**IUIS Education Committee Report**

**9th Spring School of Immunology, Ettal Germany (March 10-15, 2013)**

Organized by the German Society for Immunology (DGfI)

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For the 9th year, DGfI had successfully hosted the Spring School on Immunology in Ettal, Bavaria. It was well planned, perfectly organized and in proximity with natural wonders and scenic beauty. The program of this meeting was instrumental to provide the insights of each and every topic of immunology. I found all lectures very interesting especially the one related to the advancement of techniques in immunology. Each day dedicated to a set of lectures of a particular broad topic was great. Understanding of different areas makes me aware of their role in my specific research interest. Now I could broadly understand the overall interactions among different biomolecules.

In my opinion the heart of the school was the “Question & Answer session” at the end of each day’s lectures and just before the dinner. One on one discussion with the speaker was great where I was able to discuss the topics of my research as well as various other career opportunities for me.

The poster sessions were excellent, where the understanding of the current research, going across the globe, was the best part to know. Also, the interactions with the company persons at their respective counters were also very fruitful. However, I was somewhat disappointed with the practical session which needs more attention during future meetings.

The interactions with the other students made a significant impact on my own laboratory work. It was great to know about their work culture. More importantly, I felt as a unit there, where my network gets bigger and filled with the great researchers around the world. Overall I have to say, that the Spring School in Ettal was definitely one of the best schools I have ever attended. I would definitely recommend the school to my fellow colleagues back in India. I sincerely wish to thank the DGfI and IUIS for giving me the scholarships to be a part of such a wonderful gathering.

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I loved Ettal itself, the company, atmosphere and lecturers. Everything was very well organized. I was so happy staying there and learning so many new things each day.

It was really nice that we had lectures only in the morning so that we don’t get fed up; so I was actually focused on most of the talks all the time. And the afternoon question sessions were great. People would ask such interesting questions and professors were always trying their best to answer, mainly with their own theories, but it was really interesting to hear those as well, even more interesting than to just hear what was observed in some papers. haha!

I am working on B cells, primarily B1a cells so it was good that we had talks on B cells and also I was able to ask those lecturers what they think about B1a cells (development and function, since what is already known is a bit in collision with what I have found so far during my own research). They had good remarks and gave me good advice; really useful poster sessions, too.

All in all, I went home happy and content knowing I had spent a really useful week in a beautiful little place called Ettal. Thank you once more for inviting me. Goodbye from Croatia.
The School was very interesting, challenging and stimulating. Every day we listened to 5 lectures and participated in “Questions and Answers” sessions during which we could ask the lecturers about whatever we wanted to. During two posters sessions all participants presented their results, which enabled me to compare my work with work of students from other countries. The social program was also quite interesting and the food and accommodation - wonderful!

I would like to thank IUIS for giving me the opportunity to participate in this School.