

Society for Reproduction and Fertility Travel Grant Award 2022**Recipient:** Cindy Xin Wen Zhang**Position:** PhD Student**Conference attended:** DOHaD 2022, the 12th World Congress on Developmental Origins of Health and Disease in Vancouver, Canada (August 27-31).

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Society for Reproduction and Fertility for awarding me a travel grant to present at the 2022 World Congress on Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, DOHaD. An international community of scientists gather every other year at this meeting to share research about factors which may impact offspring development during pregnancy and predispose them to disease in later life.

My research investigates how inflammation from maternal diet-induced obesity may impair nutrient partitioning in the placenta to affect fetal growth. This meeting was an excellent opportunity to receive feedback from renowned scientists whose work built the foundation of my research questions. Beyond networking with established professors, there were many chances to meet and connect with likeminded peers as the conference had trainee workshops built into its program. I am in the process of completing my PhD and the discussions I had during my poster session and post-seminars were invaluable for inspiring new ideas to shape the next steps of my project. Further, there was a massive number of attendees which enabled me to meet investigators from all stages of their scientific career. This was extremely beneficial because it exposed me to various routes I can pursue to further my training such as international exchanges or courses that have helped the careers of other early investigators.

The support of SRF's travel grant enabled me to present at my first international meeting for which I received a graduate student poster award. Overall, the conference was an amazing experience, and I am incredibly grateful to have received this opportunity.

Kind regards,



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