

The Gordon Research Conference  
“Protein derived cofactors, radicals and quinones”  
January 22-27, 2006 in Ventura, CA, USA

The Gordon Research Conferences is an organization that arranges more than 150 international conferences every year. The conference that I participated in focused on protein derived cofactors, radicals and quinones and was held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ventura, California. The program consisted of presentations in the mornings and evenings, with time for free discussion and poster presentations in the afternoon. My supervisor, Tiina Salminen, had been invited to give a talk about the crystal structure of human vascular adhesion protein-1 (Vap-1), which we have solved recently in our group. I had a poster where I presented modeling and substrate binding studies on human retina-specific amine oxidase, a close relative to Vap-1. The conference was really inspiring, especially since I had the opportunity to meet several of the leading experts in amine oxidase research and to discuss my work with them.

The web page of the conference can be found at:  
<http://www.grc.uri.edu/programs/2006/protder.htm>

Heidi Kidron  
Structural Bioinformatics Laboratory  
Åbo Akademi University