The Medicinal chemistry course was organized by the university of Jyväskyla from the 8th to the 12th of August 2011.

The fist two days Professor Antti Poso from University of Eastern Finland was going through the basic of drug discovery more precisely in drug design. He started with an overview of drug discovery in the early ages, that from my point of view was very interesting, he then defined targets and ligands and what are the basic considerations to do for discovering a new active compound. He defined the characteristics of lead compounds, the basics of structure-based drug design and computational drug discovery.

The third and fourth day Krista Laine (PhD) from University of Eastern Finland too went through the basic concepts of pharmacokinetic and physical chemical properties that a lead compounds have to have in order to be dissolved in biological liquids so that they can be absorbed and reach the specific target to promote the pharmacological effect. All in all the lectures were 16 hours, in order to obtain 3 ECTS we had attend all the 16 hours and pass a written exam on Friday.

In the evenings the summer school proposed different activities to promote interaction between students, the city of Jyväskylä offered to the participant an official dinner on Tuesday in the city museum dedicated to Alvar Aalto.

Over all I recommend this summer school to other PhD students as it is very well organized and the lecturers chosen are really experienced in their topic. I would like therefore to thank ISB for the support that permitted me to attend to the medicinal chemistry 4 day course in Jyväskylä.

Gloria Wissel
Computational Drug Discovery group
Centre for Drug Research
Faculty of Pharmacy
University of Helsinki