CAPOD Funding Report

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event /Course Title</th>
<th>British Medical Laser Association Conference</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date of event</td>
<td>18th – 20th May, 2016</td>
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1. Brief description of Event (50-100 words): The BMLA conference invites people involved in the use of lasers or other light sources in medicine and biology from clinicians working in hospitals, practitioners in clinics, to scientists undertaking biophotonics research. The conference was based in Darlington and lasted two days, during which I presented the findings from my Masters project on Laser Doppler Flowmetry (LDF) simulations.

2. What were the benefits of attending and what did you gain from the experience in terms of transferable skills and knowledge.

Attending the conference allowed me to learn about the broader context of my work. I discovered techniques that might complement future LDF simulations and was able to share my knowledge on LDF with individuals of both academic and commercial backgrounds. After discussing my work so extensively during this time, I was able to present with greater confidence and gave a talk that was very well received.

3. What actions will you be taking as a result of attending or by making new networking contacts.

My presenting experience has made an important addition to my C.V that is now being circulated to employers. I have also broadened the scope of my job applications: I was initially unsure about applying to positions far beyond the software field with which I am familiar. After meeting and discussing my work informally with employers, it became clear that it’s quite common to ‘learn as you go’, particularly in entry level positions.

4. Can you share any additional resources produced in connection with the event (e.g. feedback from participants, training resources, website links, and additional materials).

The abstracts from all presentations, including my own, will be published in the journal: Lasers in Medical Science (http://www.springer.com/medicine/journal/10103)

5. Tips/experience learned from the event
Conferences are very tightly timed and your actual presentation length may vary. It helps to have a visible timer so that you can adjust your pace accordingly. Attending talks on similar subjects to your own can also help with anticipating questions.

6. Any additional comments or information regarding the event

The conference was both very enlightening and a lot of fun. I would really recommend attending to others.