

Gordon Research Seminar and Conference on Cartilage Biology and Pathology April 2017 in Lucca (Barga), Italy

It was a great pleasure to participate in the Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) and Conference (GRC) on Cartilage Biology and Pathology. I just finished my PhD and this conference provided me the chance to present my research on an international conference for the first time.

The GRS is a two-day seminar that is organized and held by PhD students and Postdocs and it provided an excellent platform to get in touch easily with other junior scientists and discuss our projects in an open and unintimidating atmosphere.

The GRC is one of the most distinguished conferences in the field of cartilage research and it was very exciting to meet many leading experts in personal and to see their latest results on cartilage research. I was very surprised that they presented a lot of unpublished data and did not focus on already published results. I really liked that I could communicate easily with established senior researchers and present and discuss my project with them even outside of the poster sessions. I got an immense feedback on my project and I am sure that some suggestions will have a high impact for the progress of my research. During the discussions it turned out that some important experiments are missing and we used the chance to built up a cooperation with another group.

Besides the extensive scientific program, the free time between lunch and the poster sessions provided an excellent platform to interact with junior and senior scientists and to extend my research network. I met a lot of nice and fascinating people and I still have contact to some of them.

As I just graduated and I am interested in doing my Postdoc abroad the conference provided an excellent opportunity to meet some group leaders from other countries in personal and discuss my possibilities with them.

It was a great experience for me to join the GRS and GRC that will be very beneficial for my current research and my future career. Therefore I am extremely grateful to the ISMB for their support.

Tatjana Holzer, Postdoc, University of Cologne (Germany)