CAPOD Funding Report

Please complete this report and submit by email to your authorising signature from your School/Unit and capod@st-andrews.ac.uk

Personal details will not form part of the uploaded report to CAPOD webpage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event /Course Title</th>
<th>Basic Science Summer School for PhD student and early-stage researcher, organised by the European Society of Cardiology, Council on Basic Cardiovascular Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of event</td>
<td>18-22/06/17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Brief description of Event (50-100 words):
This was a 5 days summer school for PhD and MD/PhD students organised to discuss the state of research in cardiology, with talks on recent advances, new challenges and broader issues for future research as well as transferable skill workshops. We met people from the industry and attended talks about outreach (industry-academia collaborations and translation of scientific discoveries to patient benefit) and workshops on statistics, building your career and writing and publishing scientific papers. We also had an opportunity to gain experience in networking and communicating research through discussions and a poster presentation.

2. What were the benefits of attending and what did you gain from the experience in terms of transferable skills and knowledge.
The transferable skill development workshops that took place during this event allowed me to learn and practice a wide range of skills. The subjects covered were useful for both my future work and career as they were very basic and global, but the examples and case studied were from my field. The presenters were also experienced members of my field and an editor-in-chief working at a journal from my field, which allowed me to benefit from their personal experiences and to see more easily how to apply the skills to my own case.

3. What actions will you be taking as a result of attending or by making new networking contacts.
What I learn during this event will allow me to address the publication process with more confidence. I am also more aware of the specific challenges of reproducibility and repeatability in my field and on how to better design my experiments and analyse them. I received valuable advices about future career options and challenges in my field and on how to go about facing them. In addition, I will be keeping in contact with the people I met there and I we are already planning to meet at future conferences.

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).
/

5. Tips/experience learned from the event
I learn that, when designing experiments, it is best to use a multi-layered approach with multiple species, platforms (silico, vivo, vitro), technologies, lines of evidence and healthy and diseased states. The difference between technical replicates and biological repeats was also highlighted as well as the
fact that, contrary to clinical trials, laboratory experiments are not randomised, something that contribute to the lack of reproducibility.

Regarding career building, I learned that it is best to do a postdoc in a different subarea of research than the PhD in order to learn new techniques and ways of thinking.

The importance of industrial applications and patient benefits was greatly highlighted as academicians may not usually think of those.

6. **Any additional comments or information regarding the event**
This event runs every two years and I would greatly advise any PhD student working in the field of cardiology to attend. For students working in other areas of research, I would advise them to look up if there is any similar summer school in their field, as those are great opportunities to learn more background knowledge from their area of research while learning transferable skills and networking with other students in the same stage of their career.

I am grateful to CAPOD for giving me the opportunity to attend this event.