

## **XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery – Tailoring drug delivery systems to the patients’ needs**

The XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery took place in Coimbra, Portugal on January 14-16, 2018, at the University of Coimbra. The conference was attended by more than 190 participants.

The major theme of the conference was *Tailoring drug delivery systems to the patients’ needs*. The organizing committee of this conference comprised João Nuno Moreira, (University of Coimbra, Portugal); Dolores Torres (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain), Maria Manuela Gaspar (University of Lisbon, Portugal), Maria Blanco-Prieto (University of Navarra, Spain), Manoli Igartua (University of the Basque Country, Spain) together with active collaboration of Portuguese Local Chapter and Young Section members.

The program included two plenary lectures presented by Professor Nicholas A. Peppas and Patrick Couvreur, as well as 14 invited speakers from Portugal, Spain and Italy who addressed topics in the areas of neurological disorders, cancer, diagnosis/medical devices, regenerative medicine, immunotherapy, design of monoclonal antibodies as well as vaccines and viral systems for therapeutic application. One of the sessions was fully dedicated to the discussion of the 118 poster presented at the meeting, while another session comprised 12 short talks selected from submitted abstracts with the critical and decisive contribution of the scientific committee. All poster presenters were given the chance to present their work and pitch their research organized by members of the Young Section of the SPLC-CRS.

At the end of the second day of the conference, the SPLC-CRS General Assembly took place. A report of the activities carried out by the board of the local chapter between 2016 and 2018 was presented by the President. It was also mentioned that there was a marked increase in the number of members of the SPLC-CRS which now has more than 250 members.

On the last day of the conference, the round table *Bridging the Translational Gap Between Academia* with the participation of Portuguese pharmaceutical companies, Bluepharma and Blueclinical, as well as members of the Technology Transfer Office, University of Coimbra, concluded the event.

João Conriot from the Research Institute for Medicines of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon, was awarded with the best oral communication entitled *"Combination of Dendritic Cell-targeted Nano-vaccines with Immune Checkpoint Therapy for Melanoma"*. Andreia Pimenta from the Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, was awarded with the best poster communication entitled *"Moxifloxacin-loaded acrylic intraocular lenses for prevention of postoperative endophthalmitis: in vitro and in vivo performance"*.



Attendees of the “XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery”, January 14-16 Coimbra, Portugal 2018.



Members of the SPLC-CRS Board at the “XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery”, January 14-16 Coimbra, Portugal 2018.



Invited speakers and members of the SPLC-CRS Board at the Gala Dinner of the “XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery”, January 14-16 Coimbra, Portugal 2018.





The best oral communication award was given to João Conniot from the Research Institute for Medicines, University of Lisbon, Portugal.



Group picture at the “XII Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery”, January 14-16 Coimbra, Portugal 2018.