Emerging trends in Natural Product Biotechnology

The biotechnology of secondary natural product plays a more and more important role in drug and gene discovery as well in pharmaceutical bioengineering. The symposium *Emerging Trends in Natural Product Biotechnology* held at TU Dortmund University from 20th to 21st September 2018 gave a forum for intensive discussions and talks on various topics like natural product biosynthesis, pathway design, metabolic engineering and biocatalysis. Prof. Nett, Prof. Kayser and Prof. Lütz organized the international two day symposium to bring experts from genetics, natural product chemistry and biotechnology together.

Prof. Birger Møller from Copenhagen University gave an excellent key note lecture on recent status of plant cytochrome biochemistry and future development of artificial plant pathways in designed. An outstanding talk was delivered by Dr. Jan Marienhagen, FZ Jülich, about pathway design for polyphenols in bacteria and yeast. As well, early carrier scientist got many opportunities for presenting own research and projects. Overall a fruitful discussion started after all talks showing the high interest in pushing this young field of natural product biotechnology forward.

The hosts acknowledged deeply the support of GA without this meeting would not have been possible. "This is an excellent primer for future meetings on a still neglected topic in natural product research" to cite Prof. Kayser. In times of Metabolic Engineering, an exploding number of genomes and analytical OMIC technologies, medicinal plants will stay tuned as attractive objects of life science research.

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