

9th April 2019

Placement report for the Stevenson Fund

I am a second year PhD student at the Theoretical Physics Group. My research is in the Causal Set approach to Quantum Gravity.

The Stevenson Fund allowed me to spend ten weeks working with Professor Sumati Surya at the Raman Research Institute (RRI) in Bangalore. Having pursued all of my university education at Imperial College, this was a fantastic opportunity for me to experience working in a different academic environment.

The visit has been fruitful and stimulating. I learnt new technical skills from Professor Surya and from her PhD students. The extended visit allowed us enough time to commence on a joint research project which we look forward to pursuing further. In addition, I benefited from long and interesting discussions with Professor Rafael Sorkin, an expert in the topic of my thesis, who was also visiting RRI at the time.

An important and enjoyable part of my stay has been being a part of the community of PhD students and post-docs at RRI. It is a wonderfully collaborative environment and we had daily discussions on our current work and other topics in physics and mathematics. It has been particularly encouraging to work alongside PhD students who are working on projects closely related to my own.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Stevenson Fund for their generous support.

Yours sincerely,

Stav Zalel