Dear European Meteorological Society,

I would like to begin expressing my deepest gratitude for granting me the Young Student Travel Award (YSTA) in the context of the 9th International Conference on Air Quality – Science and Application (AQ2014). It is truly a great honour to receive this award and for this I would like to thank you for selecting me among other candidates.

The biannual International Air Quality Conference represents one major event of high scientific quality. This year’s conference was characterized by vast participation, gathering some of the world’s leading scientists and resulting to approximately 200 poster and 180 oral presentations that were split into 12 sessions.

In the context of AQ2014, I had the unique opportunity to present my most recent research work, dealing with the assessment of the impact of air pollution on human health. My oral presentation, which took place during the fourth day of the conference (March 27), was well accepted by the audience and triggered fruitful discussions. Both the scientific and the general added value of the study were discussed, enabling me to broaden my horizons in terms of the scientific background on that particular subject. In particular, I was very glad to receive proposals for possible collaborations from senior scientists.

During the five-day conference, I had the unique opportunity to attend presentations of high quality, presenting state-of-the-art research. This allowed me to deepen my scientific knowledge and shape research targets for the future.

For all the above, it is really hard to find words to express my gratefulness to the EMS for honouring me with the YSTA and, thus, allowing to participate to AQ2014.

Yours sincerely,

Theodore M. Giannaros, Ph.D.