

FinMedChem 2011

FinMedChem symposium

Helsinki, Finland

September 15-16, 2011

This was the first medicinal chemistry symposium in Finland and it was held in Helsinki in September this year. The focus of the symposium was to gather researchers from different scientific areas in Finland in order to discuss all topics within the field of medicinal chemistry. During the two day symposium some very interesting questions related to medicinal chemistry were addressed. For example how to approach targets that are “undruggable” and how to prevent molecular obesity, a term describing “our tendency to build potency into molecules by the inappropriate use of lipophilicity which leads to the premature demise of drug candidates” (M.M. Hann 2011). My own work, *Identification and characterization of imidazoles and thienothiazines as selective inhibitors of butyrylcholinesterase*, was presented in the poster session of the first day.

As a result of the symposium, contact details of Finnish researchers related to medicinal chemistry was gathered to more easily distribute relevant information within the field of medicinal chemistry. For anyone interested in this field, this is a great opportunity to meet researchers that share the same interests. The next symposium will be held in Helsinki in 2013.

I would like to acknowledge ISB for supporting my participation in FinMedChem.

Daniela Karlsson

Department of Biosciences

Åbo Akademi University