

## Brief Report

### **Participation in USCAP – 2009 annual meeting, Boston, March 7-13, 2009.**

An annual meeting of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology is a remarkable event for many pathologists stretching well beyond boundaries of our two countries. Compare to the other pathology meetings this one has a futuristic all-inclusive approach. World renowned leaders from North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan present their views and share their opinions on current trends and future developments in most pathology subspecialties. Since residents represent a future of pathology, their participation in such high rank event is very desirable. ICPI travel award makes this participation more affordable and pleasant for many of us.

As to the meeting, it was my first visit to both: USCAP annual meeting and Boston, and they both left very positive impression. The meeting took place in John B. Hynes Conventional Center right in the downtown of Boston close to Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham & Women's Hospital.

First two days more than two dozens of different pathology subspecialty societies, associations and clubs held their annual conferences and companion meetings. I personally participated in four of those events: neuropathology, cardiovascular pathology, GI and clinical pathology. After that, specialty short and long courses were offered for participants. A variety of topics were given to choose from, and I chose molecular and breast pathology. Since participation in these events required additional registration fees the ICPI travel award became quit handy and allowed take more courses and lectures than it would be possible to afford on more than modest resident budget.

Also, evening seminars gave an excellent opportunity to explore some rare cases and difficult situations, where experts guided others, less experienced and helped them navigating in pursuit of reaching the right diagnostic decision.

A trade show and poster presentations held for almost four days allowed many of us, including myself (Martin Köbel, Jocelyne Arseneau, Pat Baker, Viktor Zhrebitskiy, Carol A. Ewanowich, Dan Fontaine, Robin Parker, C.Blake Gilks – “Reproducibility in assessing ovarian cancer cell types – a transcanadian study”, stand #1007) to present our posters and see what current technology offer us in different areas of experimental and clinical pathology.

Besides that, residents had an excellent opportunity of socializing among themselves and their peers during resident semi-annual meeting, breakfast and lunch breaks in housestaff hospitality room, wine and cheese and some other receptions. Participation in the fellowship fair gave a very practical prospective in terms of further training in subspecialties, which many of us were trying to pursue after finishing residencies.

Finishing my brief report, I could not resist of not telling a couple words about Boston. This university center harbours several best universities in North America including Harvard, MIT, University of Boston, University of Massachusetts and dozen others making it as a must stop for all representatives of such academically oriented medical specialty as pathology is. Centuries of academic research and practical experience are imprinted on facades of their old buildings, in classrooms, libraries and auditoria. It was a real pleasure to visit all these places in the end of the meeting.

In conclusion I must say that I am very happy to have the ICPI travel award, which made my participation in the meeting and whole travel experience a pleasant one. Thanks ICPI for that!

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Viktor Zhrebitskiy, anatomical pathology resident, PGY-2,  
University of Manitoba, Canada