



UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland

Graduate School,
College of Medicine and Health

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Conference Attended: FENS-SfN Summer School 2015 "Shared mechanisms and specificity in neurodegenerative diseases", Location: Bertinoro, Italy, June 7th – 13th 2015,.

This Federation of European Neuroscience Societies & Society for Neuroscience (FENS-Sfn), organised school brought together researchers and world experts from all areas of neurodegeneration. Through lectures, discussions and student presentations (both oral and poster) we discussed commonalities between different types of neurodegenerative conditions and how we could apply core ideas concerning the pathology of other diseases to our own line of investigation.

Given the small group size of relevant peers and the willingness of the speakers to discuss ideas, the school was a great forum for exchanging ideas, disseminating our research, discussing how to progress in a research career and for getting some hints and tips on techniques. My knowledge of numerous neurodegenerative conditions (from Parkinson's disease to Huntington's disease) as well as their clinical treatment and related drug development has been increased greatly. Such topics are easily overlooked when you're focussed on your own niche research area and schools like this are a great way to explore them.

I would like to sincerely thank the organisers for running such an interesting and beneficial school and both the College of Medicine & Health (Doctoral Student Bursary) and the department of Physiology in UCC for funding my attendance. It was an entirely positive experience which I hope to build on, in terms of collaborations and networking with some of the most enthusiastic researchers I've met thus far in my research career.