

Resume about my experience at ThymOZ International Conference on T Lymphocytes

The ThymOZ International Conference on T lymphocytes was held on Heron Island, Queensland, Australia between the 22nd and 27th March 2023. The conference began with Nancy Manley's keynote speech about her 25-year-career in the thymus field. Each of the following four days was composed of three major sessions, where each session included 4-5 talks. Altogether 80-100 people attended the conference. Following each session there was time for further discussion in a more casual environment, with refreshments.

There were a plethora of excellent research talks with very interesting science involved. I will briefly mention only some of them which particularly caught my attention and inspired me the most:

Graham Anderson shared his work on how eosinophils are playing a key role in innate immunity and thymus regeneration.

Al Singer gave some new insights about how co-receptor reversal occurs during positive selection of T cells.

Also there were many interesting research findings shared on how damage and aging change the structure and cellular composition of the thymus, and the current pathways being explored for inducing sustained thymus regeneration.

Additionally, I was given an opportunity to present my PhD work in an oral presentation. The talk attracted significant interest from the audience in the form of brief questions followed by longer discussions during dinner. It was an honour and a unique opportunity to chat to people in the field, including very senior researchers, and to get to know other labs from all around the world. This conference was held on a special island with no phone or internet service which facilitated making connections and opening ways for collaboration even more fluid. It is of gratitude to be able support my travel and attendance to this conference with the support from the James Rennie Bequest fund.

A photo as a representation from my presentation.

