

ASCEPT Travel Award Report

The 15th World Congress of Pharmacology (IUPHAR 2006)

Beijing International Convention Centre, China (July 2-7, 2006)

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The ASCEPT-funded IUPHAR travel grant provided me with an invaluable opportunity to engage in professional debate with researchers of international standing and in doing so, promote my research career. The most current research being undertaken in my area of interest and indeed many others was presented by investigators at IUPHAR which is the premier international conference of pharmacology held only every four years.

The conference opening ceremony was a spectacular event enjoyed by all. Traditional Chinese music, opera, kung fu and acrobatics were incorporated to give us a taste of their rich culture and to welcome us to the conference and their country.

During the conference proceedings, I was able to communicate my work, ideas in my area of interest, and gain valuable feedback.

This will contribute significantly to the research being reported in my thesis. The interactive author seminar provided particularly useful information for the writing of papers. The overview of the therapeutic potential of purinergic signalling delivered by Professor Geoffrey Burnstock was of significant relevance to my area of research. The extensive scientific program served to broaden my general knowledge of pharmacology and introduce me to areas of research I may wish to pursue in the future. However, it was disappointing to have so many absent speakers from scheduled oral sessions.

IUPHAR receives international recognition from various reputable societies and organisations and aids in setting the benchmark for the development of pharmacology and its applications throughout the world. Many thanks to ASCEPT for the travel support provided which enabled me to present my work at this prestigious conference.

