

In March 2018 the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) hosted its annual meeting in Vancouver, Canada. This meeting does not only serve to present cutting edge pathology research but additionally is a major provider of pathology education with a multitude of short courses, interactive microscopy sessions and special courses covering all topics of histopathology. The conference was hosted in the beautiful and modern Vancouver convention centre with stunning views overlooking Vancouver harbour.

I was the lucky recipient of a 2000 pound BDIAP bursary towards registration, courses, travel and accommodation enabling me to attend this exciting and stimulating international meeting.

I presented my work entitled "*Limiting ROS-1 immunohistochemistry to a population of patients either aged 55 years or younger, or never smokers of any age, as a method for cost-efficient screening ROS-1 gene rearrangements*" in one of the poster sessions. This study was conducted at The Royal Brompton Hospital under the lead of my mentor Prof Andrew Nicholson. My research attracted a lot of interest and I enjoyed discussing my results with junior and established pathologists from all over the world. On some occasions I had to defend my data, which gave me valuable insight into how to approach writing the discussion section of my research article.

In addition to presenting my own work I attended many of the platform presentations, courses and workshops. I particularly enjoyed the session about tumour immunology with fascinating insights in the newest developments of immunotherapies such as PDL1 inhibitors in NSCLC, NHL and GI malignancies, as well as the short course on dermatopathology.

I also found time to explore Vancouver, which is a genuinely exciting and vibrant place boasting one of the largest urban parks in North America as well as an enormous university where I visited the Museum of Anthropology. This museum taught me a lot about the indigenous population of Vancouver bay displaying arts and crafts by the First Nation people.

I would like to thank the BDIAP for enabling me this unique opportunity to present my research in these stimulating surroundings and I would also like to extend my thanks to Prof Nicholson who supported and encouraged me in my research.

- Ute Laggner