Travel Report
21st Congress of the European Hematology Association (EHA21)

The 21st Congress of the European Hematology Association (EHA21) took place from 9 to 12 of June, 2016 in Copenhagen, Denmark. EHA is the largest organization in the hematology field in Europe, and the annual congress is the largest event of hematology in Europe with over 9000 attendees and more than 2000 submitted abstracts. The EHA congress offered educational sessions for clinical physicians as well as scientific sessions.

I attended mainly the scientific sessions. A molecular hematopoiesis workshop took place in the morning of the first congress day. There were many interesting talks about signaling, hematopoietic stem cells and niche and transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of hematopoiesis. Because my research field is the post transcriptional protein modification of transcriptional factors, I was especially interested in the talks about transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of hematopoiesis and leukemogenesis. The speakers showed many new molecules and mechanisms that regulate hematopoiesis and the possibility of new therapies against hematopoietic malignancies by regulation of these molecules. I received the impression that there are still many unknown molecules and mechanisms that regulate hematopoiesis, and we can find many therapeutic targets and drug candidates for hematopoietic malignancies from this research field.

The congress offered some early career sessions in which young principal investigators talked about their process of carrier development as well as their research results. I found these sessions good for young people, especially in the post-doc stage.

I presented my research in the poster session. I presented the new mechanism of early hematopoiesis, that deacetylation of a transcription factor regulates its function and hematopoiesis. An expert in this research field and some people interested in our theme came to me and discussed with me. Some comments from different points of view seemed to be useful for my research progression.

Many people from different countries came to this international congress. I met some peoples during the congress and exchanged information. I found that these encounters with other people comprise also the significance of participation in international meetings. After sessions, I also enjoyed beautiful Copenhagen city. Fortunately the weather was fine every day.

In the end, I would appreciate the financial support from Ludwig Hiermaier Foundation for my travel.

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