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Attn: Selection Committee for the Paul Kanciruk Student Travel Award

Re: Appreciation for travel award

I want to express my deep appreciation for the travel award I received. The 9th International Conference and Workshop on Lobster Biology and Management was the very first scientific conference I have been lucky enough to attend. At that rate, the precedent for all future conferences has been set extremely high. As a graduate student early in my academic career, attending the conference provided extremely enlighten insights into the importance of collaboration and collegiality. Before attending the 9th ICWL conference, I felt that my research was interesting, but did not understand how it fit into the grand scheme of lobster research. Given the opportunity to attend the highly diverse programme of seminars, I began to form a great appreciation for the applications of my work to many other ongoing projects. Through this, I was able to meet a great deal of researchers and fellow graduate students and discuss exciting possibilities for future more collaborative efforts to gather the most amount of information from a given experiment.

The friendly and collegial atmosphere present throughout the entire conference helped to give me the confidence I needed to approach researchers and students who I only knew through their wealth of publications. By meeting and speaking with many different researchers I feel I have made some very important contacts that may provide new and exciting future opportunities. I have no doubt that the experience I have gained during the 9th ICWL will have a permanent impact on my career.

Thank-you very much for the support that made attending the conference feasible.

Sincerely,

Dan Hines