



ASCEPT International Travel Award Report

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Firstly, I would like to thank ASCEPT for their generosity in providing me with an International Travel Award, which allowed me to attend and present at the 16th World Congress on Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WorldPharma2010) in Denmark (17th - 23rd July, 2010) and to visit Professor Ad Ijzerman and his laboratory at Leiden University, Netherlands.

WorldPharma2010 brought together many international experts in both basic and clinical pharmacology to provide a comprehensive and stimulating overview of their current research. The seminar series focused on G protein-coupled 7 transmembrane receptors, as well as translational science in the metabolic syndrome were of particular interest, providing fascinating and conceptually useful information for application to my own PhD project. In addition, attendance to topics not directly related to my topic significantly broadened my knowledge of other fields of research.

Specific highlights of the conference included the seminar given by Dr. Sadaf Farooqi, who provided a very insightful presentation on the involvement of genetics and the leptin receptor in the onset of obesity. Also, Dr. Lotte Bjerre Knudsen, an expert in diabetic research, gave an excellent presentation of the current research of the leaders in diabetic research, Novo-Nordisk. Overall, the combination of both basic and clinical pharmacology at this conference emphasised the enormity of pharmacological research in the world, and was fantastic in grasping both ends of the pharmacology spectra – from initial drug design and testing to application in a clinical setting.