

The Lindau Meet

The 57th Meeting of Nobel Laureates and Students took place from July 1-6, 2007 at Lindau, Germany. This year, the meeting was dedicated to the discipline of Physiology and Medicine. Seventeen laureates in this field interacted with around 500 students from 64 countries.

I was fortunate enough to attend the meeting this year through the DST Award for participation in the Lindau Meet. It was a fascinating experience academically to interact with the very people who have expanded the frontiers of knowledge in my field. The meeting consisted of lectures, group discussions and round table sessions. It was a great opportunity to listen to people like Dr. Craig Mello, Dr. Hershko, Dr. Ceichanover, Dr. Ferid Murad and the rest talk about the discoveries that we learn in textbooks. One of the most impressive things about the meeting was its informal nature. There were dinners, social events and random talks with the laureates which made one realize that Nobel laureates are human beings too! The passion that they show for their work is probably what sets them apart from the rest. Another particular highlight was interacting with students in the field of biology from all over the world. A second week in Germany was spent visiting institutes like the Max Planck Institutes and German Cancer Research Foundation. All in all the Lindau meet was a once in a lifetime experience and I am extremely grateful to the benevolence of Amma, everyone at AIMS, the DST, German Reseach Foundation and the Lindau Council for giving me this opportunity.

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