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 AWARDEE REPORT FORM

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| NAME | Kim Chandler |
| TWITTER HANDLE\* *optional* |  |
| UNIVERSITY | University of York |
| NAME OF AWARD | Symington Bequest Fund Awards 2022/23 |
| PURPOSE OF AWARD *conference/event attended/organised (full name) with city and dates.* |
| Conference Attendance Society for Experimental Biology (SEB) Centenary Conference, Edinburgh, 4th to 7th July 2023. |
| REPORT: What were your anticipated benefits? |
| This conference was a much larger conference than I have attended before, with a wide variety of research areas represented. I anticipated meeting and talking to scientists using similar methods to what I have been working on but in new and different ways. The benefit therefore was to gain a better understanding of what kind of research is happening in my field and avenues I may be able to take in future research. |
| COMMENTS: Describe your experience at the conference / lab visit / course / seminar/ event. |
| At this conference I presented the second research chapter of my PhD thesis, entitled “Variation in food material properties between British red squirrel populations”. This research involved a novel way of assessing the mechanical challenges posed to red squirrels in accessing food items, and linking this with morphological variation seen in the mandibles of British red squirrel populations. I chose to present this research as the SEB conference attracts attendees from a wider variety of backgrounds, and I was keen to hear feedback from scientists with materials science and biomechanical knowledge.This conference was excellent in terms of meeting people outside of my immediate colleagues, who are also working on exciting research related to my field. There were multiple sessions of talks that were of interest to me, Biomechanics and Experimental Palaeobiology. It was my first experience in running between concurrent sessions to attend all the talks I was interested in! It was a well organised conference with lots of opportunities to socialise. I was very glad I gave a talk as it meant people knew who I was and approached me to talk about the research I presented and share ideas. Through that I forged connections with labs in other universities in the UK and abroad. This was particularly important to me as I am close to completion of my PhD and am looking for further research opportunities post-PhD.  |
| REPORT: In relation to skills, what were the most important things you gained? *(does not apply to equipment grant.* For public engagement/outreach awards what did your audience gain and how did you evaluate success? |
| I learned a lot about new techniques that people in my field were using, particularly the use of X-ray Reconstruction of Moving Morphology (XROMM), of which I was unfamiliar. I also got some excellent feedback from researchers on my methods which was extremely helpful. |
| REPORT: How do you think you will put this learning experience into practice in the future? For public engagement/outreach awards how with the materials/knowledge generated by this activity be used in the future? |
| This conference was helpful in informing future research I plan to do, and what avenues I can take with that.  |
| Data Protection/GDPR: I consent to the data included in this submission being collected, processed and stored by the Anatomical Society. Answer YES or NO in the Box below |
| YES |
| Graphical Images: If you include graphical images you must obtain consent from people appearing in any photos and confirm that you have consent. A consent statement from you must accompany each report if relevant. A short narrative should accompany the image. Answer N/A not applicable, YES or NO in the box below |
| N/A |
| Copyright: If you submit images you must either own the copyright to the image or have gained the explicit permission of the copyright holder for the image to be submitted as part of the report for upload to the Society’s website, Newsletter, social media and so forth. A copyright statement must accompany each report if relevant. Answer N/A not applicable, YES or NO in the box below |
| N/A |
| SIGNATURE | Kim Chandler | DATE | 11/7/23 |

*If submitted electronically, a type-written name is acceptable in place of a hand-written signature*

*File: AS-Award-Report-Form-220922 – International Conference*