

CHRISTINA FLEMING – Dept. of Academic Surgery

Conference Attended: Society of Academic and Research Surgery (SARS) **Location:** University of Nottingham, UK - January 10th – 11th.

I attended the SARS conference in January which offered an excellent opportunity to present two oral presentations pertaining to my current MD thesis work. Both presentations were well received and offered an excellent opportunity to discuss my work with International experts and gain invaluable insights and feedback to optimise the direction of my future work.

The SARS meeting is one of very few truly multidisciplinary meetings that gives members the opportunity to see advances across different specialities as they are emerging which have cross-speciality relevance and I found this to be an excellent learning opportunity. The theme of this year's conference focused greatly on "The Surgeon Researcher" which was the topic of the John Farndon Lecture, given by Rupert Pearse. The Association of Surgeons in Training (ASiT) also convened a fantastic workshop for trainees on how to develop as a well-rounded researcher with excellent strategies and advice provided by world-renowned established Academic Surgeons. I learned many important tips for developing my research profile further.

I would like to thank the CoMH for the very enjoyable and valuable opportunity.