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I am very grateful to the BAD and NIHR (Profs. Chris Griffiths and Hywel Williams) for their generous support to attend the Society for Investigative Dermatology's 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 2016 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

I was delighted to present my Wellcome Trust-funded PhD work "BET proteins as therapeutic targets for inflammatory skin disease: differential recruitment of BET proteins to keratinocyte IL-6 and IL-8 promoters and suppression of cytokine production by a synthetic histone mimic (I-BET151)", undertaken at Newcastle University and GlaxoSmithKline R&D Facilities, Stevenage.

In addition to presenting my work, I had the opportunity to attend talks from Leaders in the field of research both within and outside of the field of Dermatology. A particular highlight was Dr. Tom Misteli's talk on the 3-dimensional architecture of the genome and how this might influence gene expression. Dr Misteli's talk was inspiring but clearly we have much to learn about this subject! I also very much enjoyed Dr. Cheng-Ming Chuong's talk on stem cells and how these develop into different ectodermal organs. Among many excellent talks, further highlights came from Drs. Angela Christiano (alopecia), Maryam Asgari (bioinformatics) and Kenji Kabashima (atopic dermatitis)

As with many conferences, the Annual Meeting is very social. In addition to meeting new friends, it was good to catch up with colleagues I have previously met (e.g. at the BSID Annual Meeting and the ESDR Academy for Future Leaders) as well as those I have previously worked with.

Through attendance of this conference I received invaluable feedback about my work with some interesting hypotheses to potentially pursue in the future. I was also able to learn first-hand about the latest developments in cutaneous biology and how some of these Leaders pursued careers in both Clinical and Academic Dermatology.

Once again I would like to thank the NIHR/BAD and my PhD supervisors (Prof. Nick Reynolds, Drs. Mary Morse and Michael Donaldson) for this worthwhile and inspiring educational opportunity. I've now been awarded an NIHR Academic Clinical Lectureship to continue my research interests, in parallel with my clinical training, which I very much look forward to.