

Student Elective Report

Name	Matthew Wilcox
Medical School	University College London
Email (optional)	

Country visited	USA
City or town	Baltimore
Hospital/unit/clinic	Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Dates visited	July 2018
Supervising doctor	Prof Ahmet Hoke
Contact details of your host:	

Please give an overview of what you saw / did (200 words max)	Worked within the department of Neuroscience on a research project focused upon peripheral nerve regeneration. Attended neuropathy clinics. The bursary also enabled me to attend and present at the 2018 PNS conference held in Baltimore this year.
What were the best things about the visit? (120 words max)	Gaining insight into medical practice and research within the USA. This empowered me with a new lexicon of knowledge and skills to tackle complex research and clinical challenges. I also built new collaborations and networks during my time within the University and the conference. This will benefit my career aspirations to become a surgeon scientist and my research institution.
What problems did you encounter? (120 words max)	My time at JHU and the PNS conference advertised novel and often complex research methodologies. Understanding these concepts and applying them to clinical paradigms was often challenging and facilitated discussions with clinicians and researchers.
What accommodation was provided?	Privately sourced
Would you recommend this to someone else? (explain if necessary)	Yes. The bursary provided me with an invaluable opportunity to visit JHU and attend a highly prestigious conference.

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Are you more likely to choose a career in plastic surgery as a result of this experience?	Yes. My experiences here have strengthened my focus on pursuing a career as a surgeon scientist within the field of reconstructive surgery.
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