

**ISMB Travel Award Report (Matrix Biology Europe Manchester, UK)
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In July 2018, I had the great pleasure to receive a travel grant from the ISMB to attend the Matrix Biology Europe meeting held in Manchester, UK. The meeting was organized by the British Society for Matrix Biology together with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research and was hosted at The University of Manchester. With the help of this grant, I was able to travel to Manchester and to give a talk on my recent work which is about ECM scaffolding and regulation of angiogenesis. More precisely, my PhD project is focused on vascular ECM remodeling by the lysyl oxidase like-2 (LOXL2) during angiogenesis. This protein regulates the cross-linking of collagens and elastin in the extracellular matrix of blood vessels and I am now focused on the regulation of mechanotransduction in endothelial cells, as a direct consequence of ECM organization by LOXL2.

As this meeting is held every two years, I really felt lucky to participate this year, as this may be the only possibility for me to attend. This was also the opportunity to celebrate 50 years of FECTS meetings. The meeting was great, as the program was covering a large range of very exciting topics from fundamental to applied research. I appreciated that the schedule was leaving time to discuss and socialize during poster sessions. The general atmosphere of the meeting was really friendly and welcoming, and it was nice to meet other graduate students and post-docs working on different aspects of matrix biology.

I learned a lot on different topics during the meeting, as the atmosphere was really stimulating. I especially liked the 'matrix mechanobiology' session that is directly linked to my project. The talk by Alexandra Naba on the matrisome project was absolutely stunning and gave me lots of ideas for my future research. I was also really pleased to attend the talk from Viola Vogel on mechanobiology of ECM fibers *in vitro* and *in vivo*. She shared very exciting and amazing data on fibers mechanics and this topic is particularly interesting for me. The conference was also a way to open my mind about new questions linked to my points of interests, especially ECM proteomics and cell/matrix interactions.

I would like to strongly thank the ISMB committee for their support, together with the conference organizers and I am looking forward to attend the next MBE in Florence!

Best,

Marion