

BDIAP Bursary Report for the USCAP 112th Annual Meeting, March 11-16th 2023, New Orleans

Name: Eoghan O'Connor

Training Year: 4 (Ireland)

Institute/Organisation: Royal College of Physicians Ireland, St Vincent's University Hospital and University College Dublin



Why did you want to attend the USCAP 112th annual meeting? *I am the trainee representative on the Irish National Histopathology Quality Improvement Programme and through this work presented two posters at USCAP, with one presented in the Stowell-Orbison Competition and as an oral presentation in the moderated poster sessions for "Quality and Patient Safety". In addition I am currently undertaking a PhD in the area of lymphoma and felt that I could benefit from the USCAP courses on haematological malignancies.*

Do you feel more confident in your knowledge / understanding of pathology following attendance at the USCAP 112th annual meeting? *For sure. I found the short courses an excellent opportunity to learn from world experts. I focused on haematopathology given my PhD focus and attended courses such as "Classification of Haematological Malignancies" which broadened my understanding of the decision making processes behind the classification of haematological diseases for WHO HAEM5 and ICC. The great thing about USCAP was the variety of courses on offer. There was something for everyone and it was easy to find courses relevant to your area of interest.*

Highlight aspects of pathology that you have learnt from the USCAP 112th annual meeting which you were not aware of prior to the event. *The work on digital and AI pathology was notable. There were so many interesting booths discussing the latest developments in these areas. I found the discussions with WHO5 and ICC experts on haematological malignancies fascinating as it gave me an insight into the processes that go into classifying diseases. USCAP gives you a great opportunity to meet world experts in most areas of pathology.*

Are there any aspects of what you have learnt during the USCAP 112th annual meeting that you would consider incorporating into your own practice? *There was such a strong focus on digital pathology at USCAP, from the various booths to exhibitor seminars discussing advantages of digital pathology in improving diagnostic quality and efficiency in pathology practice. It has motivated me to learn more about digital pathology and I can certainly see it as something I would aim to incorporate into future practice.*

Did the USCAP 112th annual meeting meet your expectations? *It greatly exceeded my expectations. There was so much opportunity to learn from world experts, discuss interesting topics with pathologists and industry representatives at the booths, and explore the work of other trainees through poster and platform presentations. The event was very well run. It was a great experience being asked to present at the moderated poster session too.*

Finally, would you recommend the USCAP 112th annual meeting to your colleagues? *100%. There is so much to learn and such interesting topics up for discussion each day at USCAP. It is a great opportunity to network as*

well and I found through simply chatting with other attendees you can gain great insight into pathology practice at a global scale. I met pathologists from many nationalities at USCAP found it really rewarding chatting to them about their work. I would finally like to thank BDIAP for providing me with this travel bursary- it was greatly appreciated.





Images:

1. Moderated Poster Session: Quality and Patient Safety
2. USCAP Exhibition Hall
3. Mississippi river beside the USCAP Exhibition Hall