

## A Report on Attending A Conference: 2016 IS-MPMI XVII Congress, Portland, Oregon, July 17-21, 2016

Sheng-Chun Yu  
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The 2016 IS-MPMI XVII Congress I attended covered various topics on molecular plant-microbe interactions, recognition in plant immunity, and signal transduction for systemic defense, *etc.* Since my research is focused on detecting protein-protein interactions between receptor-like kinases from barley/wheat and effector proteins from *Blumeria graminis* and yeast transformation optimisation, this conference provided a full opportunity for inspirational and constructive discussions. This conference also acted as a platform to enhance a constructive dialogue on my research, especially on yeast transformation optimisation.

The poster I presented at the conference has been allocated in the cell biology of microbe-host interactions section. The poster was: "Novel methodology for improving cell biology of yeast for the investigation of interactions between *Blumeria graminis* and hosts. S. YU, A. Henderson, A. Dawson, R. Woodruff, E. Lockyer, E. Read, G. Sriharan, M. Ryan, M. Sgroi, P. Ngou, Y. Liu, Y. Xiang, R. Zhang, Imperial College London, United Kingdom" and published in the 2016 ISMPMI program book. I was presenting a poster presentation at the conference for one hour on Thursday, 21 July 2016 and I was also attending other conference programs during Sunday, 17 July to Thursday, 21 July. During the time of 2016 ISMPMI, I had several inspirational discussions on yeast transformation optimisation with prof. Andrew Bent and with Prof. Jiantao Guo.

2016 ISMPMI conference included more than a thousand participates and 152 invited speakers from all the continents to present their recent research in the plant-related research area. It provided me with a beneficial learning experience. For example, it was a great opportunity to participate fully in discussions with plant-related researchers and to share findings and views during poster sections, coffee breaks, and conference dinner. As a result, I have known many academics and professionals from different countries who have similar research interests such as yeast transformation.

Finally, I would like to thank Department of Life Sciences, Imperial College London, Biochemical Society, and British Society for Cell Biology for funding the expense of attending the conference. This conference broadens my knowledge and experience. Also, many thanks should go to my line manager Prof. Pietro Spanu for his fully support and advice.

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Dr Sheng-Chun Yu, Research Associate, Department of Life Sciences, Imperial College London, E-mail: sheng-chun.yu08@imperial.ac.uk