

REVIEWS OF FERTILITY 2017 FROM TWO SRF EARLY CAREER MEMBERS

'So, I went to Fertility 2017 in Edinburgh with a bit of a chip on my shoulder as I had voted in our own SRF referendum to 'remain' with our summer SRF meetings.

As an Early Career member, I had gone from the really comforting and welcoming experience that was the SRF Summer conference to this new meeting which operated on a much larger scale. Also with a potentially prohibitive cost to students for a UK based meeting I was skeptical at first but the provision of the Fertility Bursary I was able to attend the at no additional cost when compared to the Summer meetings.

The interdisciplinary nature of the Fertility conference was really refreshing coming from the usual basic sciences that we had at SRF summer conference but that's not to say that the nourishing environment found at SRF summer conference wasn't missed.

I really liked how SRF ran their own social event on one of the nights in a nice wee intimate pub close to the venue as it allowed the chance to socialize with colleagues and friends that I have made from previous SRF meetings.

All in all, I would say that this new chapter of SRF's meetings being incorporated into the Fertility meeting is definitely very exciting and with the new conference format coming in Liverpool in 2018 the best may still be yet to come so we'll need to watch this space and most importantly try it out for ourselves!'

'Fertility 2017 was the first fertility meeting I have attended since joining SRF and, before attending I did have the preconceived idea that it wasn't going to be a particularly relevant conference compared to the usual stand-alone meetings.

There was a large range of topics presented, and whilst at times sessions did have a clinical focus, there were other sessions which had innovative and novel basic reproductive biology research. In particular the SRF update sessions were of a particularly high standard and I would hope there would be more of these sessions incorporated into the program in the future. This joint meeting also provided the opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss research with delegates who would not usually attend SRF meetings.

Overall, I was pleasantly surprised by how relevant the conference was and I would definitely attend another Fertility meeting in the future'.