

## Report on AMP Annual Meeting 2017

I first learnt about AMP when my supervisor advised me to become a member. I couldn't imagine then what an exciting experience could it bring me and I'm sure more is yet to come.

The problems that people working in small developing countries encounter daily may even be difficult to believe for most of the professionals, being accustomed to having best available technologies in labs and invaluable expertise by the side. It may seem impossible to set up a molecular pathology lab with effort of three pathologists, a trainee and very limited resources only - that's exactly what we are trying to do right now.

And also what most of the AMP members can probably not imagine, is the impact that having people from developing countries involved in this kind of events can have on motivating them personally and development of the area in those countries.

There were multiple points that impressed me at the meeting. One of them is the diversity of participants. People with different background and interests share their experience and discuss the ways to improve the understanding of molecular basis of life and diseases to serve the patients better. Despite so many participants being involved, all the sessions remained free of tension, were very educational, practically oriented and effective. The selection of abstracts for poster presentations was great. In addition to research data many posters provided good overview and comparison of technologies or commercial resources, what made the discussions especially useful. The large variety of possibilities to interact in informal settings should also be mentioned as an enriching part of the event.

From scientific point of view I was fascinated by the extent of NGS and liquid biopsies being implemented into diagnostics. One of the presenters mentioned, there are some countries with only one or several sequencers in total - I come from a country like this. So each and every finding or new diagnostic approach that I learned from this meeting will be of great help in overcoming the difficulties and not making the mistakes that have been proved to be wrong.

Corporate workshops provided very well-structured introductions about what the industry can offer, followed by relevant discussions and previews at the exhibition hall. Having so many companies present at the exhibition provided a wonderful chance to touch and compare equipment in order to choose the most appropriate one for any specific needs or simply follow the advances in technology.

AMP central activities do really deserve appreciation - those are well-organized meetings with AMP members and committees, where one can establish relationships for future cooperation, learn about possibilities to be involved in the work of this wonderful group and other opportunities for AMP members.

Faculty members at the trainee luncheon seeing many first time attendees said that probably people attending AMP once would never miss a meeting. And I totally agree with it.

For any trainees reading my report - Go and join AMP right now! It's the best place to improve your understanding in molecular pathology, meet the leaders of the field, receive practical recommendations and become eager to search and find out more.

In the end I would like to express my deep gratitude towards all the people who build and support AMP as well as the meeting and especially to Award committee and Jeffrey A. Kant - AMP education fond for making my participation possible.

Sincerely,

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