Report for attendance at the EMBO Workshop in Advanced Proteomics, Brixen, 2016

In August I attended the 2016 EMBO Workshop in Advanced Proteomics held in Brixen, Italy. The summer school was held in the beautiful mountainous region of northern Italy, and the organisation and delivery of the workshop was excellent. The week introduced the concepts and applications of state-of-the-art proteomic technologies with a superb programme of expert speakers delivering a series of in-depth teaching lectures, working from robust sample preparation through the inner workings of mass spectrometry to statistical analysis and a plethora of proteomic applications. The lectures were complemented by workshops which allowed for a more in-depth interaction with the speakers and application of the skills learned to our own data. I really benefitted from the advanced sessions in MASCOT database use from John Cottrell and use of R and MSstats in the biostatistics workshop from Meena Choi and Olga Vitek, to name a few. At the end of the week we had a series of impressive research presentations from world-leading researchers in the field of proteomics which covered a variety of applications such as protein interactions, clinical proteomics and N-terminal biology.

The participants also had the opportunity to present their own work during two poster sessions and the great atmosphere at these encouraged excellent networking and scientific discussion. In addition to the science, the summer school gave us the opportunity to meet peers and fellow students in proteomic research from around the world. The organised activities were a great way to get to know the organisers, speakers and participants of the workshop and to see more of the local area. We went on a beautiful half day hike in the mountains and had the option of rafting, climbing, sightseeing or mountain biking. Furthermore, the facilities and accommodation in the monastery were great, with lovely rooms and excellent food.

I would like to thank the BSPR for providing funding for my attendance and I would strongly recommend the summer school to anyone pursuing research in proteomics.

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