

I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the British Society for Proteome Research for awarding me a travel grant to attend the BSPR - EuPA Annual Scientific Meeting 2023 in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Last year, I attended the BSPR Annual Scientific Meeting 2022 in Oxford as a first year PhD student who was new to the world of proteomics. Whilst I did not present, the conference left me excited about continuing my journey and delving deeper into the field. This year it felt completely different. I arrived in Newcastle (which, as a Northerner, I was thrilled about) feeling confident and ready to go. Luckily, BSPR – EuPA 2023 did not disappoint.

Not only was I reunited with familiar faces from the BSPR community, but the conference provided the opportunity to network with more distant colleagues from the European proteomics community. In particular, the Young Proteomics Investigators Club (YPIC as it is known) put on several great events ranging from pre-conference workshops to social activities in the evenings. They undoubtedly contributed to the success of the meeting and made all early career researchers feel at home and comfortable. I met colleagues whom I know from all different contexts – a summer school in Italy, ex-lab members, HUPO ECR and BSPR committees, all in one place.

As for the science, BSPR – EuPA had put together a wonderfully varied programme of sessions. My favourite of these was most definitely the Bioinformatics and Data Processing session, particularly the discussion of a Bayesian framework for differential expression analyses as this has direct relevance to my work. It must be said that the early career researcher talks were very impressive, as were the 150+ posters. I also had the opportunity to present a poster of my own PhD research this year, gaining valuable insight and feedback from discussions with colleagues.

Finally, I would like to both thank and congratulate Prof. Matthias Trost and his team for organising such a smooth conference. Oh, and for throwing the best conference party that I have ever been to.