Thank-you Letter to AFER / Retina Research Foundation

I am writing this letter to express my gratitude for the Travel Grant awarded in 2011 ARVO annual meeting. It is not only an honor that I was awarded among the numerous applicants for the Travel Grant, but also it helped me in different ways. Besides an honor as a recipient of the Travel Grant, it will benefit my career in the future as a scientist in the field of ophthalmology and vision research. As a graduate student who has a keen interest in the "mechanism of pathogenesis and development of drugs to cure Diabetic Retinopathy," the opportunity to apply for the travel grant led me to submit the abstract of my project 'Therapeutic potential of an anti-LRP6 antibody in diabetic retinopathy' and winning the Travel Grant relieved me from the concerns regarding expenses to attend the ARVO meeting. In the 2011 ARVO meeting, a prestigious international meeting in the field of vision research, I met many researchers and scholars who are currently working on diabetic retinopathy from the basic science to clinical trials and shared knowledge and discussion. Particularly, the fact that an increasing number of scientists are turning their interest to the 'Wnt Signaling Pathway' that I am focused led me to assure that my study is leading a part of the vision research field and can contribute to a better understanding and development of drug candidates for diabetic retinopathy. It is unforgettable that I have attended ARVO 2011 where I extended my knowledge and human network in the area I am studying with generous support of the travel grant from AFER / Retina Research Foundation. Without the travel grant, I would not have had such a valuable experience at the 2011 ARVO meeting.

Sincerely,

Kyungwon Lee