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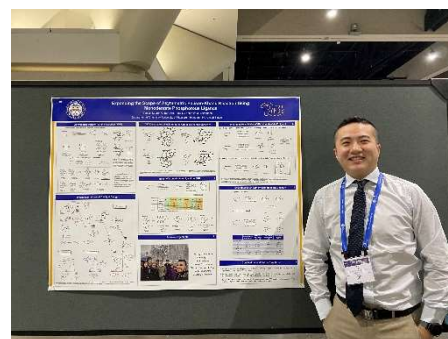
April 18th, 2022

Heather Juzwa

ACS Pittsburgh Section Student Travel Grants

321 Winners Circle

Canonsburg, PA 15317



Dear committee members of the travel grant,

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the American Chemical Society (ACS) at Pittsburgh and Ms. Juzwa for your generous support for my travel to San Diego to attend the ACS Meeting 2022. This conference experience was fantastic overall, and I was able to get many valuable benefits from it.

My trip to San Diego started one day before the conference, and I was honestly amazed by how beautiful the city is when I got there. I also met many people already on the plane, and I could tell how excited they were for this upcoming national meeting. The first day of the meeting was intense since there were so many sessions people could go to learn what they wanted to know. The "Asymmetric Reactions & Synthesis" session included many interesting talks, and I asked several questions I was interested in. There were some professional development workshops (e.g. Networking: How to Get Started, Finding Yourself: Identifying a Career that Matches your Strengths and Values) that I went to that made me learn how to connect with people efficiently as a student and how to start job searching. The most incredible and exciting experience was the first poster session held from 7:00-9:00PM where my colleague also presented. People rushed into the presentation room as soon as the door opened at 7:00pm sharp and went to the area for which they were looking, this was also the scene I will never forget because chemistry was the driving force that made people eager to see what others have done in their fields. During the poster session, I spoke to many graduate and undergraduate students for similar work, and I believe we both got some new ideas that can be later applied in our research.

For the remaining days in San Diego, I continued attending the oral sessions and the poster sessions and was able to get more helpful information from the hot topics in organic field, including C-H activation, new reactions & methodology and heterocycles & aromatics, etc. I also met several professors from my undergrad institution, and it was a perfect time talking to them about their current research and life. I was extremely thrilled to attend my own poster presentation titled "Expanding the scope of asymmetric Pauson-Khand reactions using monodentate phosphorous ligands" on Wednesday. I started the scientific conversion immediately with other presenters before the poster session began, which was another funny

experience I would like to share. During my poster session, I had a lot of conversations with people from other institutions in the states or other countries. I got many inspirations for my own work, including ligand design and reaction condition modification, by having an in-depth conversation with those people.

It was a truly rewarding experience attending the ACS national meeting since I made many connections with people there and exchanged our ideas for research. Therefore, I would like to use this letter to thank everyone who made this fantastic trip possible. My gratitude to you for all the support you provided!

Best regards,

Yifan Qi