

Poster Presentation

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The International School of Crystallography: an example of continuing education

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2014 has been declared by UNESCO the International Year of Crystallography. Following the declaration, many initiatives have flourished with the intent of spreading the science and culture of crystallography, since among the major objectives of the IYCr2014 are increase of public awareness on the science of crystallography, promotion of education and research in all fields of crystallography and fostering of international collaborations. The International School of Crystallography is an internationally recognized meeting that was started in 1974 by Prof. Riva di Sanseverino, with the similar goals of promoting high level crystallographic education, scientific exchanges and collaborations. In 2014 the school celebrates its 40th year of activity. During these forty years, courses have been held on many different topics addressing all aspects of crystallography, from crystal growth theory to practical applications in drug discovery to the use of cutting edge technologies; students and teachers have been brought together in an environment that fostered high level scientific discussions as well as unique interpersonal relationships. Many of the students moved on to become well known personality in the crystallographic community, while retaining collaborations and friendships started during the School. Through these years the School teaching methods have also evolved, taking advantage of the fast technological progress of the past 10 years or so. The School offers both traditional lectures and practical computer-based workshops, to guarantee the students not only a theoretical background, but also hands-on experiences on applied crystallography. The dedication of the organizers and lecturers, the unconditioned support of the local staff, and the unique location of the School have made it a great success and a very popular meeting for generations of crystallographers.

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