

November 13, 2013

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

Dear Dr. Sobel & the ICPI Trainee Travel Award Committee,

I would like to express my gratitude for being selected as one of the 2013 ICPI Trainee Travel Award recipients. This generous award made it possible for me to attend the annual meeting of the College of American Pathologists in Orlando, Florida this October.

At the meeting, I was able to attend many platform presentations, poster sessions and lectures. These educational activities contributed to increasing my knowledge base as I prepare for both boards and clinical practice. These sessions also provided insight into up-and-coming concepts in our specialty as well as recent changes in guidelines and nomenclature – essential topics to keep abreast of as I strive to provide best patient care possible.

I was also able to participate in breakout sessions focused on leadership skills and advocacy. These sessions provided ample food for thought as I contemplate a career in academic medicine, which I hope will also include opportunities to pursue my interests in medical ethics and advocacy.

The meeting, which brings together pathologists from around the country, provided ample opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new colleagues. Both the formal and informal social sessions quickly led to discussions on topics from novel educational programs to practice management models to differing formats for interdisciplinary conferences. These conversations allowed me to learn from the experience of senior colleagues and participate in robust conversation about the rapidly changing environment of medical practice and how to provide the best possible patient care with ever diminishing resources.

Overall, attending the Annual Meeting of the CAP was an invaluable experience that has greatly benefited my professional development. I am grateful for the generosity of the ICPI that made this experience possible. The support of pathology trainees such as myself through travel awards provides an incomparable opportunity for learning, and I am honored to have been a recipient.

Sincerely,

Felicia D. Allard, MD
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