

Gordon Research Conference (GRC) and Seminar (GRS) on Bones and Teeth

Galveston, Texas, USA

02/13/2016 – 02/16/2016

It was my great pleasure to attend to the GRS/GRC on Bones and Teeth in February 2016, being my first international conference in the U.S. Participating in the seminar that serves as a unique forum for graduate students and post-docs to meet and present data was a valuable experience. The relaxed and unreserved atmosphere invited young scientists to ask questions and discuss projects, which made it much easier to do so during the conference.

I was very surprised by the fact that also the conference did not felt like a hierarchical place enabling me to feel equal and easily interact with both senior and junior scientists. Not only the organizers but also world famous senior scientist approached young scientist openly and thereby set a great platform for connecting and networking. This very encouraging environment allowed me to rapidly feel comfortable.

Even though the scientific program was tough from 9.00 am to 9.30 pm, the free time after lunch provided a great opportunity to spend the time with other participants outside the scientific focus and get to know Galveston and its surroundings. I thoroughly enjoyed the scientific sessions and the poster sessions as well as the scientific and non-scientific discussion during the lunch and dinner time. Most importantly, the evening events provided a great platform to interact with both senior and junior investigators and I met a lot of fascinating people I plan to stay in touch with.

In contrast to several international meetings in Europe, at the GRC/GRS I have learned that the community at a scientific meeting can be open, equal and supportive. This was an extremely stimulating and impressive experience. I was very happy to be part of such an inspiring scientific event and am exceedingly grateful to the ISMB for their support.

Julia Etich, Postdoc, University of Cologne (Germany)