

JAMES RENNIE BEQUEST

REPORT ON EXPEDITION/PROJECT/CONFERENCE

Expedition/Project/

Conference Title: American Society for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) Annual Meeting 2014
Triple Helix Conference, The University of Chicago

Travel Dates: 12th February-18th February 2014

Location: Chicago, U.S.A

Group member(s): Melina-Theoni Gyparaki, Kyriaki Neophytou, Jonida Tafilaku

Aims: Present findings of undergraduate research project funded by the Edinburgh University Young Scientific Researchers Association (EUYSRA)
Represent the University of Edinburgh in the Triple Helix conference

OUTCOME (not less than 300 words):-

The AAAS conference was a five day program of seminars, lectures, networking opportunities and poster sessions. The conference was open to both undergraduate and post-graduate students as well as post-docs. There was a wide range of talks and seminars that we had the chance to go to. Moreover, a smaller conference was taking place at the same time. This was organised by the Triple Helix, which is a student run, non- profit organisation aimed at integrating science in society. It consists of three divisions: i) Science in Society Review, the international journal of science, society and law, ii) TTH Online blog and iii) Science Policy Division. There are twenty active chapters worldwide, including one at the University of Edinburgh. As the founding members of the Edinburgh chapter (President, Secretary, Treasurer), we are heavily involved in the running of the organisation so attending the annual conference and meeting members from other chapters was a great experience for us.

Our participation at the Chicago conference was of benefit, not only on a personal level but also to the Edinburgh University science student body as a whole. We are grateful for this rare opportunity we had to present real research in a real conference environment. Additionally, by representing the Edinburgh chapter of the 'Triple Helix' association our aim was to promote the whole of the Undergraduate student body at Edinburgh and raise the profile of Edinburgh within this global association.

We are grateful for the funding provided by the James Rennie Bequest as it gave us the opportunity to attend the 2014 AAAS Annual Meeting in Chicago and the 2014 Triple Helix Conference at the University of Chicago. As a result, we participated in the general poster session of the AAAS meeting and attended the Triple Helix conference, representing the University of Edinburgh in both events.