

ITC CONFERENCE GRANT SCIENTIFIC REPORT

This report is submitted for approval by the grantee to the MC Chair.

Action number: CA15203

Conference title: MiP 2017/MitoEAGLE Conference

Conference start and end date: 15/11/2017 to 18/11/2017

Conference attendance start and end date: 15/11/2017 to 18/11/2017

Grantee name: Luís Daniel Machado Crisóstomo

ACTIVITIES DURING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS CONFERENCE:

(max.500 words)

The MiP 2017/MitoEAGLE Conference at the Charles University, Medicine Faculty in Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, has permitted me a very active participation. Besides my oral presentation, the local organizers have selected me to be the chair of the session of Friday afternoon, 17th November, of the MitoEAGLE Conference, dedicated to the Working Group 4: MitoEAGLE data repository for blood cells and cultured cells. I was positively surprised by this nomination by the local organizers, but I had time to prepare myself as soon as it was disclosed by the final Conference Programme.

However, I would be really surprised when I was recruited to be part of the Poster Evaluation Panel. It was for me a great honour, which I evaluate as an important opportunity to show my scientific criticism and value. It was a tough challenge, because I must admit that I do not feel confident enough to judge other's work, but in the end the experience was absolutely richful.

The biggest surprise was being nominated to announce the winners of the poster awards. I needed to call for all my improvising skills to be serious and entertaining at the same time. At least, and according to the feedback from several participants, who greeted me for my performance, the result was satisfying.

Besides all the time I tried to stole the conference's spotlights, I have also been to all sessions, taking not and following each presentation, in search for anything that could improve my work, and to give feedback that might be useful to the researchers presenting their work. I have also been at the Management Committee meeting Saturday morning, where I could be more aware of all the subjects related to the management of the COST action MitoEAGLE.

IMPACT ON YOUR RESEARCH AND FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)

(max.500 words)

The most immediate impact of this participation in my work is its visibility and the enrichment of my curriculum. In Science you can only exist if you publish, if you present your work, but specially if you are spoken of. Thus, being present, having an accepted work, is already meaningful enough. Nevertheless, we can not disregard the importance that presenting our work to an international panel of experts has. The preparation of the abstract, the presentation and the talk itself requires a significant personal endeavor which needs practice to be perfected, and opportunities to become a natural task.

Besides, an international conference always allows the interaction with researchers eager to show their own work, and sometimes they hold the key that is missing to accomplish something more in our own group; and we hold the key to their problems as well. The exchange of ideas, the interaction between Early Career

Researchers and experts, and the different views over the same issues are a fertile ground for scientific development to all. I am of no exception, and my participation in the MiP 2017/MitoEAGLE Conference at the Charles University, Medicine Faculty in Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, allowed me to meet two researchers, Tomáš Mráček and Zdeněk Drahota, who work(ed) in one of the few labs in the entire world which is interested in the glycerol-3-phosphate shuttle – a subject that I am working on.

The possibility for future cooperation does not end, nor start, here. During the conference I had the opportunity to meet several researchers across the continent who have expressed interest in my work, or who I have expressed interest in theirs. I took this opportunity, for instance, to renew my commitment to the ongoing work of WG1 (led by Erich Gaigner) and WG4 (led by Richard Porter and Nicoleta Moisoi). New partnerships will eventually come from closer talks with the group at the University of Lodz and the Physiology Lab of the University of Prague.