

Gregory R. Kotnis, MD
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Avenue
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute L25
Cleveland OH 44195

November 28, 2011

Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI)
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814

Re: Gregory R Kotnis, MD
ICPI Trainee Travel Award

Members of the ICPI board:

The American Society of Cytopathology meeting was a very productive event, which broadened my understanding of cytopathology, allowed me to meet with leaders in my field, and hopefully begun a path that will allow me to contribute to the larger cytopathology community. My attendance at this meeting would not be possible if not for the generosity of the ICPI.

The field of cytopathology is undergoing a fundamental shift. The role of the gynecologic pap test, a long standing pillar of the practice is facing an uncertain future in light of recent advances. The test's importance and value is great, but the shifting political and scientific climate will affect the practice of cytopathologists and cytotechnologists. In addition, the role of cytopathologists is also unclear, with many institutions moving to a more interventional model of practice. In some settings, cytopathologists spend more time interacting with patients, performing imaging guided procedures, and managing busy immediate interpretation services than they do isolated behind the microscope or at the lab bench.

At the meeting I had the opportunity to meet with pioneers in these fields and the insight afforded me is invaluable. There are a great many things about cytopathology that are not seen in textbooks. As a trainee, I have to be ready to practice today, five years from now, and twenty years from now. Attending the ASC meeting in Baltimore has helped me see in which direction the field is moving.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,
Gregory R Kotnis, MD
Fellow, Cytopathology
Cleveland Clinic Foundation