This summer course in mass spectrometry for graduate students was now arranged for the second time, and will be arranged again, possibly in July of 2009. I highly recommend the course to everyone interested in MS applications and possibilities these instruments can offer, and the location to anyone interested in beautiful Mediterranean cities.

The course had an intense program starting with the basics of MS applications in biological analysis and then stepping into some more advanced aspects of the field. The emphasis was mainly on proteomics, but a very broad range of applications was taken up.

The course was arranged by the University of Münster, Germany, by the group of Prof. Jasna Peter-Katalinić, by Prof. David Goodlett from the University of Washington, Seattle and by Dr. Ljiljana Paša-Tolić Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, Washington. These people had been able to invite people involved in different fields of MS work: the presentations included theoretical info on e.g. glycobiology, protein and peptide fragmentation, sample preparation, imaging etc. There were a number of instruments described to us as tools for the biological applications, such as the FT-ICR, Orbitrap, TOF, TOF-TOF, QTOF, Traps, triple quadrupoles etc. Different collision environments were described as well as different ion sources.

All in all, the course gave a wide aspect of information by interesting lecturers. I feel privileged to have been able to participate in this course. The course gave me a lot of new information, the opportunity to create new contacts, and also new ideas to start to consider labs for my eventual Post-doc period.

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