

Australian Society for Biophysics – March 2018

Conference report from a student attending the 'Membranes and Health' biophysics workshop held March 14th, 2018 at the Centre for Nanoscale Science and Technology of Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia.

Membranes and health biophysics workshop has emerged membrane researchers from diverse disciplines such as biophysics, biology, chemistry, and medicine. This was provided an outstanding opportunity to learn from experts in these fields. Listening to a successful scientist describing their latest research approaches and techniques was motivating and informative

The workshop expanded my understanding of tethered lipid membranes field specifically. It also gave me an excellent knowledge of different chemical structure employed in tethering molecules. This knowledge I gained was through witnessing the best presentations by experts in tethered bilayer membranes. These included great talks from Assoc. Prof Ingo Koper, (Flinders University) Prof Gunther Andesson (Flinders University), and Assoc Prof Duncan McGillivray (University of Auckland).

I also appreciated the insights that were provided by each scientist in the presentation of Neutron Reflectometry techniques and how they display their work differently depending on their research goals. This had a constructive inspiration and influence.

The workshop enriched my knowledge on new techniques that Professor Mibel Aguilar presented on her biosensor-based membrane-binding assay utilizing Dual Polarization Interferometry. This technique can monitor the lipid layer thickness and peptide binding at the same time.

Attending this membranes and health biophysics workshop as a Ph.D. student as a member of Australian Society for Biophysics with research interests lie in tethered lipid bilayer membranes has provided an excellent opportunity for development of my research.

I would like to thank Australian Society for Biophysics once again for this valuable opportunity.