

Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Toxicity GRS and GRC 2023 perspective from: Tarek Mamdouh Abdelghany, The School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition, the University of Aberdeen. Presented abstract "Short Chain Methylimidazolium Ionic Liquids are Environmentally- and Metabolically Stable and Show Endocrine Disruption Potential".

I am honoured to have been granted the prestigious BTS Gordon Gibson Travel Award 2023. This award afforded me the opportunity to partake in the esteemed Gordon Research Seminars (GRS) and Conference (GRC) on Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Toxicity, held at Proctor Academy in Andover, New Hampshire, United States, from the 12th to the 18th of August 2023.

Drawing from a cumulative attendance of over 30 international scientific conferences centred around Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Pharmacy, I can confidently assert that this year's Toxicology GRS and GRC represented a profoundly exceptional scientific assembly within the realm of Toxicology.

From a scientific perspective, the selection of session themes for both the seminars and the conference was meticulously chosen to encompass a comprehensive array of Toxicology hot topics. These subjects included, but were not limited to, the utilisation of Artificial Intelligence in the context of Toxicology, Translational Toxicology, the application of Functional Genomics for the advancement of Mechanistic Toxicology, and contemporary methodologies in the assessment of Developmental Toxicity, among others.

The sessions were orchestrated engagingly, nurturing an interactive atmosphere that facilitated trainees' inquiries directed toward speakers. These dynamics allowed trainees to enhance their knowledge, while allowing speakers to gain insights from diverse perspectives concerning their research. Complementing the oral presentations, the poster sessions served as opportune occasions for scientific deliberations. Notably, the speakers' cohort displayed a commendable diversity, representing various countries and affiliations with academic institutions, pharmaceutical enterprises, and regulatory entities. This diversity notably enriched the scientific discussion of the conference.

The conference environment itself presented an ideal setting for robust networking among all participants, while the selection of Proctor Academy as the venue was insightful, highlighted by the admirable assistance provided by the diligent staff. Opportunities for networking were abundant, encompassing meal times, breaks, and organised mid-day activities such as hiking and excursions to lakes (*pictured below*). Engaging with fellow attendees allowed for extensive discussions concerning my research endeavours, and plans are in motion to arrange a Zoom meeting with a researcher who also attended the conference, aiming to explore potential avenues for research collaboration within the domain of Mitochondrial Toxicity. A compelling dimension to my current engagements involves the forthcoming delivery of approximately 10 interactive Toxicology Lectures at the University of Aberdeen this year. Partaking in the GRS and GRC sessions thus presented a valuable prospect, affording me the capacity to deepen my Toxicology knowledge, thereby enhancing the foundation upon which I intend to formulate my lectures with a heightened research-informed perspective.

Overall, I heartedly feel grateful to the BTS for supporting me in participating at the Toxicology GRS and GRC 2023, and to the chairs and organisers of the GRS and GRC for all their appreciated efforts in organising this outstanding scientific Toxicology event.

