

Leeds Pathology 2019 2-4 July, Harrogate UK

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Thank you to the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology! With your generous financial support, I was able to attend the Leeds Pathology meeting in Harrogate. I had a wonderful time in Harrogate.

Starting 7.20am with the registration on the first day, my colleague and I woke up round 6am to prepare breakfast. Our accommodation was approximately 0.7 miles away from the Harrogate Conference Centre, so we were able to walk to the Conference Centre. The conference consisted of symposia, workshops, and lectures. Furthermore, there were also 'poster sessions' during the breaks with official poster rounds.

My poster with the title 'Alcian blue – a rediscovered biomarker of poor prognosis in gastric cancer patients' was P90, the last poster of the official poster rounds chaired by Prof. Roger Feakins and Prof. Graeme Murray. This was the first time that I presented a poster at a conference outside of the Netherlands and I was a bit nervous wondering what the judges might ask me. It was my pleasure to present the results of our work which involved staining of 709 cases with 3 markers and scoring which was shared between me and another pathology trainee in Maastricht, supervised by Prof. Heike Grabsch.

While attending the trainee workshop on the final day, the chair suddenly announced that the poster prize winners were present in the audience. To my great pleasure, I won the third poster prize of the BDIAP and felt very honoured by this.

Being able to attend this well-organized conference with world-class and very enthusiastic speakers, allowed me to learn a lot with respect to diagnostic histopathology, but also got some new ideas for next research projects. In particular, I found the following lectures outstanding: '100.000 Genomes project and cancer', 'Colorectal cancer biomarkers: from molecular modelling to immunohistochemistry', and 'IgG4-related disease in the pancreatobiliary system: how good is histopathology as the gold standard of diagnosis?'

This was my very first time visit to the UK and to Harrogate, so I also tried to see a little bit of the city and enjoyed the opportunity to network with international trainees and pathologists at the social events organised by the conference. Starting at the first day with the welcome reception at the Sun Pavilion, then the lovely oldest pub in town, Hale Bar, and not to forget the 'Spaced' band performing live during the conference dinner at the Royal Hall. I extended my stay until the weekend and went to taste the famous Bettys' coffee, tea and cake. "Congratulations to Bettys with your 100th Anniversary!". I have enjoyed walking in the gardens, and visiting castles with the beautiful countryside of Yorkshire as well.

This three-day conference covered many different subjects of pathology relevant for me as a trainee, thus, I am very grateful that I was able to be part of it. Thank you, BDIAP for giving me the opportunity!



Receiving the BDIAP third poster prize



Enjoying live band performances at the conference dinner with my colleague



Delicious brunch at the Bettys



The beautiful hilly town, Harrogate



One of the historical castles, Ripley castle