

Advanced Course of Immunology : An invaluable experience for an immunologist investigator

Short report by Luz-Stella Rodríguez C.

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IUIS/AAI sponsored participants in the AAI Advanced course of immunology. Left to Right: Florencia Mancilla, PhD (Argentina). Mary Litzinger, PhD (Manager of Educational and Career Development Programs, AAI), and Luz-Stella Rodríguez, PhD (Colombia, sponsored by special travel award given by the IUIS Gender Equality Career Development, GECD Committee).

I am pleased to inform that I was selected out of 48 candidates to attend the AAI Advance course in immunology held at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston. The course was fantastic and helped me to see many perspectives and to expand my knowledge in many topics.

“On the first day of the course was an honor for me to be appointed between 244 participants by the IUIS/AAI award and to see my name alongside my country (Colombia) and, the University (Pontificia Universidad Javeriana) where I’m working in Bogotá”.

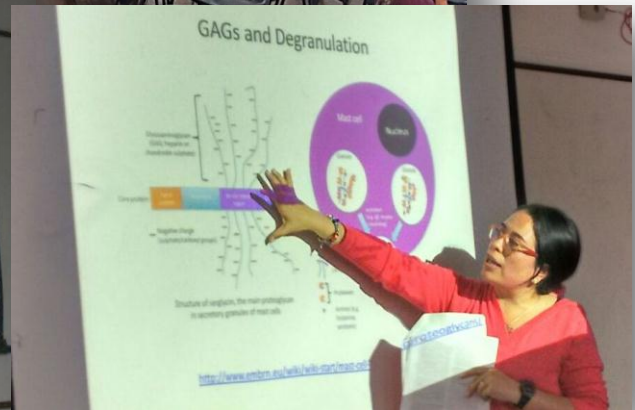
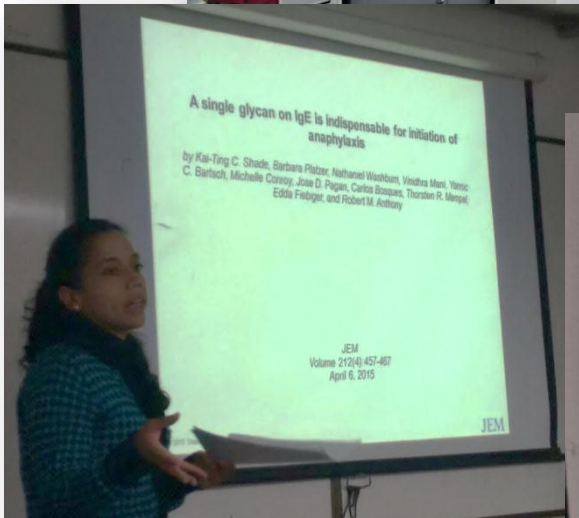
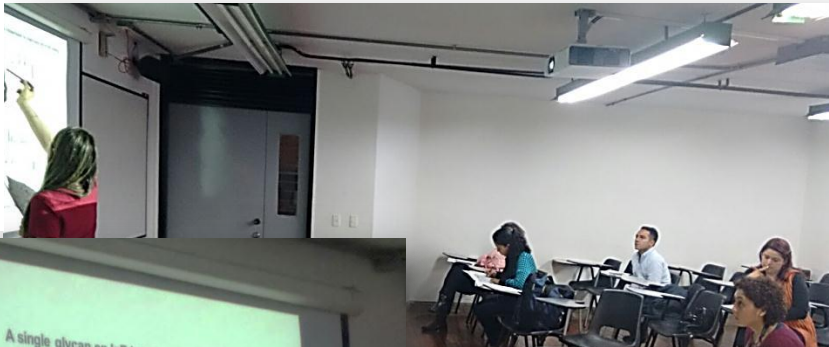
I would like to thank to Dr. Michelle Letarte and, Dr. Olivera Finn from IUIS and, Dr. Mary Litzinger from AAI for letting me to live this great opportunity.

All lectures and Faculty members presented talks were excellent, some of which generated in me many questions about my research topic in immunomodulation, for this reason, when I came back to Colombia I looked up more related information. During the course, I was able to interact with other people who work in my field, and this is key in order to develop collaborative research projects.

Receiving and Giving

“Love is shown more in deeds than in words”

(St Ignatius of Loyola)



Glycoimmunology session during the Immunology seminar. Dr. Brian Cobb let me use his slides. First of all, I exposed some key points of the lecture (right-down) and then, we all worked together with a recently published paper related to the topic.

The knowledge acquired with the course was shared with my students and other professors in my University during the Immunology seminar. Also I verbally shared the information learned with some of my colleagues. Finally, I believe the course was profitable for me , and through me, for them.



I consider very important the role of women in science, especially in the advancement of immunology. In Colombia I do not have exact data, but I could say that most of the students entering to a Master and PhD degrees in our field are women and we need to continue supporting the mission of the GECD committee encouraging the promotion of women immunologist around the world.