

Report of SY-Stem Symposium 2022, Vienna.

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The SY-Stem 2022 conference, a key event in the field of stem cells and cell fate engineering, particularly focus on new researchers in the field of stem cells, took place between the 23. - 25. March 2022 in Vienna.

Having had the opportunity to take part in this event as a poster presenter has been proved to be an incredibly helpful experience. The three-day conference has highlighted many various topics of developmental biology, from early blastuloids and gastruloid derivation to more *in silico* modeling of the developmental process. Many different speakers (postdoc and key figures of the field) from all over the world attended the conference, presenting the state-of-the-art of their respective fields of interest in the vast world of developmental biology. I found of particular interest some talks like “*About Time: The Dynamics of Neural Tube Development*” by James Briscoe that highlighted new strategies to study the temporal development by improving the model of the Waddington landscape as well as “*Integrated single-cell sequencing reveals principles of epigenetic regulation of human gastrulation and germ cell development in a 3D gastruloid model*” by Siddarth Dey who presented a new way to integrate single cell data. Apart from specific talks, more in general, this conference has represented, after difficult years of online meetings, the possibility to meet and discuss in person with many different skilled colleagues and professors both scientific and personal visions regarding our research fields.

Invaluable has been the possibility to present my scientific project extensively during the poster session. In this occasion I had the opportunity to expose the details of the project, from the experimental design to more intimate theoretical aspects, to the main scientists of the field. This occasion in particular has boosted my on-skills in data communication and in particular has raised even more my interest to pursue tackling the scientific hypothesis behind my project. Moreover, during the poster sessions I had the possibility to also compare my data and approach with colleagues that apply similar techniques to different research topics.

Altogether having had the chance to take part to such a useful event have perfectly fulfilled the hopes and the expectations I had once I apply for the GSCN-BIH travel grant to be able to take part to the event and this leaves me particularly fulfilled.

