

November 21, 2014

Mark E Sobel, MD, PhD

Intersociety Council for Pathology Information, Inc. (ICPI)

9650 Rockville Pike

Bethesda, MD 20814-3993

Dear Dr. Sobel and the ICPI Board:

I would like to thank you for helping me attend the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) 62nd Annual Scientific Meeting in Dallas, Texas. It was an honor to receive the Trainee Travel Award provided by the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI).

The meeting was an incredible experience during which I greatly increased my knowledge and met many colleagues. I gave my first platform presentation which was entitled "Squamous Intraepithelial Lesions and Squamous Cell Carcinoma Detected by Endometrial Sampling". Not only did I learn to give a concise, verbal account of my research project, but I also gained other ideas for additional research by talking with people after my presentation.

The courses offered at the meeting were fantastic. They were current, reflecting the recent changes in the field of cytology, as well as, future anticipated directions. I learned about the progress made thus far with the new Paris System for Urine Cytology, the updates to gynecologic cytology that will appear in Bethesda 3, and the special areas of consideration in the proposed pancreaticobiliary classification system. I also attended an interactive panel luncheon on Next Generation Sequencing, telepathology, and smart phone uses that was incredibly exciting and foreshadows the technology to come. Due to the generosity of the ICPI, I was able to take additional courses, several of which focused on head and neck cytology, from renowned speakers such as Drs. Syed Ali and William Faquin.

The meeting was also an opportunity to get to know leaders in cytopathology both within the United States and internationally. The ASC Annual Scientific Meeting is an outstanding opportunity to form new collaborations and discuss new innovations. Finally, I was also able to meet face-to-face with the members of the ASC Clinical Practices Committee and detail two ongoing projects. I have served on this committee as a junior member and was recently re-appointed as a full member. We only have the opportunity to meet in person once a year at the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting.

Thank you again for selecting me as one of the recipients of the 2014 ICPI Trainee Travel Awards. This has been a valuable experience that helped me further develop my career as a cytopathologist.

Sincerely,

Shelley Odronic, MD

Cytopathology Fellow

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