

# NIBB-EMBL Meetings

## The 9th NIBB-EMBL Joint Meeting: “Functional Imaging from Atoms to Organisms”

April 20 (Mon)-22 (Wed), 2009

Okazaki Conference Center, Okazaki

This joint meeting was the second bioimaging-related meeting of the NIBB-EMBL joint meeting series following the first symposium “Frontiers of bioimaging” held in 2006, and aimed to overview the recent advance of bioimaging from the molecular to the organismal level. In contrast to the previous meeting in which light microscopy technologies focusing on cell functions and animal and plant development were discussed, in this meeting many cutting edge technologies of single molecule imaging at high resolutions with electron as well as light microscopy combined with quantitative analyses to capture molecular and cellular dynamics were presented. The talks illustrated the rapid advance of bioimaging during the last three years and outlined the future direction of bioimaging using new methodologies of electron and light microscopy, imaging-based large scale screening, and image processing for quantitative analysis of a diverse range of biological

phenomena. Several short oral presentations were selected from posters and four young scholars including graduate students of EMBL participated in the meeting as a part of the student exchange program of the NIBB-EMBL collaboration, both of which further stimulated the meeting and contributed to the success of the symposium.



### Speakers

Cusack, Stephen (EMBL Grenoble), Ellenberg, Jan (EMBL Heidelberg), Frangakis, Achilleas (Univ. Frankfurt), Keller, Philipp (EMBL Heidelberg), Mueller-Reichert, Thomas (Max Planck Inst.), Patterson, George (NIH), Sattler, Michael (Helmholtz Zentrum Munchen & TU Munchen), Schultz, Carsten (EMBL Heidelberg), Sedat, John (UCSF), Stelzer, Ernst (EMBL Heidelberg), Weiss, Matthias (DKFZ) Fujimori, Toshihiko (NIBB), Goshima, Gohta (Nagoya Univ.), Hamaguchi, Hiro-o (Univ. Tokyo), Haraguchi, Tokuko (KARC), Kikkawa, Masahide (Kyoto Univ.), Maeshima, Kazuhiro (NIG), Miyawaki, Atsushi (RIKEN / JST), Nabekura, Junichi (NIPS), Nagai, Takeharu (Hokkaido Univ.), Nagayama, Kuniaki (OIB), Nakano, Akihiko (Univ. Tokyo), Nonaka, Shigenori (NIBB), Onami, Shuichi (RIKEN ASI), Sadato, Norihiro (NIPS), Ueno, Naoto (NIBB)

### Invited Students from EMBL

**Blattmann, Peter; Cobos Correa, Amanda; Heiligenstein, Xavier; Wuensche, Annelie**

### Comments from the Students

#### Xavier Heiligenstein (EMBL)

I found the content of the conference really interesting and of a great level. The comments, questions and discussion to me really facilitated going deeper in to each presentation. I got a great and deep overview of what light microscopy can offer us today in complement to electron microscopy and also enjoyed the external activities a lot, such as visiting the NIBB institute, its spectrophotometer and its brand new Light Sheet Microscope. Having the opportunity to give a short talk was also nice and lead to good feed-back during the poster session. Complementing this nice meeting, we had some great interaction with the Post-doc and Students and also greatly enjoyed the side parts of this symposium (a very nice party on Tuesday evening). And what to say about the excursion that lead us to see wonderful landscapes, cultural, and scientific Japanese pride. Again I would like to thank you again for such a nice welcome.

#### Peter Blattmann (EMBL)

I enjoyed the 9th NIBB-EMBL Symposium on Functional Imaging a lot. For me, it was an invaluable experience to come to Japan and attend this conference. I was amazed by the high standards of all the talks and discussions throughout the conference and profited a lot from them. The program was very well chosen and I think I received a good and interesting overview of the cutting edge research going on in this field. The hospitality with which we were received was outstanding and I felt very welcome at all times. However, for me personally, the greatest experience was to meet the Japanese students, post-docs and the speakers and thus to learn about the Science and technology conducted in Japan. I am very grateful to have received the opportunity to present both my poster and also a short talk at this conference. The following excursion was also very enjoyable and for the first time I experienced Japanese culture and mountains, which I liked very much. I am very glad, that this fruitful collaboration between NIBB and EMBL is continuing and look forward to further opportunities to interact with NIBB members. Thank you again so much for the hospitality and all your efforts!

## NIBB-EMBL Meetings

### The 1st NIBB-EMBL PhD Mini-Symposium and 11th International EMBL PhD Students Symposium

October 28 (Wed)-31 (Sat), 2009

EMBL, Heidelberg

The first NIBB-EMBL PhD Mini-Symposium was held at EMBL, Heidelberg on 28 October. Seven PhD students from NIBB and three from Nagoya University got together with EMBL pre-docs to exchange and discuss their recent results. This symposium and subsequent “lab tour” also connected our students with EMBL PIs who are in the field of their respective interests. On 29-31 October the 11th International EMBL PhD Students Symposium “Puzzles in Biology; Putting the Pieces Together” was held at EMBL. The program contained three sessions; the first aimed to shed light on the latest technical innovations in the field of biology, the second session focused on complex puzzles which had been resolved by integrating data from different scientific fields, and the final session covered several issues which illustrated beneficial relationships between basic biology and applied studies to understand the mechanisms causing human diseases. Our PhD students presented their research work during the poster and the short-talk session. It was a great opportunity for our PhD students to meet students from a variety of European countries and hear about their interesting work. Moreover, they were very much impressed by the scientific atmosphere and cutting-edge researches at EMBL. We hope to continue this collaboration in the future.

#### Participating students from Japan

Hara, Yusuke; Morita, Hitoshi; Okamoto, Haruko; Goto, Shino; Tameshige, Toshiaki; Sugimoto, Ryo; Takahashi, Hiroyuki (NIBB); Yamamoto, Haruki; Mollah, Md. Bazlur Rahman; Tanimoto, Masashi (Nagoya Univ.)

#### Comments from students (excerpts)

##### • Takahashi, Hiroyuki

This was my first experience of an English oral presentation in a foreign country and its preparation was a tough job for me. This opportunity of an oral presentation was, however, a precious one and gave me experience in discussing my research with EMBL people. A student of EMBL was assigned as a guide for each student from Japan, which made it easier to communicate with EMBL students and to have a glimpse of the students’ life at EMBL and their view of research. I found students at EMBL are much more aggressive and positive in their research than I had expected, which I think we should follow.

##### • Tameshige, Toshiaki

At the 11<sup>th</sup> International EMBL PhD Student Symposium, there were a lot of interesting presentations by researchers from various fields, but the most surprising thing was that the whole symposium was organized by the EMBL

students. From the invited speakers, I can easily imagine how widely the EMBL students’ knowledge and interest range. And I thought it was a fruitful experience for them to organize such a big symposium while still learning as students.

##### • Haruko, Okamoto

The best thing I obtained at this Ph.D symposium was that I had an opportunity to communicate with students of similar ages from various countries. I spoke with students from countries unfamiliar to me, such as Israel and Nigeria. I experienced the everyday life of students in Europe, such as dance parties and talks over drinks. I found, contrary to my expectation, we have much in common.

