

American Society of Matrix Biology Biennial Meeting, Las Vegas, October 14th-17th

The ASMB Biennial meeting “ECM Microenvironments in Disease, Aging and Regeneration” took place in October 2018 in Las Vegas, NV. As it was my first participation at the ASMB meeting and generally a conference in the USA. I want to briefly summarize and share my experience.

First I would like to thank one more time the ISMB for the travel grant allowing me to attend such an important and interesting meeting assembling scientists from all over the world and from different fields related to matrix biology.

I was grateful for being selected for a talk on Tuesday afternoon, at the “Skin BM, Wound Healing and Disease” concurrent session chaired by Peter Marinkovich from Stanford University School of Medicine. For me it was an honour to be introduced to such an important person in the research field I am working on and present my work just after him was an amazing experience I will always remember. I really liked the friendly and open-minded atmosphere during the presentation sessions and it was a pleasure to have interesting discussions during the two organized poster sessions with senior and young scientists not coming from my own research field. I particularly appreciated how the conference day program was structured, with state-of-the-art research and excellent talks in the morning and 3 different concurrent sessions concomitantly taking place all along the afternoon, giving to everyone a very broad choice about which talk were interested in and wanted to listen to. I would like to thank the organizers who did an excellent job.

Although the scientific presentations are the most important part of the conference, I need to say a few words about what surrounded it. The location at Red Rock Canyon Casino Spa Resort was very comfortable. Especially the fact of being housed in the same location where the conference was held was convenient in order to spend more time exchanging discussions with new people during all meals and once the presentations ended. In summary I believe that it was an amazing experience I recommend to every student in the matrix biology research field.

Rocco Bernasconi, University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany