

ENCITE
2nd Educational workshop on Cells at Work: imaging in health and disease
Mons/BE, May 18-19, 2010

After last year's great success of the 1st edition, the European Network for Cell Imaging and Tracking Expertise (ENCITE) and the European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research (EIBIR), joint organisers, were very proud to present the 2nd ENCITE Educational Workshop. The University of Mons/Belgium, ENCITE project partner, with Prof. Robert Muller and his team, hosted the anticipated event, which took place on May 18-19. 2010.

The collaborative project ENCITE is supported by the European Commission within the 7th Framework Programme with a financial contribution of €12m. The 4-year project consists of 29 project partners from 10 different countries and Israel, with leading expertise in the field of cell imaging and EIBIR as the co-ordinating partner.

The ENCITE project comprises the following objectives:

- New imaging methods to improve the spatio-temporal tracking of labelled cells
- Dual- and multimodality imaging procedures to cross-validate each individual approach
- New contrast agents and procedures that will improve the sensitivity and specificity of cellular labelling
- Combining of molecular biology for the generation of molecular and cellular imaging reporters with multimodal imaging techniques

The project partners came another step closer to achieving their goals. Based on initial findings and more recent advances in their research, 28 leading experts in the field of cell imaging throughout Europe and Israel presented exceptional insights into new methods of cell imaging.

The workshop was divided into four sessions and covered the following main topics:

Session 1:

Imaging of pathophysiological processes, chaired by Prof. Robert Muller, Mons/Be

Session 2:

Imaging cell functions, chaired by Prof. Peter Friedl, Nijmegen/NL

Session 3:

Imaging and Cell therapy, chaired by Prof. Uwe Himmelreich. Leuven/BE

Session 4:

Nanosized probes, tools for contrast enhancement and for imaging-guided therapy, chaired by Prof. Silvio Aime, Torino/IT

The 2nd ENCITE Educational workshop concluded with the wrap-up and closing by Robert Muller from University Mons who thanked the audience for their attendance and eagerness.

Given the growing importance and interest in issues related to cell imaging along with the highly rated quality of the speakers, the workshop was received with enthusiasm.

More than 100 participants from 16 different countries who did not want to miss the exceptional opportunity to learn and exchange ideas in an international and interdisciplinary environment gathered in Mons. PhD students, radiologists, biologists, physicists, computer scientists and medical scientists with an expertise in MR, optical imaging, nuclear imaging and probe development agreed that the workshop offered them unique possibilities for interesting discussions and getting in touch with experts and peers in a pleasant atmosphere.

Presentations are available for download at www.encite.org.

Next year's workshop is already in the planning phase – just send a short email to office@eibir.org to be included in the mailing list and we will keep you in the loop.