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Report of ECI Dublin 2024

On the 1st of September I went to Dublin to attend the European Conference for Immunology in Dublin, Ireland. Apart from it being the first time in Dublin for me, it was also the first time attending the ECI: and what an impact it made! With 26,000 attendees (not counting invited speakers), it is one of the largest in the Europe – at least much larger than anything else I had attended. This meant that there were talks from across all fields of immunology, and with that came the best keynote speakers those perspectives fields had to offer. I listened to Luke O’Niell try to convince us that macrophages were the culprit of all diseases as they were trying to ‘break free’ from the cell. Something which does not only sound amusing, but might also contain a shred of truth..? We listened to Tak Mak and his journey through science and DNA repair mechanisms and lastly, we had the honor to listen to Yasmine Belkaid, who showed us the wonders and changes in the immune system in pregnant women and mice. Moreover, there were 74 workshops covering topics like ‘Sex differences in the immune system’, ‘aging and the immune system’ and many many more. All in all, it was a wonderful meeting, with impressive and fascinating science. I learned a lot!