

REPORT ON 2nd BWC

INTRODUCTION

The *Biotechnology World Congress* marked the initiation of the first of its series in February 2013 in Dubai. With the overwhelming success of 1st BWC, the organizers, Eureka Science, in collaboration with the Higher Colleges of Technology, paved the way for the 2nd *Biotechnology World Congress* to be held from 18th – 21st February 2013 at Dubai Women's College, UAE- a four day event this year. This unique international conference provided a platform to researchers and decision makers in biotechnology to present their latest findings and learn about all the important developments in biotechnology. The 2nd BWC covered the translational nature of biotechnological research, with emphasis on both the basic science as well as its applications spanning over 170 talks as well as poster presentations and an associated commercial exhibition. A highly venerated gathering of a number of Nobel Laureates and leading researchers was cordially welcomed to share their explorations with the biotechnology community. The Nobel Laureates who honored the event were *Prof. Ferid Murad* (USA), *Prof. Hartmut Michel* (Germany), *Prof. Jean-Marie Lehn* (France), and the honorable Fellow of Royal Society (FRS) *Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman*.

MAJOR TRACKS

1. Pharmaceutical Biotechnology: biopharmaceuticals discovery (CNS, cancer, cardiovascular, endocrine, immune); vaccines; antibodies; protein engineering.
2. Plant and Environment: transgenic plants and crops; bioremediation; microbial diversity; bio-monitoring; photosynthetic microorganisms, cyanobacteria and microalgae.
3. Industrial and Manufacturing: bio-fuels; energy crops (cellulosic ethanol industry); industrial enzymes; bioprocess engineering and optimization.
4. Medical Biotechnology: biopharmaceutical manufacturing; diagnostics; imaging; pharmacogenomics (personalized medicine); microarray technology; biomarkers.
5. Business Development: strategic alliances; partnering trends; product opportunities; growth; business models and strategies; licensing; merger and acquisitions; outsourcing; venture capital and financing; intellectual property.
6. Regenerative Medicine: stem cells, gene therapy; tissue engineering; cell based therapy; cell cultivation.
7. Other areas: Food; Marine; Bio-safety; Systems Biology, Clinical Research/clinical trials; bioethics; nanobiotechnology.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

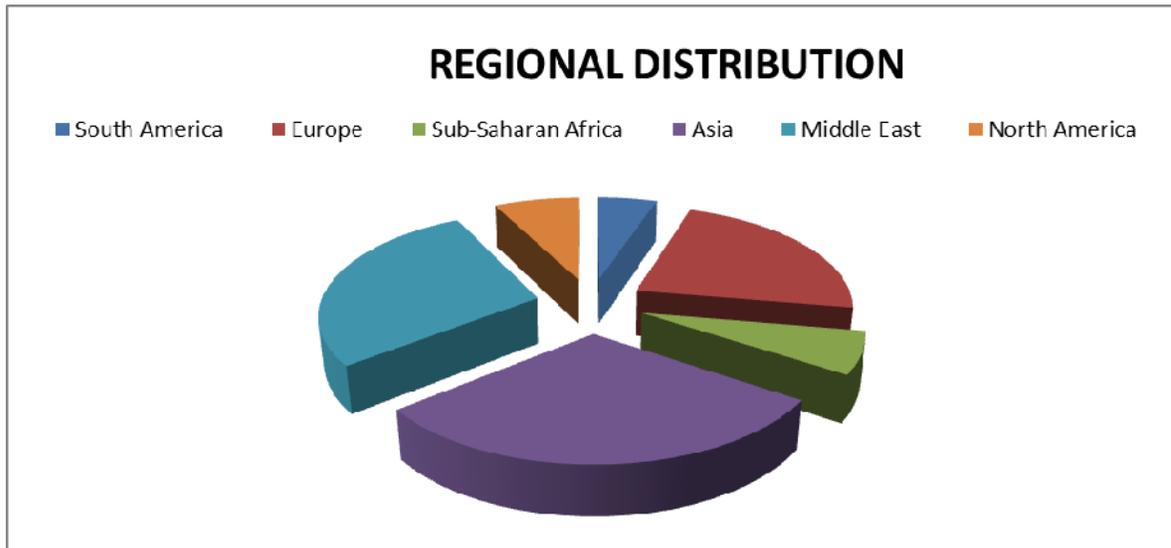
The opening ceremony of 2nd Biotechnology World Congress as well as of 5th International Conference on Drug Discovery and Therapy, jointly held on 18th February 2013 marked the inauguration of these symposia of multidimensional importance, seeking to highlight the importance and significance of latest research advances in the field of drug discovery, disease management and diagnosis as well as the translational nature of biotechnological research.



The Nobel Laureate and co-president of 2nd BWC, Professor Ferid Murad's in his address anticipated that this congress would provide distinguished scientists the prospects to present their cutting edge researches in the field of biotechnology and their applications in medicine.

The speech by Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman, the co-president of the conference gave an assurance that this meeting of scientists and researchers from around the world will bring out the best in Biotechnology. He discussed that the conference sought to provide a diverse perspective on the rapid developments in new and emerging fields of biotechnology and the opportunities and challenges that are being presented to the biotechnological scientists and decision makers.

PARTICIPATION BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:



This significant scientific conference drew together most renowned and leading scientists and biotechnologists of the world, providing a platform to cultivate productive association and establish linkages of scientists in UAE with those in the advanced Western countries.

LECTURE SESSIONS:

The lecture sessions commencing from the morning of each day from 18th – 21st February 2013 were a regular feature of the conference, providing deliberations on diverse topics



including medical biotechnology, stem cells, gene therapy, tissue engineering, bio-pharmaceutical manufacturing, cell based therapy, cell cultivation, diagnostics, imaging, pharmacogenomics, microarray technology, biomarkers, to name a few. Each successive day the lecture sessions commenced with the Plenary lectures from Nobel Laureates and other renowned scientists and biotechnologists, and were later taken over by a large number of eminent researchers who presented their talks as Invited and Session lectures.

Keeping in view the interest of the attendees to behold the breakthrough developments on the biotechnological research front through poster presentations as well, one hour was allotted each day to the poster sessions after the lectures. A number of participants displayed their well arranged and perceptively prepared posters, which attracted a huge number of delegates to appreciate the efforts of the presenters.

SOCIAL MIXER

After the lecture and poster sessions on the 18th of February 2013, drew to a close, the Social Mixer, basically a cocktail party, offered the participants a relaxing environment to mingle, socialize, meet new people and exchange ideas with leading pharmaceutical scientists and researchers. The social mixer well served the purpose of granting the guests- all from varied backgrounds- the opportunity to be sociable and get to know each other, discuss ideas and introduce ways for new possibilities in research discovery and development. It was a delectable evening for the visitors who enjoyed the mixer with a variety of snacks served with fresh juices and drinks.



GALA DINNER ON DHOW CRUISE:

The 'Gala Dinner on Dhow Cruise' was the highlight of the conference held on the 20th of February 2013. 'Dhow Cruise' offers the pleasure of discovering the true beauty of Dubai while being on a traditionally decorated wooden boat, sailing along the Dubai creek under the moonlight. The major Dubai landmarks passed by as the wooden vessel slipped silently across the creek. This unforgettable evening cruise served a buffet dinner of continental and oriental cuisine, with soft drinks and traditional coffee to be enjoyed at the beat of traditional Arabic music and conventional dance performance. The Dhow Cruise lasted for 2 hours, between 7:30-9:30pm.



POSTER PRESENTATION- CASH PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

The concluding stages of the conference presented the Cash Distribution Ceremony which was the most awaited event of this



conference. A panel of judges including Dr. Subramanian Sivakami and Dr. Samina Khan shouldered the responsibility to assess all the posters very critically, based on the arrangement of the poster, the stance, the research embarked on, the perspective of the poster presenter, his/her awareness of the subject matter of the poster presented, and most of all, his/her attitude when the poster was being assessed. Considering the mentioned aspects, three best posters were selected and awarded cash prizes. The first, second and third prizes were awarded to Dr. Jose Sena Filho, Dr. Mustafa Drah and Dr. Kisung ko, respectively. The prize winners were extremely overwhelmed to be appreciated for their efforts, and so were the other delegates.

EXHIBITION

The exhibition of 2nd BWC 2013 was another appealing aspect of the congress which proceeded in full swing at an area near the main auditorium. The major exhibitors were the following:



SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNERS

The sponsors and media partners of 5th ICDDT 2013 were the following:





SUCCESS STORY of 2nd BWC- A STEP AHEAD

Eureka Science and Higher Colleges of Technology, proudly announced to host two magnificent conferences, 5th International Conference On Drug Discovery & Therapy and The 2nd Biotechnology World Congress, held from 18th – 21st February 2013 at Dubai Women's College.

Based on plenary lectures, invited and session talks and through poster presentations, the symposia outlined not only the revolutionary progress in drug design and discovery, but also the promising field of Biotechnology. Throughout the course of the four day conference, the attendees had the opportunity to both network and hear leaders from the international academic and corporate biotechnology communities. The 2nd BWC in 2013, drew together most renowned and leading scientists of the world to foster alliance between scientists in UAE with those in the advanced Western countries, continuing with the success trend of these conferences.