

Axonal Transport and Neurodegeneration School

Feedback Anna Akhmanova

Short Summary: The School and Workshop have provided a broad overview of important topics in the field such as basic mechanisms of cytoskeletal organization and microtubule-based motor transport, neuronal organization, formation of neuronal cytoskeleton, function and dysfunction of neuronal transport systems and the molecular mechanisms underlying pathology in human neurodegenerative diseases.

My Role during the School: I have given two lectures, a general overview of the molecular mechanisms underlying microtubule dynamics regulation in mammalian cells, and a more specific lecture on microtubule plus end tracking proteins and my lab's contribution to the field. I also had extensive discussions with the students on these subjects, and helped a group of students to prepare presentations on recent papers highlighting these topics.

Opinion on the Organization: the School was very well organized, the choice of topics and speakers was excellent, and the students were highly engaged and motivated. Altogether, participating in this event was a highly stimulating experience for me.

Suggestions:

1. All the speakers could be encouraged to provide a somewhat broader overview of the field and focus somewhat less on their own work.
2. For student discussions, I would suggest to choose a much smaller set of papers that all the students would read, and discuss them in more depth.