

ESF RESEARCH CONFERENCES

Rapporteur Report

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| Partnership: | ESF-EMBO |
| Conference Title: | Long regulatory RNAs |
| Dates: | 13-18 September 2014 |
| Chair: | Prof. Andreas Werner, Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK ; Prof Sven Diederichs, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, DE |
| Rapporteur: | Prof. Martin Röllinghoff, Erlangen-Nuremberg Universität, DE |

This very informative ESF-EMBO Research Conference on Long Regulatory RNAs was directed by Prof. Andreas Werner, Newcastle, together with Prof. Sven Diederichs, Heidelberg.

About 70 participants out of 15 countries attended the meeting (21 invited speakers and 47 Post-Docs and senior scientists). The delegates were mostly from Europe, but also from Australia, Brazil, China, Israel, India, Japan, Korea, USA and South Africa.

Prof. Werner, together with his dedicated colleagues, and supported by a highly respected international faculty, has come up with an excellent program of lectures and short talks, that covered all mayor areas of Long Regulatory RNAs from basic Molecular Biology to its future application in the clinic.

The conference covered 7 sessions with the following topics:

- The genomics of regulatory RNAs
- Mechanistic aspects of RNA-mediated regulation
- Paradigms of gene regulation by RNAs
- LncRNA and disease I
- Noncoding RNA in the germline
- RNA regulation in development and differentiation
- Lncoding RNA and disease II

The sessions included a plenary lecture, 16 selected 40-minute presentations and 19 20-minute talks of younger scientists. The posters were presented by 1-minute talks in addition of presenting the posters in the poster sessions. The three best talks were honoured by a special award. Altogether more than 31 posters were on display.

Of great interest were the vivid discussions by all participants after the talks, during coffee breaks and after dinner. Most of the senior faculty were able to attract and to fascinate the participants. During the plenary discussion, at the end of the meeting, three major points came up: Where will the next meeting will take place, what can be done to improve the nomenclature of the regulatory RNAs and how can data basis been better exchanged?

The Symposium took place at Polonia Castle, set in the lovely little town Pultusk, located beside the river Narew, 70 km north of Warsaw . Accommodation was very good and catering excellent. The hotel is surrounded by a lovely park. In and outside the hotel was equipment for sporting activities available.

Altogether, I feel, the Symposium was a great success, because it was extremely very well organized. The faculty was well selected. Certainly there was no gender issue at the meeting.

The Chair and the Co-Chair must be congratulated for this excellent meeting. Thus the modest ESF money was well spent.