

USCAP 108TH ANNUAL MEETING

UNLOCKING YOUR INGENUITY MARCH 16-21,2019



A SHORT CONFERENCE REPORT

BY MARIE CLAIRE NDAYISABA, MD.

BDIAP Bursary recipient

Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Activities attended
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I. Introduction

I am Marie Claire Ndayisaba, a young general anatomical pathologist graduated from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on December 1st, 2018. The Mmed Anatomical Pathology at MUHAS is a three-year program divided into six semesters. The program covers basic sciences, research and teaching methodology in first year and remaining two years are reserved for surgical pathology, cytopathology, forensic and medical autopsy sciences and dissertation project. Evaluations are done throughout the program as continuous assessment, end of module evaluation, end of semester and end of year University examination (practical, written and oral examination). Lectures are covered by local 7 pathologists from the MUHAS and 5 pathologists from the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) where residents do their routine in-service practice and learning. Majority of these pathologists are general pathologists. The MNH laboratory, Pathology unit process around 10,000 to 12,000 biopsies; 6,000 cytology specimens and 1,500 autopsy cases. In addition to routine Hematoxylin and Eosin stain, Manual Immunohistochemistry is available limited to few antibodies (breast, lymphoma, epithelial and soft tissue markers), and few special stains. Residents are encouraged to attend and present in different conferences (national and international) to learn more and get the updates in the field of Pathology and medicine at large. It is in this spirit I have submitted an abstract at the 108 USCAP annual meeting and got accepted for the BDIAP bursary to make my dreams a reality. I presented a poster for my dissertation project "HIGH-RISK HISTOPATHOLOGIC FEATURES ANALYSIS OF PRIMARY ENUCLEATED RETINOBLASTOMA IN TANZANIA PATIENTS". It was my first time to attend the USCAP meeting and it has been an exceptional experience in my career development. Currently, I am working at the University Teaching Hospital of Kigali (CHUK), Kigali, Rwanda (my home country), in histopathology unit. I thank BDIAP for their support.

II. Activities attended

Friday, 03/15/2019

Arrival at the Whyndham vacation resorts, where I stayed during the period of the conference with my colleagues from Tanzania (March 15th to 22nd,2019)

Saturday, 03/16/2019

AM- Registration for the conference, moving around the Gaylord Convention Center

05:30-7:00 PM: USCAP honors its ambassadors and pathologists-in -training

07:00 PM-Companion meeting: Association for Pathology Informatics

Sunday, 03/17/2019

08:30 AM-Companion meeting: Binford-Dammin Society of Infectious Disease Pathologists

01:30 PM-Companion meeting: International Academy of Cytology

07:30 PM-Specialty conference: American Society of Cytopathology

Monday,03/18/2019

07:00 PM-Specialty conference: Gynecologic pathology

Tuesday, 03/19/2019

08:30 AM-Companion meeting: Binford-Dammin Society of Infectious Disease Pathologists
01:00 – 4:00 PM-Presentation of my poster: **High-risk histopathologic features of Retinoblastoma in Tanzania**
04:15 PM: MAUDE ABBOT lecture and USCAP Honors
06:00-7:30: Celebrating ingenuity reception
07:30 PM-Specialty conference: American Society of Cytopathology

Wednesday, 03/20/2019

06:00 AM: Keeping Up With Advances in Cancer Immunotherapy and Biomarker Testing: Implications for Pathologists at the Forefront of the Emerging Precision Immuno-Oncology Era
08:00 AM-Short course: GYN Biopsies: Navigating New Entities, Common Pitfalls, and Everyday Dilemmas in Endometrial, Cervical and Vulvar Biopsies
01:00 PM-Short course: Unusual Breast Lesions Every Pathologist Needs to Know About
07:00 PM-Specialty conference: Neuropathology

Thursday, 03/21/2019

08:00 AM-Short course: Getting the Upper Hand on Upper GI: A Practical Approach to Common Issues in the Esophagus, Stomach, and Small Bowel
01:00 PM-Short course: Advances in the Cytologic Diagnosis and Reporting of Salivary Gland Lesions with Histologic Correlations
07:00 PM-Specialty conference: Cytopathology: The case that reminds me of my mentor's teaching

During the 108th USCAP annual meeting, I mostly attended interesting sessions on cytopathology, gynecology, breast, gastrointestinal tract and infectious diseases, where I learned a lot from the recognized pathologists. In addition to updated diagnostic techniques (molecular and new immunohistochemistry markers), I learned different tips during diagnostic approach in interpretation of upper GIT biopsies, gynecological soft tissue lesions, neuropathology and different organs for cytology (salivary glands, thyroid, cervix and effusions). I shared the knowledge gained with my colleagues at work to improve our practice.

I presented my research on High-risk histopathologic features in Retinoblastoma, Tanzania Patients as a poster. I made a connection with a team of ophthalmopathologists from Canada that periodically, do outreaches in East Africa (Uganda). I got time to go through different poster presentations and got ideas for further researches I will be undertaking at my working place.

I visited different exhibitors and I was impressed by the full automation of the histopathology work by different companies, the advances in molecular tools for cancer diagnosis, technology in pathology (telepathology, image-scanning, artificial intelligence, ...) and immunotherapy in different cancer management. Unfortunately, most of the exhibitors have no representation (do not sell their products) in Africa and their technology may not be affordable in most of Africa settings.

I attended and met other USCAP ambassadors and we shared different activities and innovations that they are doing in their daily practice. I was happy to meet different people we used to discuss cases on social media.

I attended the MAUDE ABBOTT Lecture, USCAP honors and reception: I was impressed by different people who worked hard to impact the practice of pathology and be role models for younger generation.

I had opportunity to meet my mentors from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Dr. Dianna Ng, Dr. Ron Balassanian and Dr. Kristie; and we had a time to discuss of the progress of the projects we are working on together. I had opportunity to meet Dr. Dan Milner from ASCP that paid for four short courses I attended during the meeting.

I also met different pathologists from Africa, and I attended a meeting of Friends of Africa to discuss how to improve pathology practice in Africa as well as the projects ahead including South Africa IAP conference that will occur September 2019.

Overall, the conference met and exceeded my expectations. I wish to get more opportunity to attend similar conferences in years ahead for continuous education and career development.

III. Use of the bursary

I was honored to receive a bursary of 2,000 pounds (2,500\$) from the BDIAP and it was used to cover the following:

1. Flight tickets - \$1,235
2. Conference registration and renew of trainee membership - \$299 + \$35
3. Accommodation - \$475
4. Transport from and to the airport: \$250
5. Food, drinks and others expenditures 8 days: \$206

The ASCP paid 4 short courses: \$129 each course (\$516 in total).

Attached is the invoice from USCAP registration and the flight ticket receipt. For the accommodation, we stayed 5 in the hotel and paid \$2,380 however, I don't have the receipt for accommodation, food and transport.

IV. Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the British Division of the International Academy of Pathology (BDIAP) for financial support to attended the USCAP 108th annual meeting, 2019. Without their support I couldn't attend this memorable moment of my career. I owe gratitude for the BDIAP organizing team for their rapid response to my queries.

I thank USCAP to allow me presenting my research, as poster, for the wonderful highly educative conference.

Many thanks to ASCP for paying 4 short courses of my areas of interest (cytopathology, breast, GIT and Gynecological pathology). Their effort to improve cancer diagnosis in Africa is worthy to be highly appreciated.

I thank Ann Marie Nelson, MD., for arranging accommodation for the team from East Africa at the Wyndham vacation resorts. It was easy for us to reach the conventional center and we enjoyed the stay.

V. Photo gallery

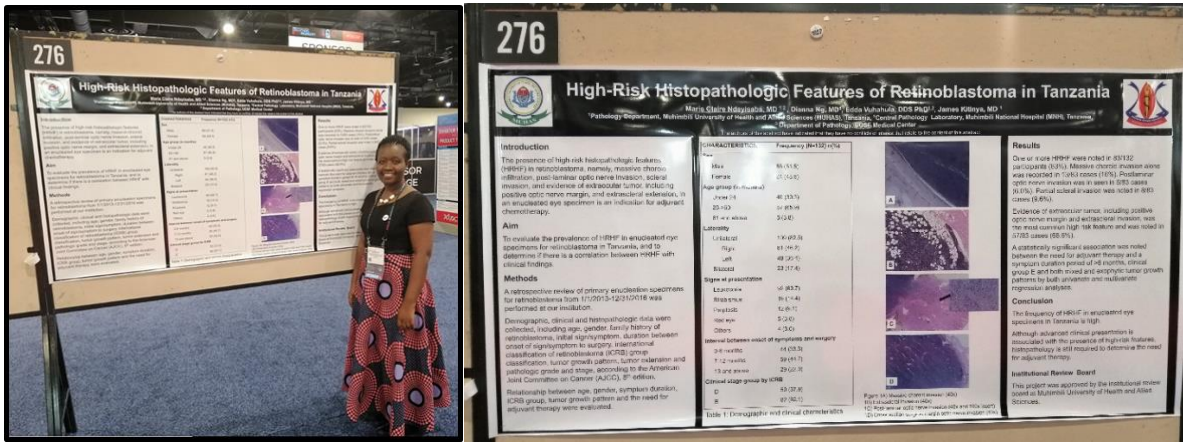


Exploring the art collection at National Harbor



At the registration lounge, I met Dan Milner, MD., from ASCP

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Presentation of my poster



USCAP ambassadors' reception



With Samantha Kiely from BDIAP
With Dr. Nat Pernick, the founder of pathologyOutlines.com (middle) and Asteria Kimambo from MUHAS/ Tanzania