

I would like to thank Dr. Sobel and the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information for providing me a \$500 travel grant to attend the 2009 Association for Molecular Pathology meeting in Kissimmee, FL from 11/18/09 to 11/22/09. It was a truly amazing educational experience. As a molecular genetic pathology fellow, I found a wide variety of interesting workshops, seminars and lectures to attend covering diverse subject areas in oncology, constitutional genetics and microbiology. It was my first time attending the AMP meeting and was really difficult for me to choose among so many interesting sessions, many of them concurrent. I stayed for the whole meeting beginning with the CAP preparedness seminar to the seminars on molecular testing in developing countries. It was nice to hear expert comments on topics ranging from assay troubleshooting to gene patents. The corporate workshops and vendor displays were useful in learning about current and upcoming molecular technology. Overall, it was a very enriching educational experience.

I was able to use the grant support towards covering the cost for printing and presenting a poster for the hematopathology section. The work was performed during my prior fellowship in hematopathology at a different institute. I was fortunate to receive a good response to the poster and positive feedback from other professionals working in the same subject area. The grant also enabled me to pay for the pathology community outreach seminar.

Among many unique aspects of the meeting, I particularly enjoyed meeting with the pioneers of molecular diagnostics in person and getting inspired by their enthusiasm for the subspecialty. At the same time, meeting with other molecular genetic pathology fellows during the course of the meeting and discussing issues facing junior members during the trainee lunch was very useful in getting a realistic look at the job market and job expectations.

Again, I would like to thank Dr. Sobel and ICPI for generous support. I would highly recommend junior members of AMP to apply for the grant for the AMP meeting.