



European Crystallographic Association

ECA

Report for school financial support

1. Date, location and title of meeting:

Title meeting	55 th Course of the IScoC “Molecular Crystal Engineering”
Location	Online
Date	31 st May – 5 th June
Website address	https://crystalerice.org/2021/

2. Please describe how the bursary was used.

The bursary made available by ECA were used to waive the registration fees of **8 students**, coming from the European area. The fee was 100 € because the event was held online due to the pandemic restrictions. Despite this, we have received almost 120 applications and was quite difficult to restrict the participants to just 61 attendants.

3. Report (min. 250 words, max. 500 words, will be published on the ECA web site)

The organization of a course on Molecular Crystal Engineering begun in 2015 with the aim to continue the series on the topic initiated in Erice in 1995. The course was originally planned to be delivered in the usual venue of the Ettore Majorana Centre in Erice. Due to the on-going global pandemic of COVID-19, and the gathering/travel restrictions associated with it, the course was delivered online instead.

The online version was scheduled taking into account several aspects: different time zone of the participants, avoid long period in front of the screen, convey the spirit of Erice. On light of these points, the official online school was restricted from the 31st of May to the 4th of June with only four hours sections per day but to assure a high quality of the school, lectures were pre-recorded and distributed to the participants three weeks before the official opening day while during the official meeting the discussion was favored. A “Preparation” week was also introduced from the 24th to the 28th of May, during this week the students met daily in small groups to discuss each of the recorded lectures and to collect questions. Questions were then passed to the lecturers and addressed during the live streamed sessions from the 31st of May to the 4th of June. These meeting were facilitated by the “orange scarves”, selected students prone to help in the organization. Each day was dedicated to a specific theme: Theory, Solid Forms, Analysis, Properties, Applications.

The scientific program was delivered by 23 Lecturer chosen for their academic reputation as leaders in their respective field. Additionally, 6 guest outstanding speakers (Prof Angelo Gavezzotti, Prof. Mier Lahav, Prof. Lesley Leiserowitz, Prof. Carol Brook, Prof. Judith Howard

and Prof. Bruce Foxman) gave an historic perspective on crystallography to the younger participants. In the “Preparation” week 2 workshops were delivered by the CCDC. Each day was concluded by a Panel Discussion amongst the speakers open to additional questions from the participants.

Participants were selected according to a set of criteria that guaranteed a diverse representation. Gender and geographical balance were pursued. Applicants at their mid / final years of PhD were favored to ensure their active participation to the scientific discussion. 36 participants presented their work during 2 poster sessions. Each presenter introduced their work with a 1 minute pre-recorded video presentation.

During the closing ceremony, poster prizes were awarded, supported by Eldico, CrystEngComm and the IScoC. The prizes were awarded to Avital Wagner (Ben Gurion University, Israel), Divya Amin (UCL, UK) and Torvid Feiler (BAM, Germany), respectively. The Lodovico Prize was also appointed to Marco Bardini (University of Mons, Belgium).

At the end of the course a questionnaire was circulated amongst all the participants with 75% response. Overall, 37% of the responders ranked the course as the best on-line event they participated to and an additional 52% ranked it amongst the best ones. In particular, the students really appreciated the opportunity to meet during the “Preparation” week which helped them for a fruitful participation at the school.

Please return this form (in Word format) within three month after the event to
Prof. Carl Henrik Görbitz
meeting.officer@ecanews.org

A group picture is appreciated!

Students granted with ECA funds

LastName	FirstName	Email	Dob	Gender	Citizenship	Affiliation	Country	Grant (€)
Bouanga						Department of chemistry, University of Cape Town	ZA	100
Boudiombo	Jacky	bouangabjs@gmail.com	09/06/89	f	GA	Department of Crystallography, Faculty of Chemistry, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań	PL	100
Drwęska	Joanna	jdrweska@amu.edu.pl	30/06/96	f	PL	Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb	HR	100
Fotović	Luka	lfotovic@chem.pmf.hr	07/02/95	m	HR	Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	CZ	100
Ramesh	Sreela	rameshs@vscht.cz	18/05/96	f	IN	University College London - Department of Chemistry	GB	100
Ponan	Carissa	uccacpo@ucl.ac.uk	02/11/95	f	GB	Faculty of sciences Ben M"sik, University Hassan II of Casablanca	MA	100
Jarmouni	Nabila	nabilajarmouni@gmail.com	21/10/92	f	MA	Department Of Chemistry, Ghent University	BE	100
Bhandary	Subhrajyoti	subhrajyoti.bhandary@ugent.be	28/07/89	m	IN	University of Parma	IT	100
Prencipe	Michele	michele.prencipe@unipr.it	24/09/96	m	IT			100