

March 30, 2012

Re: Donna Stivers  
Intersociety Council for Pathology Information.  
9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3993

I am treating this as an honor to thank the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information for supporting through the Travel Award my trip to Vancouver, BC, Canada to attend the 101th annual USCAP. The stipend was indeed needed with a relatively high cost of the conference held outside the US.

This USCAP meeting was very intense and full of opportunities for me. First of all, I had 6 posters and 1 platform presentation in different aspects of prostate and breast pathology. Discussion regarding the topics of my research with experts from other institutions definitely provided a lot of new ideas which I can reflect in manuscripts related to projects presented in Vancouver or my future research endeavors. Second, I serve as a resident member on the Membership Committee of the USCAP and participation in activities involving leaders of contemporary practice significantly opens up one's understanding of the trends and directions of Pathology as a field. Also, an important aspect of any conference, especially such academy-oriented and gathering the world-known experts, is networking opportunity leading to future collaborations and interinstitutional research projects.

Being committed to genitourinary pathology, I had a wonderful opportunity to participate in International Society of Urologic Pathology Consensus conference and perceive the most challenging and controversial topics which were addressed by such experts as Dr. Epstein, Dr. Amin, Dr. Eble etc.

Finally, I networked with my peers and juniors from around the nation to discuss challenges common to us such as future job appointments, private vs. academic career, mentorship etc. Similar aspects were discussed by USCAP courses and CAP resident symposium and reception.

Thank you,

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