

## SIXTH EUROPEAN WORKSHOP IN DRUG DESIGN

The sixth European Workshop in Drug Design (VI EWDD) was held in Certosa di Pontignano Siena Italy June 3-9, 2007. The workshop was arranged by the University of Siena for the first time in May of 1995. The workshop was divided into lectures (conference) and case studies (workshop). The lectures explained the latest techniques used in pharmaceutical research. In the case studies participants solved concrete pharmaceutical cases. I took part in virtual screening case study led by Prof. Thierry Langer.

The daily program began with lectures at 9.00 am and after lunch the participants worked with their case studies till six o'clock. The speakers included some of the most accomplished and esteemed researchers in the field of molecular modeling and drug design both from US and Europe. The speakers and software people helped with the case studies but mostly the work was self-reliant. The posters presenting the research of the participants were displayed on the corridors for the duration of the workshop. The posters were reviewed and the two best were rewarded.

The location of the workshop was a very beautiful old monastery in the country side near Siena, in the heart of Toscana. About half of the participants stayed in the Certosa di Pontignano and the other half shuttled with a bus from a hotel San Marco that was in the other side of the town. The room and board and the social program after dinners were excellent by any standards. We also had one afternoon to go sightseeing in the old town of Siena.

I want to acknowledge ISB for the travel grant that helped to finance this productive and educational trip to Siena. I also want to recommend this workshop for new Ph.D. students that are involved in drug design and molecular modeling.

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