Conference Report: BMSS-BSPR 2024 Super Meeting

Brittannie Willis, Imperial College London

I am incredibly grateful to the British Society for Proteome Research (BSPR) for awarding me the Student Conference Bursary. This generous support allowed me to attend the BMSS-BSPR 2024 Super Meeting, an experience that has been invaluable for both my research and personal growth.

I had the opportunity to present my poster on the multi-omics investigation of glioblastoma using DESI imaging and LC-MS. Presenting in this format allowed me to engage with attendees on a more personal level, facilitating detailed discussions about my research. The feedback I received was immensely helpful, forming new ideas and offering practical suggestions that could shape the next steps of my work. I am eager to incorporate these insights as I move forward with my research.

In addition to showcasing my work, I also participated in a career development workshop that was particularly insightful. Hearing different career journeys broadened my perspective on the potential paths in the field. I especially appreciated Lucy Woods' talk, where she discussed her transition from academia to industry and the challenges she overcame. Her story emphasised the importance of adaptability and networking, which resonated with me as I reflected on my own career goals.

The BMSS-BSPR Super Meeting also featured a series of outstanding presentations and discussions across various fields, with special emphasis on systems biology, rare diseases, and emerging technologies. Rob Ewing's presentation on the Zika Virus-Brain Tumour Interaction was particularly fascinating, demonstrating how multi-omics was used to develop their new therapeutic approach for treating these challenging tumours. Helen Cooper's presentation on Native Ambient Mass Spectrometry showed the development of native MS and how it be used to reveal protein structures in near-natural states. Finally, Roman Fischer's session on Precision Proteomics in Human Disease was another highlight, offering insights that were directly applicable to my work.

Overall, the BMSS-BSPR Super Meeting exceeded my high expectations from the scientific discussions to the networking opportunities that allowed me to connect with leading experts and peers in the field. This conference has deepened my knowledge and expanded my professional network, both of which will be instrumental in advancing my research. I am immensely grateful to the BSPR for the bursary that made this all possible, and I look forward to applying everything I have learned.