

## ASMS Annual Conference

3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016

The ASMS Annual Conference 2016 was held in San Antonio, Texas. The conference was preceded by 'User Meetings' organised by various instrument vendors. These meetings were a great opportunity to hear about the latest developments these companies have to offer, with presentations from company representatives as well as users of the instruments.

The main conference took place over 4 full days. Concurrent oral sessions resulted in a huge variety of topics being discussed each day, with lots of really interesting talks throughout the week. A number of sessions relating to post-translational modifications, data independent acquisition and proteomics were fairly closely related to my own current research interests, but I also had the chance to learn more about bioinformatics and analysis of intact proteins which could be useful for future projects.

Having the opportunity to present my work in the form of a poster at this conference was a great experience. It was extremely beneficial to discuss my work with other scientists in the field, and I came away feeling confident about my research as well as with lots of ideas for how I could develop the project in the final year of my PhD. Furthermore, the poster sessions gave me the chance to meet a wide variety of scientists from all over the world. As I am nearing the end of my PhD it was useful to be exposed to research areas that I may wish to consider as I move into the next stage of my career.

Finally, the plenary lectures which took place in the evenings were extremely inspiring, with topics ranging from tackling the Ebola crisis to gas-phase ion chemistry. I thoroughly enjoyed the whole conference and it is an opportunity that I feel very fortunate to have experienced.

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