



XXIInd Biennial Conference on Phage/Virus Assembly

Port Aransas, Texas, USA

9.10-14.10.11

Biennial Conference on Phage/Virus Assembly (PVA) addresses the questions of virus assembly, infection and structures focusing mainly on viruses infecting bacteria (bacteriophages; phages). The conference is highly interdisciplinary and presents results from variety of studies from crystallography to clinical experiments. The first PVA conference was held in California in 1968. Since 1968 our knowledge of phages has increased greatly and the PVA conference has been bringing to the table the latest finding of the developing field for over 40 years. PVA 2011 was organized by Prof. Ian Molineux, Dr. Marc Morais and Prof. Ry Young in Port Aransas, Texas, USA.

PVA 2011 gathered over a hundred attendees from virus labs over the world; 71 presentations were given and 43 posters presented. Presentations were divided in sessions by general area of research, including phage viral cell entry/exit, phage assembly, DNA packaging, terminase protein research and protein structures. I presented a poster of my own research on conserved phage coat protein structures and followed especially closely the sessions for protein structures, phage assembly and DNA packaging. It seems that there is much interest in the dynamics of the multifunctional terminase protein as a number of talks were on that subject.

PVA conference is great to go to as it gives me the opportunity to put faces to the names often see in publications in my field. This was my second time attending this conference, and I would like to thank ISB very much for funding my participation.

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