From a didactic point of view, this congress showed its value to train and teach trainees in unknown areas of Pathological Anatomy. This congress was very instructive and enriching thanks to the knowledge sharing of Doctors Dina, Chandra, Remmelink and D’Haene during the Trainee’s Symposium held on Tuesday 19th June.

Too often neglected during academic training, Cytologic examination was spotlighted and showed its importance and contribution in clinical routine. A full training program should include specific teaching in cytology as fairly pointed out by Dr Dina during her presentation on Thyroid Cytology.
On 19th June morning, during my poster session (“Molecular and Morphological Characterisation of Intramedullary Astrocytomas”), a greatly stimulating and relevant discussion took place in presence of Professor JE Martin and Van Der Valk which made me reassess and challenge my current project, which will improve the quality of it.
The afternoon, thanks to the “What Should We do With Tumour Budding in Early CRC” symposium, the tumour budding and its prognostic impact became easier to understand.

More specific, the “Phyllodes Breast Cancer” symposium was very interesting.
What I will certainly remember the most about Wednesday 20th June was the morning symposiums “On the frontiers of Bone and Soft Tissue Tumours”. I was impressed by how the different speakers described and explained, in an easy-to-understand way, vascular tumours of soft and bone tissues, syndrome associated to bone tissue, sarcoma mimics or MDM2 in bones sarcoma and tissue. Professor Fisher was particularly fascinating and instructive while keeping a sense of humour.
The next oral presentations were more specific and specialised but really allow us to explore new things.

During the afternoon, the symposium “Current Issues in Uterine Pathology for the Diagnostic Histopathology” was very practical with useful key messages.
On Thursday 21th June, I was really impressed by the “Presentations and Awards” ceremony (PALGA Award) and the “Most Impactful Trainee Award” presented by Dr B Williams which was very exciting. In a more specific and less accessible topic, Professor Martin was outstanding and acts as a model for young researchers.
As research fellows, we had the opportunity to meet during an evening dinner which took place in an unusual and wonderful location, Van Kanne Caves. What an amazing occasion to meet and discuss with pathologists and researchers from all around the world in another context. This evening will remain memorable for me as I was awarded for the second best poster of BDIAP 2018! What a motivation for me to continue leading such research projects which can be really challenging sometimes.
I would like to thank again all the people that helped me get this fellowship. I would like to mention particularly Sam Kielly, Nafisa Wilkinson and Julie Jonhstone for the kind exchanges of email and also the help for an administrative perspective.