**EACR-22 Meeting Bursaries**

EACR awarded 44 Meeting Bursaries to junior researchers from 20 countries to help them to attend the 22nd Biennial EACR Congress in Barcelona, 7-10 July 2012.

**Ramon Garcia-Areas**  
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, U.S.A.

I am immensely thankful to the EACR for awarding me the travel bursary award, which enabled me to attend EACR-22 in beautiful Barcelona, Spain. I thoroughly enjoyed my first EACR biennial congress, where I presented my poster: “Semaphorin 7A is up-regulated in human breast cancer and promotes epithelial to mesenchymal transition in the breast epithelia.” I received valuable input on my project from fellow scientists and many new ideas have developed from these interactions. Being able to network with other scientists pursuing similar goals will hopefully yield fruitful collaborations in the near future. In addition to being able to present my findings, I was able to attend many interesting seminar sessions from some of the top researchers in the cancer field.

I particularly enjoyed the proffered paper presentations; it was invigorating to be exposed to the cutting-edge research being done throughout many European laboratories. The closing talk by Dr. Jose Baselga was particularly interesting to me, because as a young researcher it was really inspiring how his approach to clinical trials is shifting the paradigm for current treatment strategies.

I have encouraged many of my peers at Florida Atlantic University to join the EACR and hopefully we can develop stronger ties between European researchers and our university. Overall, the organizing committee and EACR staff did a fantastic job putting together a meeting that was informative, productive and overall very enjoyable. I highly encourage researchers to join the EACR community and attend EACR-23 in Munich!

**Serena Bonifati**  
German Cancer Research Center, DKFZ, Heidelberg, Germany

I am currently in my second year as a PhD student at DKFZ in Heidelberg. My PhD project focuses on the improvement of the oncolytic potential of H-1 parvovirus (H-1PV) with the aim of developing more efficient and innovative H-1PV-based anticancer therapies.

Attending the EACR-22 meeting in Barcelona was a wonderful experience. It gave me the opportunity to attend talks given by renowned scientists, which allowed me to improve my knowledge and to have an overview on different aspects of cancer research.

Moreover, during the poster session I had the chance to discuss my project with experts working in the same research area, and this was very useful for collecting new ideas which will certainly improve my professional growth.

I am very grateful to the EACR committee for giving me this opportunity, and I would like to thank the organisers for providing an enthusiastic environment.

**Susan G. Komen for the Cure Scholarships**

EACR was pleased to present four Susan G. Komen for the Cure Scholarships to the presenters of the best breast cancer related abstracts at EACR-22. The awards were presented by Ambassador Nancy G. Brinker.

Four Susan G. Komen for the Cure Scholarship Awards were awarded to the presenters of the very best abstracts that related to breast cancer research.

The winners were Arkaitz Carracedo, Serena Nik-Zainal, Silje Nord and Dana Tsui.

The winners received their awards at a special ceremony, where they also had the opportunity to talk to Ambassador Nancy G. Brinker about their research.