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Friday March 13th, 2026

Dear Iris Cantor Women's Health Center awards committee,

Thank you for supporting my attendance at the Steroids and the Nervous System 2026 conference through the Jan. R Cloyde Legacy Award. I submitted a manuscript right before leaving for the conference, and it was a wonderful reward to be able to share the news and discuss our major findings with the scientific community. I presented data showing that pregnancy induces a dampening of core temperature circadian rhythmicity, and that this is mediated by estrogen signaling in the brain. I had fruitful conversations during the poster presentation and received enthusiastic feedback about our project. My favorite part of the conference was the seminar focused on hormonal regulation of circadian rhythms, especially in the context of female health. It was especially useful and relevant as I am currently deciding what pressing questions in women's health I want to focus on next. Finally, as expected, the conference was helpful in helping me network with scientists abroad and in the USA, which is especially important as I look for faculty jobs in the near future. Attached, I am sharing an image of my mentor, Dr. Stephanie Correa, and me in front of my poster. I am deeply appreciative for your continued support in my training, especially in the current funding environment.

Best,

Laura R Cortes
Postdoctoral Fellow | Correa Laboratory

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura R Cortes".

