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Conferences Attended:

The Early Career Researcher Meeting and the 10th Roundtable of the Special Interest Research Group Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disability of the International Association of the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

I am very grateful for the support of the College of Medicine and Health for providing me with the opportunity to attend the Early Career Researcher Meeting and the 10th Roundtable of the Special Interest Research Group Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disability of the International Association of the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Leuven, Belgium.

Attending both the ECR Meeting and the Roundtable of the SIRG PIMD of IASSIDD offered me the opportunity to develop my profile as a PhD student. I presented my work at an international level to established leaders in the field of supporting persons with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities. I gave a 15-minute presentation at the ECR meeting on a recent integrative review on the factors influencing communication partners' use of augmentative and alternative communication with persons with severe/profound intellectual disability. I received feedback on my work and had the opportunity to answer questions. I am in the final year of my PhD and believe that this

experience will help me to prepare for my Viva.

I attended keynote sessions by recognised experts and participated in discussions with the attendees. These sessions were invaluable to my professional development as a researcher and PhD student. They offered me the opportunity to network and develop links with other researchers in this area.

Thank you to the College of Medicine and Health.