

## International Travel Award Report

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With the help of Drexel international travelling award, I had a chance to attend the ISMB/ECCB conference held in Vienna, Austria. The goal of this annual, international Bioinformatics and Computational Biology conference is to gather researchers from around the world to share their achievements in computer science, molecular biology, mathematics, statistics and other related fields.

The conference is divided into eight small categories with different bioinformatics topics including Technical Track, Workshop, Proceedings, Latest research, which gave me a wide range of knowledge to absorb there. My favorite part of the conference was the keynote speeches. In this section, the keynote speakers were invited to speak about their great accomplishments in their field. I was immersed in all sorts of advanced science: one speaker talked about “the Evolution of Enzyme Mechanisms and Functional Diversity”, and showed us the whole map of enzyme mechanisms and a complete classification of enzyme families. Another speech presented the possibilities and limitations of the current methods of analyzing cancer data with bioinformatics and systems biology approaches, and introduced the idea of treating cancer as ‘disease of the genes’ rather than on the cellular level.

My own poster, titled ‘Protein structure visualization by Dimension Reduction and Texture mapping’ received a good response, and I had a chance to discuss my research with PhDs and students from around the world. I am honored to have had this opportunity to present my project to other researchers.

On my last day in Vienna I visited the old city and experienced a different European culture, and my sight was broadened by the baroque architecture and the grand palace. Thanks to the opportunity

given to me by the international travelling award, I have obtained not only a fresh perspective on my research, but a great travelling experience.

