

Professional Report on Attendance of the International Junior Academy Summer School, 3-5 July Bordeaux 2025

Introduction

In 2025, I had the privilege of attending the International Junior Academy Summer School, supported by the BDIAP, with participation from a delegate representing Belgium. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the French and German divisions of the IAP for granting me a bursary to participate in this enriching scientific meeting. This report summarizes my experiences and reflections on the sessions attended during the academy.

The conference began with a well-organized registration process, followed by a warm welcome from the French and German IAP. This introduction set a collegial and professional tone, establishing a conducive environment for learning and collaboration. Below is a summary and reflection on each session I attended.

Session Summaries

1. Gynecological Soft Tissue Tumors by Dr. Sabrina Croce. Dr. Croce provided an insightful overview of the diagnostic challenges associated with gynecological mesenchymal tumors. She emphasized the necessity of integrating clinical, gross, histological, immunohistochemical, and molecular data into a cohesive diagnostic algorithm. Her statement that "tumor morphology is dynamic—a movie, not a picture" highlighted the vital importance of correlating observed features with clinical contexts, such as patient demographics and clinical histories.

2. New Strategies to Understand Lymphomas by Professor Martin-Leo Hansmann. Professor Hansmann focused on innovative methods to visualize cellular morphology over time, challenging traditional static analysis. He shared pioneering research conducted in collaboration with his team at the FIAS (Frankfurt Institute of Advanced Studies), employing 3D and 4D digital technologies, including virtual reality and machine learning. This research is significant for understanding complex biological processes within the immune system and tumor microenvironments.

3. B3 Lesions of the Breast by Dr. Gaetan McGrogan. This session provided a relevant and practical overview of B3 lesions, covering their spectrum along with updated management guidelines and diagnostic challenges.

4. Lung Nodules: Get Ready for Screening Programs! by Dr. Sabina Berezowska. Dr. Berezowska discussed the pathology of small lung nodules in light of the increasing prevalence of screening programs. The session offered critical insights into the

management of subcentimeter lesions and strategies for effectively reporting findings to clinical teams.

5. Differential Diagnoses of Colitis by Dr. Rupert Langer. Dr. Langer presented a clear and comprehensive discussion on the histological differential diagnoses of inflammatory bowel disease and its mimickers. His structured approach, combined with illustrative cases, made this session particularly educational.

6. A Brief Overview of Cut-Up and Reporting of Urological Specimens by Dr. Ashish Chandra. This practical session provided valuable insights for trainees and junior pathologists. Dr. Chandra addressed common pitfalls in sampling and reporting, offering practical tips for optimal handling of prostate, bladder, and kidney specimens.

7. Oral Presentations of International Trainees. The conference concluded with oral presentations from international trainees, showcasing diverse research and experiences from participants worldwide. These presentations reflected the vibrant collegial atmosphere and the shared commitment to advancing knowledge in pathology.

Conclusion

The International Junior Academy Summer School Bordeaux 2025 was an invaluable experience, offering extensive educational content, engaging expert speakers, and meaningful networking opportunities. I am grateful for the chance to participate in such a prestigious event and look forward to applying the insights gained in my professional practice. Thank you to the BDIAP, the IAP, and all those involved in organizing this remarkable conference.

By Ibrahim Kassem

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