I would like to thank the Society for Reproduction and Fertility (SRF) for the financial support to attend the International Symposium on Vertebrate Sex Determination (VSD) in April 2023. The VSD is the most inclusive and highly regarded conference in my field of study, taking place in a unique and relaxed environment in Kailua Kona, Hawaii, USA. I greatly benefited from attending and presenting my research at the symposium in form of an oral presentation. Not only was it invaluable for me to receive feedback on my PhD project, but also it resulted in the establishment of new collaborations for the lab. Since attendees of this conference are the leading experts in my research area, this event presented a great opportunity for me to meet them in person, exchange ideas and get valuable input on my PhD project. My participation at the symposium updated my knowledge and gave me meaningful insights on experiments to finalise my PhD thesis. As a last year PhD student my attendance at the conference was also a great opportunity to meet potential supervisors for my next career step. Thank you once again to the SRF for making this possible, it is greatly appreciated.