

November 21, 2013

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

Dear ICPI Board,

Thank you very much for the travel award to attend the Association for Molecular Pathology Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. The meeting sessions were highly informative about the latest advances and challenges in Next-Generation Sequencing for many diverse applications from tumors to fetal aneuploidies. It was interesting to hear how institutions are handling the sign-out of large gene panels, discussions on reimbursement for this work, and some of the pitfalls to watch out for in interpretation. The sessions were a useful extension of how to apply the information I have been learning during residency coursework in molecular pathology to improve patient care.

Presenting a poster on my recent work with droplet digital PCR was very beneficial. I was pleasantly surprised by the number of people who stopped by my poster offering suggestions and advice, or even just to say hello and show support of me as a trainee. By the end of the poster session, I had a renewed sense of enthusiasm and was ready to get back to the laboratory to try many of the suggestions to see if I might be able to improve my assay.

Perhaps the best part of the meeting for me was being surrounded by a welcoming community of future colleagues with whom I share a love for molecular pathology. During both the “new to AMP” and “trainee” luncheons, we were encouraged to meet new people and to not be shy about introducing ourselves, so I did. I found it very exciting to finally attach faces to the names I have encountered in textbooks and journal articles, as well as to talk with people just getting established in their career and with other trainees in various stages of education.

I thoroughly enjoyed spending several days immersed in molecular pathology and surrounded by many individuals with a shared enthusiasm for molecular pathology during my first trip to the AMP annual meeting. Thank you again for your support!

Sincerely,

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