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Dear Dr. Sobel,

I am writing this letter to thank you for the honor to receive the ICPI trainee Travel Award, which allowed me to attend and present my research in the ACVP/ASVCP Meeting in Monterey, California from Dec 5-9, 2009. It was also my honor to be recommended to receive the CL Davis Scholarship Awards in this meeting.

It was my third time attending this meeting as a third year clinical pathology resident. I presented my research entitled "Characterization and Modification of Canine Mast Cell Derived Eicosanoids." Using the novel canine bone marrow derived culture mast cell model, we found upon chemical activation, that canine mast cells were able to produce PGD₂, PGE₂, LTB₄, and LTC₄, which also modified both cytokine and NSAIDs. This finding suggested that mast cells were the relevant target in controlling inflammatory disorders. My oral presentation was selected as the winner of the ASVCP Young Investigator Award, which was actually my second time for this honor. During the ASVCP scientific session, I learned about up-to-date research projects and had a great discussion with other researchers.

The conference provided me a great opportunity to learn more about the increasingly important role of clinical pathologists in industrial settings, especially in drug safety and the development of biomarkers. By talking with several outstanding pathologists and discovering the tremendous potential in Asia, I can see myself playing a leading role, given the advantage of my training in both clinical pathology and Ph.D. as well as my language advantage. The mystery case discussion session was always challenging and exciting, whereby allowing me to excel in my diagnostic skills and sharpen my logical thinking.

Thanks again for the support from the ICPI travel award. Without your help, I would not have had this chance to present my project, receive many honors, or meet other investigators.

Sincerely,

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