

A report on attending the British toxicology society (BTS) Annual Congress 2023 held in Birmingham from April 17-19th, 2023.

The British toxicology society (BTS) Annual Congress 2023 commenced with an inspiring keynote address by the president of BTS, Prof Brian Lake. Later the keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Todd Gouin, emphasizing the adverse effects of emerging pollutants, including nano and microplastics, on the environment and human health. The subsequent scientific sessions were organized into tracks, covering environmental toxicology, clinical toxicology, and risk assessment.

The symposia I found particularly interesting was titled "Application of in vitro methods for mechanistic understanding and decision" and "Innovative approaches supporting the toxicological evaluation of agrochemicals." The speakers discussed the new approach methodologies (NAMs), such as in vitro models, organ-on-a-chip technology, and 3D cell culture systems for safety evaluation and risk assessment of chemicals. The session sparked a lively discussion, highlighting the opportunities and challenges of adopting these novel approaches, including multi-omics technologies and adverse outcome pathways.

One of the most valuable aspects of the BTS Congress 2023 was its numerous networking opportunities. During refreshment and poster sessions, I interacted with fellow researchers and industry professionals, which allowed me to establish new connections, exchange ideas, and gain valuable insights into ongoing research projects and future collaborations. The diverse backgrounds and perspectives of the attendees enriched the networking experience and broadened my understanding of clinical and environmental toxicology.

Moreover, I got the opportunity to present my ongoing research on the effects of widely used flame retardants on both metabolic function and reproductive health using in vitro 3D cell culture and zebrafish model. The presentation highlighted the potential risks posed by these chemicals and shed light on the need for further investigation. The audience showed profound interest in my findings, and the presentation sparked valuable discussions.

Attending the BTS Congress 2023 was an enriching experience that provided me with invaluable insights into the current state of toxicology and biomedical research. Overall, the BTS Meeting 2023 served as an excellent platform for learning, knowledge sharing, networking, and inspiring discussions. I look forward to applying the knowledge gained from this event to my research.

I am sincerely thankful to the BTS for the bursary, which made it possible for me to attend the conference, and my supervisor, Prof. Ludek Blaha, for his continued support and guidance.