

3rd Asian Conference on Environmental Mutagens (3rd ACEM) Report

Hangzhou, China

Oct. 23-26, 2012

3rd Asian Conference on Environmental Mutagens (3rd ACEM) was successfully completed on October 26, 2012 in Hangzhou, China. The conference was attended by approximately 350 participants, representing 12 countries (Canada, China, Czech Republic, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherland, and United State of America), which were not only limited in Asian area. This conference is organized by the Asian Association of Environmental Mutagen Societies (AAEMS) and Chinese Environmental Mutagen Society (CEMS) and operated by Zhejiang Provincial Science and Technology Exchange Center. The Academic Committee Chair is Professor Jia CAO, President of AAEMS (2012-2013), Co-chair is Professor Willian WAU. Organization Committee Chair is Professor Jun YANG, Co-chair is Professor Weidong HAO, Secretary General of CEMS.

The main theme of the 3rd ACEM is “Environmental Effects on Human Health in Rapidly Developing Asia Countries”, which focuses on the environmental problems generated during the rapidly developing Asia countries and the subsequent health effects. 6 famous experts in this field have given keynote speeches, which include:

1. The Role of International Consortia in Human Biomarkers Research, Stefano Bonassi, IRCCS San Raffaele Pisana, Rome, Italy
2. Ethnoepidemiologic Studies on Environmental and Host Factors for Increasing Cancers in Korea-Japan-China (KOJACH), Kazuo Tajima, Aichi Cancer Center Research Institute, Japan
3. The GWAS Analysis for Genetic Polymorphisms of Chinese Malignancy, Hongbing Shen, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing, China
4. Environmental Systems Biology: How Genomic Approaches Are Impacting the Science of Toxicology, Richard S. Paules, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, USA
5. Fukushima Accident: Effects on Humans and the Environment, Kazuo Sakai, National Institute of Radiological Sciences, Japan
6. Ambient Fine Particulates PM_{2.5} and Public Health in China: Cardio-Pulmonary Effects and Mechanisms, Wei Huang, Centre for Environment and Health, Peking University, China

The outstanding scientific program in the conference was also owed to the 34 valuable presentations on 8 main topics in different symposiums, including:

1. Impacts of Environmental Pollutions, Life Style Activities on Human Health Effects
2. Mechanisms of Environmental Mutagenesis and Carcinogenesis Including DNA Repair
3. “OMICS” Research and Environmental Health
4. Genetic Polymorphisms and Individual Susceptibility
5. Biomarkers Assay for Genotoxicity and Risk Assessment
6. Antimutagenesis and Anticarcinogenesis of Natural Products
7. Efficacy and Safety of Foods and Drugs in Asia Countries
8. Serious Environmental Accidents and Health Consequences in Asia Countries

In addition, 157 posters on the above topics have been presented to show case the knowledge and expertise of the participants. These posters were evaluated by the Poster Review Committee. In the end, 10 of them were nominated for the awards for their scientific merits, which were from China, Japan, Kazakhstan and Malaysia.

This four-day event has provided a high-level exchange platform for researchers in life science, medicine, public health and environmental science to discuss the environment-gene-health interaction from different angles. It was a grand gathering of Asian environmental mutagen community. It is clear that the conference objective was fulfilled. Everyone has fully enjoyed the conference by receiving highly valuable scientific and social experience, and they think that the successful conference provided a good opportunity for the researchers to communicate with each other, and pushed the association to develop more and get researching improvement for environmental mutagen research in Asian countries.