

Graduate School, College of Medicine and Health

DAVID BURNS - Department of Physiology

Conference Attended: Advances in Skeletal Muscle Biology in Health and Disease Conference, Myology Institute, University of Florida

Sincere thanks to the Graduate School Committee for awarding me a travel bursary to attend an international scientific meeting closely related to my research. The meeting was a successful collaboration of 315 scientists with a combined interest in muscle biology and disease.

My research is focused on neuromuscular disease; hence this meeting provided a platform for me to network with leading researchers and trainees from North America. I presented a poster at the meeting during an interactive and stimulating poster session.

I also had the opportunity to visit two research centers at the University of Florida; The Centre for Respiratory Research and Rehabilitation and The Powell Gene Therapy Centre. I was lucky enough to spend a few days at a laboratory in the McKnight Brain Institute (University of Florida) where I saw a variety of techniques, including viral vector gene transfer and spinal nerve recordings.

As part of the visit, I attended a research seminar hosted at The Centre for Respiratory Research and Rehabilitation, networked with researchers and PhD trainees at the center and discussed my research. During the trip I planned a collaborative project with researchers at the Institute and will hopefully return in late 2016 to complete this project as part of my PhD research.