

ENCITE

Educational workshop on selected topics of molecular imaging proves a major success - next workshop planned for 2010

Prague/CZ, May 8, 2009

The last 3 years have shown an increasing interest and a great need for educational activities in this field of cellular and molecular imaging.

The educational workshop, jointly organised by the European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research (EIBIR) and the European Network for Cell Imaging and Tracking Expertise (ENCITE), took place in Prague on May 7 – 8, 2009.

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 21 project partners from 10 different countries, with leading expertise in the field of cell imaging and EIBIR as the co-ordinating partner.

The Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine (IKEM), ENCITE project partner, hosted the educational workshop. The local organisers, Prof. Milan Hájek and his team, added largely to the fruitful realisation of this event.

An international team of 26 high qualified experts from the ENCITE Consortium presented an outstanding variety of existing and new methods of cell imaging and tracking. Structured into five sessions, main topics were:

Session 1:

Novel Imaging Technologies, chaired by Dr. Wilfried Reichardt, Freiburg/DE

Session 2:

Novel Imaging Reporter Probes, chaired by Prof. Silvio Aime, Torino/IT

Session 3:

Novel Tools for Cell Labelling, chaired by Prof. Michal Neeman, Rehovot/IL

Session 4:

Preclinical Validation, chaired by Dr. Monique Bernsen, Rotterdam/NL

Session 5:

Translation towards Clinical Applications, chaired by Dr. Jolanda de Vries, Nijmegen/NL

More than 100 participants from 19 different countries accepted the call to gain valuable insights into the subject. Radiologists, medical scientists, physicists, biologists, technicians and PhD students, with an expertise mainly in MR, optical imaging and probe development engaged in inspiring discussions and exchanged experiences in an environment both interdisciplinary and international. The participants agreed this workshop had been very fruitful and the transmission of knowledge had been very beneficial in this exceptional setting, giving them an excellent possibility to get in contact with both experts and peers.

Shortly, the presentations will be available for download at www.encite.org.

EIBIR and ENCITE are also gathering information on molecular imaging training programmes in Europe – your contributions are very much appreciated in this process. Just send an email with the information to office@eibir.org, by the end of May at the latest.

If you have missed this year's workshop, make sure to keep up with the news: the next ENCITE Workshop is envisaged for 2010.