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The Germinal Center Conference is a meeting which is held once in four to five years. This year it was held from 11-14 September in Uddevalla in Sweden. The meeting is a great opportunity to meet and discuss work with the most established researchers in the field of Germinal Center research. Most highly esteemed researchers in the field are present because the meeting takes place only once in four to five years.

Every day of the meeting there were several plenary sessions. In each session two experts in the field showed their most recent data. Next to these experts per session also two young researchers, mostly postdocs, got the opportunity to present their work. Most useful for myself were the sessions on 'Selection of B cells in the GC' on the second day and 'Human antibody responses' on the last day. But also all the other sessions were highly interesting, motivating and inspiring. Talks by for example Mark Shlomchik and Michael-McHeyzer Williams were greatly inspiring because of the good discussions which followed after the talk. The talk by Ziv Shulman, postdoc in the lab of Michel Nussenzweig, showed with state of the art intravital microscopy the dynamics of a germinal center and the selection of high-affinity B-cells.

After dinner on the first and second day poster sessions were held in which all participants could discuss their work in an interactive manner. The poster session was a nice opportunity to informally discuss results of other researchers, including some of which I attended the talk in one of the plenary sessions. On the second day I had the opportunity to present my own work in a poster. During the session I had some great discussions with a lot of different researchers, ranging from PhD students like me and established researchers in the field. These discussions gave me new insights and suggestions for my own research. All abstracts of oral and poster sessions were published in the Scandinavian journal of Immunology.

The Germinal Center meeting was a great opportunity to meet other researchers in the same research field from other countries. The organizers of the event made a great balance between scientific sessions and social activities in means of a formal dinner and boat trip. All these activities gave the opportunity to talk to established researchers in a relaxed atmosphere.

I am grateful to the Dutch Society for Immunology for enabling me to attend this meeting by providing me with a travel grant.