



BIOSTRUCT – Structure guided drug discovery and design course was held in Tromsø, Norway from 11th to 15th June 2012. The aim of this maiden course was to give students the overview of the structural aspects of modern drug discovery. Including various topics like structural mechanisms of classical drugs, de-novo and substrate based hit generation, structure guided screen design, in vitro and in silico binding site characterization, lead optimization, structure guided synthesis strategies and reaction to drug resistance. With lectures both from national and international speakers, including **Prof. Gerard Klebe** (University of Marburg) on Protein-ligand interactions and screening and 'The drug discovery process in industry' by **Prof. Herbert Nar** (Boehringer Ingelheim). Lectures were accompanied by computer exercises on using the various databases and software suites for drug screening and protein-ligand docking. The students had to propose and follow up with a small project based on the knowledge from the course.

To conclude, I believe the course gave me valuable tools and ideas to use in my studies. The course also had very good atmosphere, and helped me make many new contacts in Europe.

I thank ISB and NNBI for the financial support.

Arafath Najumudeen
Turku Centre for Biotechnology
Åbo Akademi University

