

RESEARCH VISIT – M.Sc. Johanna Laakkonen
EMBL Heidelberg, 22 August 2007 - 31 August 2007

EMBO Practical Course on Methods in Cell Biology:
Exploring the Dynamics of Cellular Organisation

I was privileged to attend to EMBO Practical Course on Methods in Cell Biology in Heidelberg, at European Molecular Biology Laboratories (EMBL) in August 2007. Among over a hundred applicants I was chosen together with thirty other pre- or postdoctoral students all over the world. The course was focused on broadening the participants' knowledge of experimental systems and technologies in modern cell biology, including light and electron microscopy techniques *e.g.* LSM (laser scanning microscopy), EM-tomography, TIRF, FRAP, FRET, FLIM, FCS, laser ablation and image analysis. Variety of different cell biological models was used, such as budding- and fission yeast, mammalian tissue culture cells, and *Xenopus* egg extracts. Seminars and lectures were given by well-known invited and local speakers, followed by practical laboratory work in the Cell Biology and Biophysics unit at EMBL. In practical sessions, I got the privileged to attend in laboratory workshops of Dr. Claude Antony, Dr. Philippe Bastiaens, Dr. Eric Karsenti and Dr. Michael Knop. I would highly recommend this course to anyone interested in modern cell biological methods. Finally, I gratefully acknowledge National Graduate School in Informational and Structural Biology and Emil Aaltonen Foundation for financial support.