portraying the worldwide spread of colorectal, lung and breast cancer in red meat consumers may be associated with the higher incidence of colorectal cancer. This number may even be a low estimate, as the relationship between red meat consumption and cancer risk is not fully understood. The role of additional factors, such as smoking and other lifestyle choices, may also play a significant role in the development of cancer. For researchers, understanding the mechanisms that underlie the link between red meat consumption and cancer risk is crucial for developing effective preventative strategies.

Medicine: Beyond the Cell

In his talk, the audience learned about the advancements in cancer research, particularly in the area of cancer immunotherapy. The speaker discussed how the immune system's role in fighting cancer has become increasingly recognized, leading to the development of novel treatments. The talk highlighted the importance of understanding the complex interplay between cancer cells and the immune system, and how this understanding can lead to the development of targeted therapies. The speaker also touched on the ethical considerations surrounding cancer research and the need for continued investment in cancer prevention and treatment initiatives.

Science Communication

The final talk of the day was delivered by a renowned science communicator. The speaker emphasized the importance of effective science communication in fostering public understanding and engagement with scientific topics. The talk underscored the need for clear, accessible, and engaging communication strategies to ensure that scientific knowledge reaches a broad audience. The speaker discussed various tools and techniques for improving science communication, such as storytelling, visual storytelling, and interactive multimedia. The talk ended with a call to action, encouraging the audience to consider how they can contribute to the science communication landscape.
Exhibit hall highlights

The booths of 48 companies and organizations filled the spacious RAI hallways, all with eye-catching designs, some of them leaning towards futuristic. Exhibitors came from a broad spectrum of industry and research ranging from the life science suppliers to publishing companies. It was helpful in promoting of imaging technologies and research to participants. The highlight of the exhibition was the quiz. All attendees received the questions in their conference bags and had to visit the appropriate booths to find the correct answers. Prizes included a Merck-donated PlayStation, a digital camera by Olympus and iPods sponsored by Polypus Transfection. Vendula Pospichalova from Czech Republic was the lucky winner of the PlayStation. Jeroen Vandecasteele from Belgium was overjoyed with his new digital camera, as he had just had his camera stolen on a recent trip. EMBO appreciates all the exhibitor feedback from our first event. Already we have implemented changes for The EMBO Meeting 2010 in Barcelona.

PhD diploma finally in your hand – and what comes next? A job in academia is one way to go. But life scientists will also find themselves competing in the industry, government and private organizations are often desperately seeking analytical minds and skilled candidates with profound knowledge. One of the obstacles facing scientists looking for a job is the lack of information, concentrated in one place. The quiz offered a chance to ask individual questions about job-giving processes, networking businesses and potential property organizations. "I found the session really good. When do you estimate how long does it take to get a job?" one participant asked. "There are no standard answers," the quizmaster said. 

Scientific editing still ranks high on the list of alternative career options for researchers. The talk by Vivian Siegel, former chief editor for Cell and Molecular Cell, about the different kinds of editorial positions, skills required and a typical day in the editorial office, attracted crowds during the Expanding Career Options Lunch on Tuesday. "It was wonderful, really informative. The editors were so friendly and useful," one participant said. The quizmaster told the audience to ask the editors about their job titles and preferred names with questions about their careers and daily working life."I found the session really great. When do you otherwise have the opportunity to meet all the EMBO editors and pester them with questions about their careers and daily working life?" commented EMBL predoc Christian Hoerner after the Monday Meet the Editor lunch.

The Pursuing an Academic Career Session, organized by the former ELSO Career Development Committee, touched on topics relevant for those who prefer to stay within the halls of research institutes and universities. "Is life science changing?" and "Should the coming generation of scientists be more multidisciplinary?" were some of the questions discussed at the round tables. "We need absolutely focused scientists," was one opinion, while others opted for the broad-minded researcher with a knowledge that spans a number of fields. "The EMBO Meeting is a great place to find a postdoc," concluded one of the mentors Marja Jäättelä, head of the Apoptosis Laboratory at the Danish Cancer Society. Anne Spang, another senior scientist mentoring the session, recommended the conference as a networking platform for PhD students.

Lunch & learn: career advice for scientists

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