

7<sup>th</sup> of June 2017

### **Report of 6<sup>th</sup> FEBS Advance Lecture course**

I had the great pleasure to attend and participate in the 6<sup>th</sup> FEBS Advanced Lecture Course on Matrix Pathology, Signaling and Molecular Targets (6<sup>th</sup> FEBS-MPST 2017) held from 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May in Spetses, Greece.

The conference theme was especially relevant to my professional development. Even though I am a postdoctoral researcher, I am a young scientist in the field. I have started my research in Hyaluronan two years ago, and therefore I highly appreciate the opportunity organizers gave to participate in the event, gather by professionals from all over the World and to the International Society of Matrix Biology for its much needed economic support in these difficult times.

I was especially interested in the presentation of Dr Paraskevi Heldin from Uppsala University, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, and Dr Alberto Passi from University of Insubria, Department of Surgical and Morphological Sciences. Their works on posttranslational modifications on HAS2 have inspired my research, so I was looking forward to hear about their latest findings. Moreover, I specially enjoyed the presentation of Dr Rashmin Savani from University of Texas, USA, who showed really interesting findings about RHAMM, receptor of Hyaluronan, as potential therapeutic target to limit the consequences of acute lung injury.

Besides the lectures, the course had a very tight schedule, full of selected talk, flash presentation, poster sessions, discussion groups, and speakers' corner, being able to cover in different aspects the broad field of the matrix biology. I was really enthusiastic about the speakers' corner, and I was not disappointed. The atmosphere was quite relaxed and I could openly talk about my work with noticeable scientists from the field. I got valuable piece of advice to move forward on my research, and furthermore I discussed about potential collaborations.

In conclusion, the 6<sup>th</sup> FEBS Advance Lecture course was a very inspiring scientific event. It allowed me to advance in my own research with new ideas and suggestions provided during the meeting. Furthermore gave me the exceptional opportunity of networking with other professionals from Matrix Biology field and help me with possible employment options in the future. I am really grateful to ISMB for the travel grant award.

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