
48th Annual Meeting of the CSBMCMCMB: A Glowing Report of our 2005 Meeting

Joe Casey, Past-President CSBMCMCMB

The 48th annual meeting of CSBMCMCMB was held from March 16-20 2005 at the Banff Centre, Banff Alberta, with the Topic, "Cellular Dynamics." The meeting was a spectacular success, which came as no surprise, because all the ingredients were there: a stellar line-up of speakers, the magic of a Rocky mountain setting, and good weather for skiing (and science).

The meeting began strongly with a keynote presentation by Nobel Laureate, Dr. Günter Blobel (Rockefeller University). In the unenviable position of following up a talk by a Nobel Prize winner were this year's co-recipients of the CSBMCMCMB award for researchers in the first ten years of independent career (the Merck-Frosst Prize), Dr. Mark Glover (University of Alberta) and Eric Brown (McMaster University). Rounding out the first evening was Dr. Chris Bleackley (University of Alberta), winner of the Roche Diagnostic Award for a senior researcher.

Meeting organizers Dr. Rick Wozniak and Rick Rachubinski of the University of Alberta, along with their organizing committee, deserve our thanks for assembling a diverse set of sessions that provided an overview of the state of the art in cell biology today. Session topics were "Organelles of the Secretory Pathway", "Emerging Technologies", "Imaging Technologies", "Organelle Inheritance", "Protein Folding", "Nuclear Dynamics", "RNA Localization" and "Systems Approaches to Cell Biology." Together, these sessions highlighted the strength of CSBMCMCMB meetings: providing cutting edge science on a focused topic and in an excellent

setting. The opportunity to experience high quality science in a relatively small meeting makes for an unforgettable time, indeed. Many aspects of the meeting were memorable, but without doubt the quality of modern imaging techniques was evident throughout the talks, and is clearly now central to cell biology. Students commented on the fact that virtually all the talks were glowing with fluorescent proteins!



Based on numbers, the meeting was a great success, attracting 157 attendees, 68 posters and 50 speakers drawn from Canada, the United States, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Eleven students from across Canada won travel awards from Merck Frosst to support their attendance at the meeting. Eight prizes for outstanding poster presentations (three supported by Roche Diagnostics, and five provided by the CSBMCMCMB) were awarded to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

The Banff meeting extended the series of recent memorable CSBMCMCMB meetings, which have combined outstanding science in a small meeting with a relaxed setting. We look forward to the 2006 CSBMCMCMB Meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake!