

Short report of ASMB 2016 biennial meeting, St. Petersburg, FL, USA.

I had the chance to assist to the ASMB 2016 biennial meeting held in St. Petersburg, Florida, USA. This meeting is world-known to be one of the most important for the matrix biology field and I had the honour to assist thank to the financial support of the ISMB. I was very thrilled to assist to the meeting because I had the chance to organise a trainee led session under the name of special session of interest, particularly focusing in the discovery of new ECM-modifying proteases and their substrates. The meeting was a 4-day reunion with outstanding researchers all over the world, with both affiliations to the ASMB and ISMB. The meeting topic this year was: a regulatory force in age and disease. This meeting covered a broad range of fields and people not only from the matrix field came to show their interesting findings that concern us all. From immunology to engineering, the matrix biology has shown to be a strong constituent in biology and the future of this science field looks magnificent. I had the chance to discuss my project in the session of tumour microenvironment, led by Alexandra Naba, in which very interesting speakers as Rolf Brekken showed everyone their brilliant work. Discussing with them has shed light over interesting new insights to my project. Furthermore, the opportunity to lead a session of remarkable trainees, from Ph.D candidates to young post-doctoral, has shown me one more time how wonderful science can be. This meeting allowed me to meet great scientist from all around the world, some of them already known by their excellent work and some other that remained unknown for me, from now will form part of my scientific landscape. This not only is a great personal experience but also a chance to target for future position for people like me, close to finish the Ph.D period. So far I would like to highlight the importance of assisting to this kind of meetings for young scientists. It broadens your scientific horizon, it allows you to learn from great scientist and possibly apply their ideas to your project, it enrich you with brilliant state-of-the-art methodology and also get to know great scientists and on top of that, great persons. Once again, thank you for the ISMB for giving me the opportunity to assist to this meeting, without your financial support this wouldn't be possible. As well, acknowledge the ASMB for giving me the chance to organise the SIS4 session and also Alexandra Naba for giving me the opportunity to participate in the TME session as a speaker. I hope I can attend to many more meetings of this category.

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