use the funds instead to attend the BSI and NVVI Congress 2016. This congress had 1700 delegates and there was 700 posters focusing on the immunology. They have a section related to the Reproductive immunology which is quite related to my research area.

I've attended this congress with poster presentation titled (Effect of the pro-inflammatory cytokine interleukin-6 (IL-6) on steroidogenesis by bovine granulosa (GC) and theca (TC) cells). I got very nice feedbacks from so many people as it seems linking the immune system with female reproduction and how this project explored this relation. I find it very worthy to mention that I've engaged with the exhibitors in this conference and made lots of arrangements to deliver their products to Iraq because I am going to be lecturer there and would need to continue my research in the same topic. So I need to provide the instruments, chemicals, kits, etc..... to make it happen.

I am aiming to spread the nice experience that I had with SRF in the last 5 years to my colleagues in Iraq and encourage them to be members in SRF because I found it really beneficial in terms of keeping me updated with the research in Reproduction, helping with grants so I will use my contacts as the head of Iraqi students society in the UK to do this job.

I would like to tell the SRF committee that I will leave to Iraq in the next few months and I have a position as the head of Iraqi association for culture and Science and this association will have massive number of academics and professionals in different topics. I am sure we will have members who do their work on Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology, so I am hoping to be a representative of SRF in Iraq to open the platform for people and let them join our SRF community.

Finally, I would like to thank the SRF for their continuous support for the young researchers in their career.

Best Regards

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