

Travel report: BSI/NVVI annual congress 2016

6-9 December 2016

ACC Liverpool UK

Bernadien Nijmeijer, PhD student

Department of Experimental immunology

AMC, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

---

The travel grant of the Dutch Society of Immunology allowed me to visit the NVVI joined BSI congress in Liverpool 2016. This congress was of special interest to me as it allowed me to broaden my perspectives on Immunology related research in the UK. There were presentations from a whole range of institutes, Kings College London, UCL, Cambridge, Oxford, and many international institutes.

There were many inspiring invited and keynote speakers. For me, the presentation of Akiko Iwasaki and her work on innate recognition of viral infections and priming of the adaptive immune system was really interesting. Also the work of Yasmin Belkaid on microbial host interactions and Henrique Veiga-Fernandes was of interest to me.

The oral presentations of the congress were subdivided into plenary sessions based on topic. This way, I could pick specific sessions that were more related to my research and this also gives the opportunity for many researchers to present their work.

Wednesday and Thursday evening were open for Poster walks. The easygoing vibe was a good variety to the rest of the program. This way it's easier to make more personal contact and it gives young researchers the opportunity to be actively involved in discussing their research.

Overall I enjoyed the congress and learned a lot. A joined BSI meeting gives it an international character and brings the NVVI to text level. I'm thankful to the NVVI for providing me with this travel grant.