

Lauren Jackson
SEEF Award Recipient
8 March 2023

Award Obligations:

Successful applicants must:

Provide a final report to OSAS within 30 days of the completion of the initiative, including a summary of the outcomes and reflective feedback about the knowledge, skills, and values acquired through the experience. Applicants will be eligible for future funding only if they submit a final report

Funded Activity: Participation in the 50th Annual Pacific Seabird Group Conference
Student Poster Presentation

Funding Received: \$1,000

Summary of activity outcomes:

My experience at the Pacific Seabird Group conference was an incredible introduction into the larger world of seabird research. I learned a great deal about a variety of topics that are highly relevant in seabird and other marine research, and gained new perspectives to my specific topics of interest. I watched many talks and presentations about various seabird research, along with presentations about environmental warming, oceanic change, anthropogenic threats, and the ecology of other animals as well. Presenters spoke in detail about their respective areas of research, and presented ground-breaking data and discoveries related to their work.

During the conference, I was able to present my own honours research during the poster presentation session. Along with many other student presenters, I created a poster summarizing my research and displayed it at the conference center. This was a great experience, and I learned how to communicate my research and recent findings to a large audience for the first time. I explained my research objectives, methods, and findings, and discussed important take-aways from my project as a whole. I spoke to a variety of professionals in the field, including avian veterinarians, professors from different universities, fellow students, and researchers from private organizations. Many of these interactions resulted in interesting discussion about my work, and I gained a great deal of additional knowledge on my topic. I feel more confident in communicating my scientific findings after this experience, and am grateful for the valuable insight these various people left me with.

Finally, I learned how to network effectively in a professional setting. I had the opportunity to speak with multiple professors and prominent researchers about my future plans and interests. I gained many new contacts for future graduate school and work opportunity, and plan to reach out to these contacts in subsequent months!

Overall I learned a lot from this conference, and am so grateful to have received funding to support my trip to PSG. Thank you so much for your help in this experience, and for granting me the opportunity to grow as a student and scientist as well.