

Conference Report

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Conference Detail: World Congress of Biomechanics 2018, Dublin, Ireland

General experience:

I really appreciate Old Centralians' Trust for providing the travel grant to make this conference trip possible. The World Congress of Biomechanics is the largest conference for biomechanics community. It is held once in four years, top researchers from all over the world present their work during this conference. This conference is essentially the Olympics of the biomechanics research community.

It is a great opportunity for me to connect researchers from other country, and get valuable feedback from other researchers. One of the keynote speaker, Tony Arndt, gave keynote speech on the topic that is very relevant to my PhD study. I was very exciting to meet him after the keynote speech and I asked several question regarding their experience to evaluate tendon movement using ultrasound.



Figure 1. Keynote speech that is directly relevant to my PhD project.

I had those questions when I was reading journal papers. I built a model based on the method described in the paper but I found the result is highly variated and clinical use is hindered. I told him my questions and my perspective, he agrees the said that these are exactly the current problem. He is also surprised by my hands-on spirit in research.

This keynote speech and discussion after the speech helped my research a lot and clarified many questions haunted my for a long time. These clarification helped me a lot on my thesis writing and paper publication.

Conferences presentations and comments:

For this conference, I submitted two pieces of research work. One is selected as a podium talk and the other as a poster.

My research titled 'The rotational structure of the Achilles tendon in musculoskeletal modelling' was selected for a ten-minute podium talk (Figure 2). I presented my work in detail in front of about 50 researchers experienced in musculoskeletal modelling. I got two questions from the audience during the podium talk and another three questions after the session. They were interested in how the mechanical property of the Achilles tendon would affect the result that I present and how I manage to process the MRI data to put into the model.



Figure 2. My podium talk on the Achilles tendon structure.

My poster titled 'The plantaris tendon geometry and midportion Achilles tendinopathy' was displayed on the second day. I stood in front of my poster and get seven questions from the audience. They were mostly relevant sports physiotherapist and sports surgeon. They were curious how good it is to use MRI and ultrasound to detect the tendon and how can it affect the pathology.

Others:

With the funding provided by Old Centralians' Trust, I was able to stay in Dublin for four days for the conference. It was really exciting to see other brilliant research ideas. It was also a great time to reflect upon my own work and research career. This cannot be done without extensive connection and discussion with the researchers from other institution.