

Scandem 2011 Annual Meeting of Scandinavian Microscopy Society June 8-10, 2011

Scandem 2011 was organised by the Scandinavian Society for Electron Microscopy. It has traditionally focused on all aspects related to electron microscopy, but lately taken also other microscopy technologies under its wing. The meeting had two parallel tracks, one for life sciences and one for materials sciences. Scientific program covers the main areas of latest instrumentation and methodology in both fields. Three practical workshops will demonstrate thin sectioning of EM specimens, 3D modeling and Focused Ion Beam technology. During the conference there will be a high quality Trade exhibition in the area adjacent to the lecture halls. The presentations were international and mainly from European institutes

The majority of life science track involved electron microscopy in a form or another. Some presentations involved x-ray tomography and different light microscopy techniques. The hottest topics were 3D sectioning of EM-samples, fluorescence correlation/co-localisation in electron micrographs and 3D model reconstruction from large section datasets. All the main topics fitted well within the scope of ISB and the recent developments of EM hold interesting new possibilities.

My goal in the meeting was to present a poster, publicise the instruments of Turku Bioimaging and find possibilities for new collaborations. Based on my abstract titled "Multimodal Imaging of Osteoclast Binding" I was selected to give a 15 min presentation on the research of our group. The poster attracted a fair bit of interest as well and future collaboration some of the scientists I met is quite likely.

The SCANDEM 2011 was well organised and it introduced me to state-of-the-art EM. I was made aware of the problems the EM teams are facing and it appears that some of them can be tackled by the technologies at Turku Bioimaging.

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