

During her visit at the University of Helsinki (UH) in 2019, Prof. Dr. Anje Potthast delivered a seminar on methods and techniques used in her group at BOKU, entitled «Lignins and celluloses – Black and white in the chemistry of renewables». It covered analytical tools for lignin and cellulose research including DESI- and paperspray MS, NMR and light scattering with fluorescent samples to name a few and was followed by an ample discussion.

**On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Professor Maunu, in charge of the ASC programme at UH, nicely organized a session of presentations by the ASC second year students.**

The students did present their current research topics / master thesis work in 15 + 5 min presentations. The topics were all very interesting and left space for ample scientific exchange. The topics reached from advanced organic synthesis to lignin bound antibodies, comparison of different ionization methods for mass spec all the way to trace analysis of chemical weapons, polymers and glycochemistry for therapeutic means. All students had very interesting results to present, which resulted from their work in the respective laboratories. **The meeting was valuable for the students as they soon after had to defend their master thesis work.**

*« I feel my visit to UH was successful as I had the opportunity to interact with the students and could give them some feedback hopefully helpful in their future work and career. In addition I was able to extensively talk to faculty about existing and new research co-operations between our departments. I am very much looking forward to part II of my visit in September / October 2019. » Prof. Dr A. Potthast*

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#### A/PROF. AMIR KARTON IS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



**In 2018, he was selected to participate in the prestigious EU Erasmus Mundus Master Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry (ASC) Visiting Scholar Program, and he visited the University of Bologna and University of Helsinki. He lectured to ASC Master students and participated in new collaborations with faculty members at both universities.**

*In January 2019, I travelled to the University of Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum. I was hosted by the Department of Industrial Chemistry “Toso Montanari”, where I presented a course on computational spectroscopy and chemical reactivity to ASC students. In early February, I spent a few days at the University of Helsinki and met with ASC students. At both universities, I was privileged to engage with bright and talented ASC students and I was very impressed by their scientific results and keen interest in spectroscopy.*

*The ASC program is a unique opportunity for talented students to learn about advanced spectroscopic techniques, conduct research at internationally leading laboratories, and visit new places. My ASC Fellowship also enabled me to present my research and have extensive discussions with Faculty members at both universities, which have led to a number of collaborations that are currently underway. The entire experience was highly memorable and productive, and I strongly encourage faculty from outside the EU to participate in this excellent visiting fellowship scheme.*

**KAZUHIRO AOKI, ASSOCIATE RESEARCH SCIENTIST, COMPLEX CARBOHYDRATE RESEARCH CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, USA SPENT ONE MONTH IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LILLE IN 2018.**

*It was a truly fantastic experience for me and I appreciate the great opportunity to meet with international graduate students at the Lille University, France where I received the scholarship to carry out teaching and scholarly works within the Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in "Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry." I enjoyed spending a wonderful time with students and learned a lot of things from them through their passionate questions and comments during the course. They are exceptionally motivated students who enjoy studying overseas and they demonstrated the willingness to embrace new challenges and the ability to adapt to new situations. I am very thankful to Dr. Cédric Lion for providing me the opportunity to apply for the scholarship and for helping me to organize the classes. I am also grateful to Dr. Yann Guérardel for supporting my experimental courses in chemistry class to work with students.*

*I spent most of my time at the laboratory of the Unité de Glycobiologie Structurale et Fonctionnelle, Lille University to do my research focused on phosphorus-31 NMR analysis for structural characterization of glycoconjugates. I have also developed new collaborative research projects with scientists at the Lille University during the scholarship period. I greatly thank Dr. Emmanuel Maes and Dr. Nao Yamakawa for supporting me to do analytical experiments.*

*Finally I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union for providing support for my scholarship.*

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**SENIOR RESEARCHER JUAN CARLOS HERNANDEZ GARRIDO, UNIVERSITY OF CADIZ, SPAIN, PARTICIPATED IN THE ASC WINTER SCHOOL ORGANIZED IN KRAKOW IN FEBRUARY 2018**



*This ASC programme is unique, from the multidisciplinary content of five European Universities to the participating students who represent multiple countries, thereby giving the graduates from this programme a highly marketable international qualification. This can be confirmed due to the prospective career of its students from previous editions.*

*As an invited researcher and teacher I was integrated into its Spectroscopy & Chemistry master's course which involved a large number of international students of different scientific backgrounds. Indeed, this is a wonderful learning experience for both students and teachers.*

*As a scientist, I was able to make contact with new collaborators, bringing the possibility to expand these collaborations through incoming research projects and starting research activities in the fields of Electron Microscopy and Catalysis.*

**PROF. LOUIS M. RENDINA IS A PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.**



**In 2017, he was selected to participate in the prestigious EU Erasmus Mundus Master Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry (ASC) Visiting Scholar Program, and he visited the University of Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum. He lectured to ASC Master students and participated in new collaborations with faculty members at the Department of Industrial Chemistry "Toso Montanari".**

*The EU Erasmus Mundus Master Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry Visiting Scholar Program is a fantastic opportunity for faculty members outside of the EU to visit one of 5 European universities and engage with academic staff and Masters students for a short period. In late 2017, I travelled to the University of Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum where I was hosted by the Department of Industrial Chemistry "Toso Montanari". I was privileged to teach so many bright students who participated in this unique program.*

*As a research scientist, I was also able to discuss our research program in Australia with several researchers in the Department and form new collaborations. The entire experience was highly memorable and productive, and I strongly encourage faculty from outside the EU to participate in this excellent visiting fellowship scheme.*

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**Dr IVANA HASA IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ELECTROCHEMICAL MATERIALS  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK (WMG), UNITED KINGDOM.**



**In 2023, she was selected to participate in the prestigious EU Erasmus Mundus Master Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry (ASC) Visiting Scholar Program, and she visited the University of Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum. She lectured to ASC Master students and engaged in academic activities and new collaborations with faculty members at the Department of Industrial Chemistry "Toso Montanari".**

*It was a great privilege to receive the EU Erasmus Mundus ASC Visiting Scholarship which is a wonderful opportunity for faculty members to visit one of the 5 Universities delivering the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in "Advanced spectroscopy in chemistry".*

*I spent two very fruitful weeks at the University of Bologna at the Department of Industrial Chemistry strengthening existing collaborations, tutoring students, and discussing new exiting research ideas. I was able to engage and discuss with Master students of the ASC Master course and I was given the opportunity to teach and lecture to curious, enthusiast and engaging cohort of young researchers.*

*I would strongly recommend this fellowship scheme as an amazing opportunity to strengthen existing collaborations, build new connections, share ideas, and generate collaboration.*