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Mark E. Sobel, MD, PhD
2012 Trainee Travel Award Selection Committee
Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI)
9650 Rockville Pike,
Bethesda, MD 20814-3993

Dear Dr. Sobel and ICPI Committee Members,

I am sincerely grateful to the ICPI for your generosity and support of my training and development as a wildlife veterinary pathologist through allowing me to attend the 2012 American College of Veterinary Pathologists 2012 annual meeting in Seattle, Washington.

The meeting was filled with important educational platform presentations, poster presentations, and focused sessions that will aid me in my preparation for the upcoming veterinary pathology board examination. Highlights were a plenary session on allergic airway disease, and a series of lectures entitled "Tales from the Crypt" providing a historical aspect of various important veterinary pathogens, featuring Dr. Corrie Brown speaking on the eradication of rinderpest and Dr. Stanley Prusiner, Nobel laureate, discussing prion diseases.

Attending the meeting also provided me with the opportunity to present an ongoing diagnostic investigation of *Mycoplasma*-associated arthritis in raccoons as an oral presentation, and a retrospective study of diseases among avian necropsy and biopsy submissions to the University of Georgia as a poster presentation. The experience of presenting this research at an international pathology meeting was extremely valuable, and helped me in gaining exposure to others that work within my interest realm, which could aid in future collaborations and professional networks. In addition, many important professional contacts were made at the meeting, which helps me both in my professional development and potential future employment. I was also able to meet many fellow pathology residents from around the United States and beyond, as well as established pathologists from academia, private industry, and federal government.

The support of pathology trainees such as myself through travel awards provides an important opportunity for professional development and learning, and I am honored to have been a recipient.

Sincerely,

Nicole Nemeth
3rd year Anatomic Veterinary Pathology Resident, University of Georgia