

## **Society for Reproduction and Fertility Travel Grant Award 2014**

**Recipient: Saloni Patel, PhD Student**

**Conference: 18<sup>th</sup> European Testis Workshop (ETW) and the 7<sup>th</sup> International Network for Young Researchers in Male Fertility, Elsinore, Denmark**

Thank you to the SRF for awarding me a travel grant to attend the above conferences in Elsinore, Denmark on 12th May – 18th May 2014. The meeting had delegates from multiple European countries as well as representatives from North America and Australia. This meeting discussed important aspects of testis function and development including animal and human testis pathobiology.

Prior to the ETW, there was a meeting of the International Network of Young Researchers in Male Fertility. This meeting provided an opportunity for early career scientists like me to establish connections with scientists working in the field of testis biology. It was also an opportunity to learn about technical aspects of methodologies, which may be of use during my studies.

I presented some of the work from my PhD in a poster presentation entitled “Tamoxifen inducible Cre systems: Adverse effects of low dose Tamoxifen treatments on the male reproductive tract”. This provided me with an excellent opportunity to discuss my work with world experts in the field. I received positive feedback on my work which led to many stimulating discussions and new directions for future work on my project. The conference focused on all aspects of testis biology, and it was very interesting to hear about advances in the field and clinical aspects of sex determination and infertility, which I would not get a chance to normally hear about.

Overall the conference was an excellent experience which broadened my knowledge of the field of testis biology research, which will be extremely useful as I begin to write my thesis. I am extremely grateful to the SRF for awarding me this travel grant and thus providing me with this invaluable opportunity.