

November 14th, 2017

Intersociety Council for Pathology Information, Inc.
1801 Rockville Pike - Suite 350
Rockville, MD 20852

Subject: 2017 ACVP&ASVCP Concurrent Annual Meeting report

Dear Dr. Sobel and Committee members of the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information,

Thank you very much for supporting my travel to the 2017 ACVP&ASVCP Concurrent Annual Meeting in Vancouver. I am very delighted to be the recipient of the ICPI Trainee Travel Award and it has been a great experience attending this meeting. I am a senior anatomic pathology resident at the University of Missouri Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (VMDL). Previous to this, I have completed a DVM-PhD program (veterinary science, pathology) from the University of Montreal in 2015.

The different sessions were well organized. The seminars were very informative and insightful across subjects. On the first day of the conference, 4th of Nov, there was a **C.L. Davis-Thompson Foundation Pre-Meeting Workshop** on *Veterinary Hepatic Pathology* presented by Dr. John M. Cullen. Dr. Cullen is a very passionate pathologist, and he presented key aspects of hepatopathology for diagnostic pathologists and for toxicological pathologists. He was recognized as a Distinguished Member of the ACVP at this meeting.

On the morning of the 5th of Nov, I attended two presentations (*Writing for Scientific Publication: Profitable Practices and Possible Perils; A Primer on Placenta Processing and Pathology*) given by one of the thought leaders in toxicological pathology, Dr. Brad Bolon. During the afternoon, I attended a specific presentation on *Livestock Neuropathology: New Diseases, New Approaches* (part of the **Natural Disease Focused Scientific Session II**). I went to the **ACVP Town Hall Business Meeting**, which was really informative and interactive between the specific committee members and the audience on the future of veterinary pathology. This meeting emphasised a very critical and exciting point for the future of the pathology profession. Specifically, pathologists can play a leading role in the digital pathology field which will emerge in our work routine and have an impact in the near future in diagnostic pathology, toxicological pathology and medical education.

The morning of the 6th of Nov, I attended to the **ACVP and ASVCP Joint Plenary Session** on autophagy which explained the well-defined steps of autophagy and critical roles that can be protective or detrimental depending on its activation status and other physiological conditions. Autophagy is activated by multiple pathways and involved in different diseases or physiological states such as cancer, host defence and neurodegenerative diseases. This is also an important field for drug discovery and

development in oncology and neurology. Early in the afternoon, there was a presentation given by the **Veterinary Pathology Journal Editors** on designing and publishing observational studies in veterinary pathology where the audience received advice and tips to improve their study designs. In the evening, I attended the **Mystery Slide Review: Neuropathology** where interesting cases were presented by residents/pathologists and discussed by an expert panel. It is a very enriching experience to hear the exchanges and opinion disclosed by the panelists; of course, a very few cases remained a mystery.

On the 7th of Nov, there was a **Concurrent Session II** in the morning on *Ear Evaluation in Pathology and Toxicity*. This session was very informative on the comparative anatomy and physiology of the external and middle ear as well as on frequent otic pathology in domestic animals and toxicologic effects of test articles. During the afternoon, I attended part of the **Mini-Symposium I** on prion diseases including emerging concerns and recent progress. I listened to the end of the **Industrial and Toxicologic Pathology Focused Scientific Session II** which had a digital pathology presentation in drug discovery and a central nervous system toxicity case study presentation in rats.

On the 8th of Nov, a **Mini-Symposium II**, chaired by Dr. Caroline Zeiss and Dr. Susan A. Elmore, focused on cell death. Challenges of differentiation and identification of various types of cell death were defined. In the afternoon, I participated in the **Post-Meeting Workshop I: Diagnostic Evaluation of the Ultrastructure pathology** given by very well experienced diagnostic pathologists and toxicological pathologists with (TEM) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM). These remain very important tools for diagnostic assessment and specific investigation in toxicologic pathology.

At this meeting, one of my posters entitled ``Widespread Severe Myodegeneration in a Homozygous Female Dog with Dystrophin Deficiency`` received an ACVP Young Investigator Award in Experimental Disease. My attendance of the meeting was also very critical for networking and discussions with pathologists, but also potential employers. I had many interactions with my colleagues from other residency or graduate programs from different states and countries, contributing to my quest for Board Certification.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heart-felt thanks to the organizing committees who have made the 2017 ACVP&ASVCP Concurrent Annual Meeting possible. I have benefited tremendously from this fantastic meeting. I am very grateful for the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information support in attending.

Sincerely,

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