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Report on attending the "8th International Symposium on Vertebrate Sex Determination in Kona, Hawaii, USA

I would like to thank the SRF for supporting my attendance at the 8th International Symposium on Vertebrate Sex Determination in Kona, Hawaii, in April 2018. This is a relatively small symposium, however it attracts lead researchers in the field and delivers an outstanding programme on a wide range of species, which adds variety and widens horizons.

During the meeting, I presented results from my post-doctoral work in the form of a poster. The poster was well-attended and I had interesting discussions with many delegates, who wanted to find out more about my methodology and provided positive feedback about my work. There were many presentations on mutations of sex determining genes in mammals, which I found interesting. In addition, there were a couple of talks on novel techniques in the field, such as single cell sequencing, which attracted many questions and sparked discussion. Despite the fact that these are still early days for such technologies, they can undoubtedly generate high-resolution results for the field.

In addition to attending some great presentations, I had the opportunity to introduce myself to leading figures in the field. I am a newcomer to sex determination research and it was great to talk with people who have driven this field for decades. Finally, the meeting presented an opportunity to catch up with project collaborators and discuss progress and future directions.

I would once again like to thank the SRF for supporting my attendance and I highly recommend the meeting to anyone with an interest in sex determination research.

Respectfully,
Jason Ioannidis