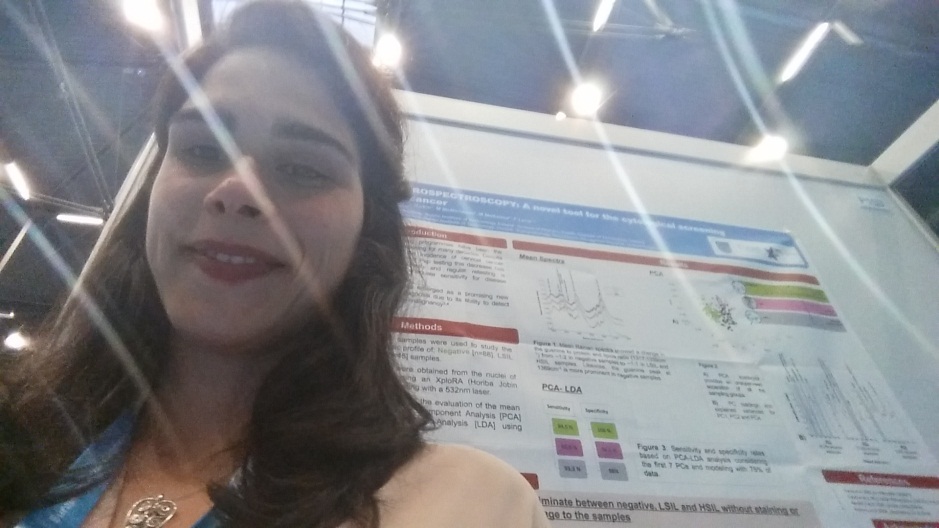
**2015 MSI travel conference bursary report on attendance at The European Cancer Congress 2015, Vienna 23th-29th September 2015**

**Miss Inês Ramos, Final year PhD student, RESC Dublin Institute of Technology**

The European Cancer Congress 2015 was held in Vienna on September 25th – 28th. It was my first time attending the event which is jointly organized by the European Cancer Organization (ECCO) and the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO). As I expected, it was a very big the congress, the biggest I attended so far, mainly focused on clinical and management aspects of cancer. The conference offered a wide range of sessions from open discussions to patient advocacy, and scientific symposia. I attended several sessions related to gynaecological cancers and basic science/translational research and have to highlight the poster sessions as my favourites as they allowed me to browse through different cancer subjects and research approaches (form animal models to individually target therapies) whilst having direct contact with the authors, exchanging ideas and broadening my scientific knowledge.

My main reason to attend the congress was to present the latest data arising from my PhD studies. I presented a poster entitled “Raman Microspectroscopy: a novel tool for the cytological screening of cervical cancer” on the New Technologies’ poster session and I found it extremely rewarding to network with clinicians and fellow researchers and even industry, discuss and explain my work and its goals. I had a very positive feedback from everyone that stopped to look and enquire about my work and some helpful discussions mainly on the value of my research to the current cervical screening scene given the rise of other technology developments such as HPV testing.

I am extremely grateful to the MSI for the conference travel award which allowed me to participate in such great event, widening my research horizons in such a beautiful city as Vienna.