

6th RSC BMCS Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Postgraduate Symposium
Department of Chemistry, Cambridge University
14th December 2012



This symposium was the sixth in an annual designed to showcase the very best postgraduate research in the field of biological chemistry and medicinal chemistry. The symposium consisted of eight postgraduate oral presentations and 20 poster presentations. There were also three plenary speakers from industry; Dave Witty from Convergence Pharmaceuticals and Sarah Skerratt of Neusentis described approaches to novel therapeutic agents while Allan Marchington of Apposite Capital LLP explained the role of venture capital companies in enabling small companies to realise their commercial potential. Registration for the Symposium was free and the meeting was attended by around 140 scientists whose feedback to an online questionnaire has been overwhelmingly positive

Prizes were also awarded for the best oral presentation (£250 in cash plus a personal on-line annual subscription to MedChemComm) and the best poster presentation (£100 in cash plus a personal on-line annual subscription to MedChemComm) while both the oral and poster runners-up received a BMCS bursary to attend the 24th East of England Medicinal Chemistry symposium at the Fielder Centre in Hatfield on 24th April

The prizes were awarded as follows:

Oral Presentation - First Prize: Mark Rackham, Imperial College London, *'Design and Synthesis of Highly Potent Inhibitors of Plasmodium falciparum N-Myristoyltransferase as a promising treatment for malaria'*



Oral Presentation – Runner-up Prize: Rhian Holvey, Cambridge University, *'Fragment-Based Approach Towards Inhibitors of the TPX2-Importin- α Interaction'*



Poster presentation - First Prize: Kerya Long, University of Leeds, 'Development of synthetic α -helix mimetics as potent anticancer agents'



Poster presentation – Runner-up Prize: James Clulow, Imperial College London, 'Getting a handle on the molecular targets of interesting, small molecule natural products'



Organising committee: Dave Alker (David Alker Associates), Rebecca Myers (University of Cambridge) and Gordon Saxty (Astex Pharmaceuticals Ltd)

The organising committee would like to express their thanks to the following organisations for their generous sponsorship of this symposium:

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