

2016 Bruker Users Meeting Held at University of North Florida

The 2016 Bruker Users Meeting took place on January 17-19, 2016 at the University of North Florida (UNF) in Jacksonville. This year the theme of the meeting was high-pressure crystallography, with two talks by M. Ruf (Bruker AXS) and M. Siqueira (Almax Easy Lab, Inc.) where collection and mounting/handling strategies were discussed, respectively. There was also a hands-on workshop on the Bruker D8 Venture instrument housed in C. Lampropoulos's laboratory at the UNF Chemistry Department on 'High Pressure Crystallography – Finally getting your feet wet!' presented by M. Ruf and M. Siqueira. The meeting included two full days of scientific talks and workshops, a poster session, as well as a tour to the historic city of St. Augustine and an evening



An Almax Easy Lab diamond anvil cell (DAC) suitable for x-ray diffraction mounted on the Kappa goniometer of the Bruker D8 Venture instrument at UNF

welcome reception. One of the workshops included in the program was by G. Sheldrick (U Göttingen) on 'Practical guide to SADABS, TWINABS, XT, etc.' while another was presented by K. Abboud (U Florida (UF)) and B. Noll (Bruker AXS) on 'Crystal structure determinations: the final touches.' J. Reibenspies and N. Bhuvanesh (both from Texas A&M) presented a workshop on 'Comparing predicted powder patterns from SCD with observed PXRD patterns.' Other notable presentations included one by T. Spek (U Utrecht) on 'Updates on validation and SQUEEZE,' one by J. Mague (Tulane U) on 'Rare earth polyoxotungstates: some cautionary tales,' and by B. Burrow

(Federal U Santa Maria (Brazil)) on 'Easy access to the Bruker APEX2/APEX3 PostSQL database.' Several talks by Bruker representatives portrayed the latest and greatest on single-crystal X-ray crystallography technologies, including the latest APEX3 software. I. Guzei (U Wisconsin – Madison) gave an inspiring talk about how to organize a crystal growing contest, titled: 'Crystal growing contests: a legacy of the international year of crystallography 2014.' The poster session included 10 posters by graduate students, postdocs, and young investigators, while the program also included chemistry and materials talks showcasing the work by different research groups in Florida. One of those was by T. Albert-Schmitt (Florida State U (FSU)) about crystal structures of transuranium elements, titled: 'Taking the Berkelium leap.' The second talk from Florida was by W. Gao (U South Florida) who talked about the 'Challenges in structural analysis of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs).' The local host, C. Lampropoulos (UNF) talked about 'The great dependence of cluster chemistry on X-ray crystallography,' where several recent results from undergraduate researchers at UNF were presented. The State of Florida was also represented in the poster session, with posters from Florida International U, FSU, and UF, while a number of UNF undergraduates also attended the talks. There were 52 registered participants from North and South America, Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. The diverse program was organized by I. Guzei, and the local host was C. Lampropoulos (UNF); the Bruker organizers were S. Byram and D. Frankel.

For additional information including the complete meeting program, see <http://brukerusermeeting.chem.wisc.edu> The UNF X-ray crystallography laboratory was established with support from an NSF-MRI grant (DMR-1429428).

Christos Lampropoulos

Contributors to this Issue

Jason Benedict, Axel Brunger, Chris Cahill, Martin Donakowski, Jeanette Ferrara, Joseph Ferrara, Frank Fronczek, Ilia Guzei, Ron Hamlin, Michael James, Christos Lampropoulos, Sine Larsen, Chiara Pastore, Virginia Pett, Daniel Rabinovich, Connie Rajnak, Ned Seeman, Tom Terwilliger, Anastasiya Vinokur, Winnie Wong-Ng