Emily Mort

Post graduate student – University of Cambridge

Conference attended - Fetal and Neonatal Physiological Society – Maastricht, 24 – 27 June 2018

I would like to thank the SRF for the travel grant they kindly gave me towards the costs of attending my first international scientific conference, the FNPS conference held in Maastricht, The Netherlands. My abstract was selected for a 10 minute oral presentation based on work from my first year of my PhD study; investigating the effects of maternal obesity on the behaviour and neurodevelopment of the offspring. The session my talk was in was well attended and giving the talk gave me a chance to gain feedback and ideas for future research directions when answering questions. Throughout the conference I heard presentations from researchers of whom I previously did not know, who are working in similar areas as me, as well as learning about other areas of fetal programming, from hypoxia to cerebral oxygenation in preterm infants. There were also multiple talks based on the neurodevelopmental outcomes following maternal challenges during pregnancy which was very interesting to me as a neuroscientist. The multiple social events such as dinner at GAIA zoo and the secret sport event, as well as planned time for conversation with other attendees was very beneficial to meeting other researchers in the field as well as discussing my own and others work.

To conclude, the conference was a great experience and I am looking forward to attending more international conferences in the future, the money provided be the SRF was crucial to my ability to attend and I would once again like to thank the SRF society.