

NEWS AND VIEWS



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Announcements

For more information and online registration for any of the conferences listed below, please visit www.asms.org/conferences.

66th Annual ASMS Conference on Mass Spectrometry and Allied Topics

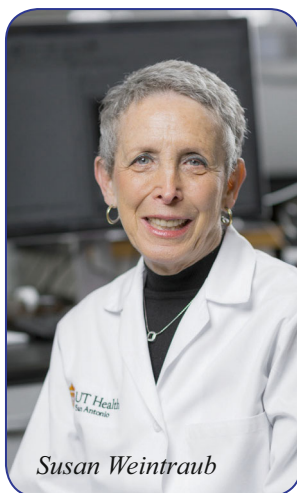
June 3 - 7, 2018
San Diego, CA

<http://www.asms.org/conferences/annual-conference/annual-conference-homepage>



Awards

Susan T. Weintraub, Professor of Biochemistry and Structural Biology and Director of the Mass Spectrometry Core Laboratory at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSC), was among 396 members elected as a **2017 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)**, the world's largest general scientific society. Election as an AAAS Fellow honors members whose contributions to science and technology, scientific leadership and extraordinary achievements across disciplines have distinguished them among their peers and colleagues. Prof. Weintraub was recognized for her pioneering work in the use of mass spectrometry to solve biomedical problems, and for service to the scientific community. The new AAAS Fellows were recognized on February 17, 2018 during the Fellows Forum at the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.



Susan Weintraub

ASMS Postdoctoral Career Development Awards: 'Where are they now'?

Since 2014, the ASMS has annually presented up to five Postdoctoral Career Development Awards. The purpose of these awards is to promote the professional career development of

postdoctoral fellows in the field of mass spectrometry. In this month's issue of the journal, we are pleased to introduce a "Where are they now" Q&A feature, highlighting the variety of activities that these awards have enabled for the recipients, and their current (and future) career trajectories. Look for additional Q&A's from other award recipients in the coming months.

Huilin Li (2014 awardee)

What professional career development activities did you pursue using the funds received from your award?

The ASMS postdoctoral award was a great supporting resource to develop my professional skills towards becoming an independent researcher. I used the funds to explore other MS platforms and methods for the characterization of protein complexes, visit domestic and international research labs, and attend conferences

(domestic, international) to present my work, and to network. Overall, I visited Waters Corporation in the UK to gain experience in ion mobility MS, and the Brodbelt lab at UT Austin to explore the performance of UVPD on protein complexes in comparison to electron ionization dissociation techniques. I also attended 5 international conferences, visited 5 research institutes, and established several collaboration projects. As a result, I gave 8 public talks (4 conference talks and 4 invited seminars), and published 4 papers as first author (two in *Analytical Chemistry* and one each in *JASMS* and *Nature Chemistry*; two as co-corresponding author) and 3 papers as second-author.

Where are you now? i.e., have you moved to another institution or position since receiving the award? If so, what is your new role?

I left the Loo lab at UCLA in early 2016 to join the Institute of Genetics and Molecular and Cellular Biology (IGBMC) in France as a postdoc. At UCLA, I had a great opportunity to go deep in developing the native top-down MS technique for protein complex studies, but I also felt my limitations on structural biology strongly. So my one-year position at IGBMC was a great complementary experience. I had the opportunity to work with structural biologists of different backgrounds, to see their struggles, and to gain more perspective on how to



Huilin Li

tackle their problems using mass spectrometry. Currently, I am a professor at the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China.

What are your current research interests?

My current research interests focus on the development and application of advanced MS techniques to address biological questions. Particular topics include: (1) the development of chemical tags for cross-linking, enhancing top-down sequencing, etc., (2) the development integrated structural MS techniques for the structural characterization of macromolecular protein complexes, and (3) Top-down proteomics.

Where do you see yourself (career wise) in 3-5 years?

I just started my new position at the Sun Yat-Sen University in December 2017. So far, I have recruited one postdoc and one Ph.D. student who will join the group this summer. Although I expect it will take a year and a half to two years to have the lab up and running, I have projects planned for different stages, with those that are less instrument-demanding to begin with. I anticipate that my group will get productive in 3 years. By year 5, I see my group becoming one of the leading groups in the structural MS and top-down MS fields.

Hao Zhang (2014 awardee)

What professional career development activities did you pursue using the funds received from your award?

The funds provided a unique opportunity to expand areas of my professional development that were not supported by other funds. I attended conferences like the Symposium on the Practical Applications of Mass Spectrometry in the Biotechnology Industry, and the International Symposium on Higher Order Structure of Protein Therapeutics. I interacted with biotechnology industry researchers and applied what I learned into my research. The funds also provide extra activities and resources for my career development in membrane protein biology, protein higher order structures as well as scientific communication skills.



Where are you now? i.e., have you moved to another institution or position since receiving the award? If so, what is your new role?

Two years after I received the award, I changed my career direction and took a position in the biotechnology industry. I am currently at Amgen Inc. in Cambridge, MA. My new role is Process Development Scientist in Pivotal Attribute Sciences.

What are your current research interests?

My current research interest is to apply new mass spectrometry based technologies, developed by academic researchers, into the product characterization of state-of-art bio therapeutics.

Where do you see yourself (career wise) in 3-5 years?

I am excited to witness the development of many technologies from academic research and their important applications in the biotechnology industry. I will continue to contribute my efforts to apply those great technologies in bio-therapeutics characterization.

Martin Payne (2015 awardee)

What professional career development activities did you pursue using the funds received from your award?

The award allowed me to travel and carry out research at the Maastricht Multimodal Molecular Imaging Institute (M4I) in the Netherlands over a 2 month period, and to establish a collaborative project with my postdoc lab at Georgia Institute of Technology.



This was a great experience for me as I gained a lot of valuable knowledge from the imaging experts at M4I, provided me with hands-on experience with their suite of instruments, and broadened my professional network.

Where are you now? i.e., have you moved to another institution or position since receiving the award? If so, what is your new role?

Thanks to the award, my visit culminated in an offer of employment within the M4I as a Senior Scientist, which I accepted and have been employed for the past 18 months. My role consists mainly of initiating new collaborative research projects, particularly with the Surgery Department at the Maastricht University Medical Center and the MERLN Institute for Technology-Inspired Regenerative Medicine, both located in very close proximity to our Institute which is fantastic for conducting new and exciting biomedical research with mass spectrometry.

What are your current research interests?

My current research interests include developing advanced mass spectrometry techniques for lipid, metabolite, and drug imaging – mainly through developments in instrumentation. Currently we are working on coupling MALDI imaging with a post-ionization laser (MALDI-2) for various applications and developing novel on-line, ion-molecule reaction imaging modalities.

Where do you see yourself (career wise) in 3-5 years?

That's a tough question for me. I've always been lured towards pursuing the most interesting research available to me at the time without looking too far into the future. I could see myself making a change and moving away from academia and into an industry position, possibly becoming involved in one of the many spin-off companies emerging from the research here at M4I or one of the large MS vendors. But if you asked my family they would hope I would be starting to make the move back to Australia and closer to home.

Inaugural Meeting of the Imaging Mass Spectrometry Society (IMSS)

The initial meeting of the Imaging Mass Spectrometry Society (IMSS) was held in Waltham, MA on October 15-18, 2017. The IMSS is a new scientific society dedicated to: 1) promoting the development and application of imaging mass spectrometry (IMS) in all applicable venues including academia, government, and industry, 2) enhancing the IMS community by disseminating best practices and acceptance criteria around IMS methodologies, 3) providing continual IMS educational opportunities, and 4) collaborating with other societies that have similar or related goals. The IMSS is led by an executive committee with Dr. Steve Castellino, GlaxoSmithKline, as the president. The goal of the inaugural meeting was to provide a venue where scientists and IMS vendors could meet to discuss state-of-the-art technology and applications. The keynote lecture was given by Dr. Richard M. Caprioli, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, who is a pioneer in the area of imaging mass spectrometry. The meeting included four scientific oral sessions: Drug Discovery and Development; New Methods and Applications; Instrumentation; and Data Analysis and Quantitation. The meeting also had two poster sessions with a total of 18 posters as well as a gala dinner at the end of the first full day. The meeting was attended by approximately 65 scientists from the US and other countries.

Related Events

ASMS is pleased to offer announcements for other non-profit organizations. Please email details including website to info@asms.org.

April 8 - 13, 2018**International Conference on Isolated Biomolecules and Biomolecular Interactions (IBBI 2018)**

Texel, The Netherlands
www.ibbi2018.org

June 24 - 28, 2018**14th Annual Conference of the Metabolomics Society**

Seattle, WA
<http://metabolomics2018.org/>

July 8 - 14, 2018**12th Mass Spectrometry School in Biotechnology and Medicine (MSBM)**

Dubrovnik, Croatia
<http://www.msbm.org/>

August 26 - 31, 2018**22nd International Mass Spectrometry Conference**

Florence, Italy
www.imsc2018.it

October 21 - 26, 2018**SciX presented by FACSS**

Atlanta, GA
<https://www.scixconference.org/>

November 11 - 14, 2018**IMSS II & OurCon VI Conference**

Charleston, SC
<https://www.imagingmssociety.org>
and <http://www.ourcon.org>



The next IMSS meeting will be a combined IMSS II & OurCon VI Conference to be held in Charleston, South Carolina, USA on November 11-14, 2018, for details see the Related Events section.

Contributed by Prof. Kevin L. Schey, Vanderbilt University