I recently attended the 112th annual USCAP meeting that took place on 11-16 March 2023, in New Orleans and would like to thank the BDIAP for giving me the opportunity to participate in this meeting by providing this very generous trainee travel bursary.

I wanted to attend this meeting as it is one of the largest and most well recognised pathology conferences. I also presented my poster on ‘Reduction in Human Factors in the Rapid Review of Positive Prostate Cores in a Specialist Tertiary Setting’.

I was impressed by the courses and lectures available for every subspecialty and level of training. There were many options to attend platform presentations, interactive microscopy sessions, short courses and long courses. Many of these sessions were made available online so they could be reviewed at a later stage. I attended several short courses and platform presentations focused on uropathology and dermatopathology, as well as the International Society of Urological Pathology companion meeting.

I particularly enjoyed the trainee focused multiheader microscope session on testicular tumours by Dr Jennifer B. Gordetsky, which was very interactive and focused on practical aspects and tips on testicular tumours which I can incorporate in my practice. I attended short courses on ‘Unusual Tumors of the Testis’, ‘The Most Difficult and Commonly Encountered Dilemmas in Prostate, Bladder, and Kidney Pathology’ and ‘novel/challenging cutaneous soft tissue tumours’. These were excellent sessions that allowed me
to keep myself up to date with the recent developments for my diagnostic practice. The platform presentations were very educational, providing an overview of the contemporary research topics and work being carried out by pathology centres all over the world. It was very interesting to hear about possible future directions in pathology, in particular the possibility of patient consultation services by pathologists as the next level of patient care. Lastly, it was great to meet delegates from other countries and understand how their training and everyday practice works compared to the UK. I was able to meet and catch up with old friends as well as meet new colleagues and potential future collaborators.

This meeting exceeded my expectations and was very important to my professional development. I would highly recommend this course to all trainees, particularly during the later years of the training. I very much appreciate the generosity of BDIAP, as I would not have been able to experience this without their help.