Announcements

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

64th ASMS Annual Conference
June 5 - 9, 2016
San Antonio, TX
http://www.asms.org/conferences/annual-conference/annual-conference-homepage

Important Deadline
June 3  Proceedings submissions deadline

ASMS Asilomar Conference
Novel Instrumentation in Mass Spectrometry and Mobility Spectrometry
October 14 - 18, 2016
Asilomar Conference Center
Pacific Grove, California
www.asms.org/conferences/asilomar-conference

Organizers
Daniel Austin, Brigham Young University
Zheng Ouyang, Purdue University

ASMS Fall Workshop
Sample Preparation for Analysis of Real-World Samples by Mass Spectrometry: The Common Denominator for Quality Data
November 3 - 4, 2016
Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel
Baltimore, MD
www.asms.org/conferences/fall-workshop/fall-workshop-homepage

Organizers
Jack Henion, Advion
Russell Grant, LabCorp

Report on the 9th Mass Spectrometry in Biotechnology and Medicine Summer School

The 9th Mass Spectrometry in Biotechnology and Medicine (MSBM) Summer School was held July 5-11, 2015 at the Center for Advanced Academic Studies (CAAS) in Dubrovnik, Croatia (www.caas.unizg.hr/). The CAAS is a University of Zagreb facility combining a dormitory with lecture halls that sits just outside the city walls of Dubrovnik. The focus of MSMB was on teaching and discussing current best practices and knowledge in mass spectrometry to advanced graduate students, post-docs and industrial scientists in the areas of biochemistry, biology, molecular biology, biotechnology and medicine. The intent of the school is to bring together students, postdocs, faculty and others for an intensive week of classroom instruction on the use of mass spectrometry. Beyond the primary goal of instruction in mass spectrometry, one of the main aims is the mingling of faculty and participants to produce life-long relationships that foster advances in science.

The lecturers for the 2015 school included the organizing committee (OC): Laura Bindila (Germany), Garry Corthals (The Netherlands), David Goodlett (USA), Ron Heeren (The Netherlands), Ljiljana Pasa-Tolić (USA), Jasna Peter-Katalinić (Croatia), Yury Tsybin (Switzerland), as well as invited lecturers including Jon Amster (USA), Julia Chamot-Rooke (France), Hubert Girault (Switzerland), David Kilgour (USA), Joe Loo (USA), Rachel Loo (USA), Hans Poolman (The Netherlands), Scott Shaffer (USA), Peter Schoenmakers (The Netherlands), and Roman Zubarev (Sweden). While the OC has been quite stable during the last decade, the invited lecturers change from year to year.

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May 2016
More than sixty participants from Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, France, Germany, Guadeloupe, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the US attended. The week kicked off on Sunday night with a special lecture given by Dr. Hans Poolman who reviewed the ins and outs of life as a scientist-entrepreneur. His lecture was followed by a brief introduction of the faculty with each reviewing how they arrived at their current position in science.

Most of Monday and Tuesday were spent with the faculty providing didactic lectures to ensure the participants who were from disparate backgrounds, some never having even used a mass spectrometer, were on more equal footing when the time for research lectures arrived later in the week. Topics for the didactic lectures included fundamentals such as theory of operation of mass analyzers, popular ionization methods, and methods used to fragment biological molecules. These were supplemented by didactic lectures on liquid chromatography, bottom-up proteomics, phosphoproteomics, glycobiology, lipids and steroids, top-down proteomics, native mass spectrometry, and imaging mass spectrometry.

Fifty-five poster presentations were given on Monday night from which ten participants were selected for oral presentations on Tuesday. These seven minute long research briefings gave select participants a chance to practice their English speaking skills and answer ad hoc questions. The other intent of the participant presentations was to help acquaint participants and faculty early in the week to foster interactions. Also on Monday, a written questionnaire was handed out that tested the student’s knowledge and the faculty’s ability to convey fundamental concepts like calculation of resolution, mass accuracy, de novo peptide sequencing and charge state derivation from mass spectra and tandem mass spectra of low and high resolution. Tuesday and Thursday nights were set aside for working on the questionnaire with the faculty in the beautiful CAAS courtyard stimulated by pizza and beer.

On Wednesday morning all participants and faculty took a boat to Lokrum Island for a day long excursion. Lokrum is the closest island to Dubrovnik’s city walls with monastery ruins most recently made popular as a site for filming the HBO series, Game of Thrones. The island itself is forested and rocky overrun with peacocks accompanied by a constant drone of cicadas in July. After enjoying a light take away lunch, some sunning and swimming, another tradition ensued - the annual volleyball game. Amazingly, for only the second time ever, the faculty lost! The day culminated back in Dubrovnik with a banquet prepared by the Cordon Bleu trained chef Marina Žibert of the Tovjerna Sesame. The same chef made a wonderful lunch and breakfast each day from fresh local ingredients.

Thursday and Friday passed with mostly research lectures by the faculty and lectures by major sponsors Peak Scientific, JEOL and Sciex. Other sponsors included Amsterdam Scientific Instruments, Deurion, and Spectroswiss. The research lectures covered diverse topics from the use of mass spectrometry imaging to lipidomics, steroid analysis and glycoanalysis, and various aspects of proteomics. Saturday morning brought the last few lectures and review of the exam. Participants in the European Union who turned in the exam received credit at their home institutions. Announced at the end of the last session at noon on Saturday was that there will be at least three more MSBM events: MSBM X July 3-9, 2016, MSBM XI July 2-8, 2017 and MSBM XII July 8-14, 2018.

Registration is now open for MSBM X, the details of which may be found at www.msbm.org, or simply write to msbm.dubrovnik@gmail.com

On behalf the Organizing Committee,

David R. Goodlett, Ph.D.
University of Maryland
Baltimore, MD, USA
ASMS Postdoctoral Awards

Up to five Postdoctoral Research Awards in the amount of $10,000 each, sponsored by ASMS, are presented annually. The purpose of these awards is to promote the professional career development of postdoctoral fellows in the field of mass spectrometry. The awards are open to postdoctoral fellows within three years of completing a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. Applicants must be currently appointed as a postdoctoral fellow in North America (e.g., in academia, industry, a government or national laboratory or at a research institute), and may not have previously received an award under this program. The deadline for submission of completed applications is November 30, 2016. Additional information regarding the program, including eligibility, fiscal details and the application process, may be found at www.asms.org/about/asms-awards/postdoctoral-awards.

Student and Post-Doc Travel Support for ASMS Small Conferences

Generous travel stipends are available to both full-time graduate students and post-docs within two years of their first appointment to attend the ASMS Asilomar Conference, the Fall Workshop and the Sanibel Conference. Twenty stipends are available for each meeting. Each stipend provides up to $750 for reimbursement of travel and lodging expenses. Stipend recipients also receive complimentary conference or workshop registration.

For more information regarding the application requirements, including submission deadlines, please see www.asms.org/conferences.

Related Events

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

June 27 - 30, 2016
12th Annual International Conference of the Metabolomics Society
Dublin, Ireland
www.metabolomics2016.org/

July 3 - 9, 2016
Mass Spectrometry in Biotechnology & Medicine Summer School
Dubrovnik, Croatia
www.msbm.org/

August 20 - 26, 2016
21st International Mass Spectrometry Conference
Toronto, Canada
www.imsc2016.ca

September 12 – 15, 2016
Mass Spectrometry Applications to the Clinical Laboratory 2016 EU
Salzburg, Austria
www.msaccl.org

September 18 - 22, 2016
HUPO 2016 Annual World Congress
Taipei, Taiwan
www.hupo2016.com/

September 18 – 23, 2016
SciX (Conference of FACSS)
Minneapolis, Minnesota
www.scixconference.org