

The 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Pharmacology  
(IUPHAR 2006)  
Beijing International Convention Center, China, July 2-7 2006.

***My learning experience during IUPHAR***

It was an amazing experience to be able to attend the 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Pharmacology. It was an intellectual experience as well as a cultural experience. One of the aims for me to attend this conference is to improve my understanding of basic pharmacology. Some of the plenary seminars gave basic concepts and techniques were really a good idea for those who are from different disciplines like myself.

The interactive seminar on how to write and submit a paper was actually what I really wanted to do at this stage of my PhD. This was a very useful and an informed seminar.

The most interesting and exciting part of this conference was the meeting with Professor Kazuo Takahama and Associate Professor Tetsuya Shirasaki from Kumamoto University in Japan. Both of them showed great interest in my project. Professor Kazuo Takahama would like to use my compound as a control in his study on rat neuronal GIRK channels. These also give me an idea to continue testing my compound in rat neuronal cells using cell patch clamp. I have just emailed him about my intention to go over to Japan for two months to learn the techniques as well as to create for my PhD studies. He was very keen to have me and very please that I showed interest to learn and collaborate with him. Unfortunately, he will not able to support me financially, but he will welcome me to his laboratory as long as I seek my own funding. I think this is a very good opportunity for my career and my PhD. I will try to seek funding by applying scholarships and grab this opportunity to learn.

Finally, it was an enjoyable experience to man the ASCEPT-SEAWP booth at IUPHAR, especially the interaction with different people.