

**Biomedicine Discovery Institute**

**Monash University**

**Australia**

**Recipient: Jun Liu, first year PhD student**

**Supervisor: Professor John Carroll**

**Conference: The 4th World Congress of Reproductive Biology**

First, I would like to thank the SRF for awarding me this travel grant. It allowed me to attend the 4th World Congress of Reproductive Biology (WCRB), held in Okinawa, Japan. The grant covered the air ticket and part accommodation, which is a great financial support.

There are more than 600 attendees this year. It is the biggest conference that I have attended. I am really excited to see so many excellent presentations, especially those related to oocyte, oogenesis and embryogenesis. One presentation by Kelle H. Moley, talking about the effect of maternal metabolic disorders on oocyte quality and offspring health, is interesting. These disorders, especially obesity, are affecting mitochondrial function in the oocyte, and further reducing oocyte quality. It is related to my current project, which focus on the effect of maternal aging on mitochondrial biology.

My abstract was selected for poster presentation. It is about the toxicity of Aflatoxin B1 in female reproduction, which is part of my master's work. I was also very luck to present this work in the Young Scientists' Program. Although it was only a 3 minutes talk, it gave me a great chance to present in front of many worldwide experts, which was an unforgettable experience and practice.

I also had the opportunity to meet many professors which I know from papers, like Prof Keith T. Jones, Dr. John Parrington, Prof Hengyu Fan, etc. Discussion with experts really encouraged and stimulated my passion for future research. Thanks to SRF again for giving me this fantastic journey.