

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF – WHERE YOU COMPLETED YOUR UNDERGRADUATE/POSTGRADUATE, FAMILY, WHAT A TYPICAL DAY LOOKS LIKE FOR YOU, ETC.

After I received my bachelor's and master's degree in Canada, I attended St. George's University for medical school (two years of basic sciences in Grenada followed by two years of clinical rotations in New Jersey). Now, I am in New York City finishing up my final year of pathology residency at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Next year, I will be relocating to Boston for my Clinical Informatics Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital. As a pathology resident at the moment, my typical day involves extensive clinical work, which consists of reviewing clinical history, laboratory data, and gross and microscopic examinations of patient specimens in order to reach conclusive diagnoses of disease entities and processes. Having the responsibility of arguably the most important step in a patient's clinical care gives me immense personal and professional satisfaction.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING WITH DIGITAL PATHOLOGY?

I have been working with digital pathology since the beginning of my residency back in 2015. However, my initial exposure to digital microscopy was during graduate school as early as 2009.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WITH YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER AND WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

I have been with Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai for a little over three years since July 2015.

HOW HAS DIGITAL PATHOLOGY DIRECTLY AFFECTED YOUR BUSINESS?

Our clinical service is still mostly done with glass slides. We are actively trying to transition to a digital platform. Given that our institution has the highest volume of pathology specimens of any academic healthcare system in the US, the transition has been a complicated process. However, we are optimistic that once we transition to a digital platform, we would be the leader in digital pathology in the US.

HOW IS DIGITAL PATHOLOGY IMPACTING THE HEALTHCARE AND DIAGNOSTICS INDUSTRIES AS A WHOLE?

Digital pathology is changing the way we help our patients: both in our day-to-day clinical practice, as well as research & development of new diagnostics and therapies. I predict a future where digital pathology will become just a normal part of pathology, just as immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology have.

FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR YOUR USE OF DIGITAL PATHOLOGY?

The most important reason for my use of digital pathology is that I can access any digitally archived material on-demand anywhere in the world as long as I have an Internet connection. The level of connectivity that digital pathology provides is unrivaled by traditional systems.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL PATHOLOGY LOOK LIKE TO YOU? PARTICULARLY, WHEN DO YOU SEE, OR DO YOU SEE ITS ADOPTION AS AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE?

I see the future of digital pathology as being fully integrated into the modern healthcare system. I anticipate that digital pathology would be as ubiquitous in the classroom to teach students as it would be in doctor offices to make medical decisions. I further see digital pathology as an indispensable tool for research & development of novel diagnostics and therapies.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF THE DIGITAL PATHOLOGY ASSOCIATION (DPA) AND WHAT FIRST ATTRACTED TO YOU TO THE ASSOCIATION?

I have been a member of the Digital Pathology Association (DPA) since 2016. What drew me to DPA is that it is a professional organization with both academic and industry players who all have a common goal of advancing digital pathology to improve the healthcare system.

HOW DID YOU INITIALLY GET INVOLVED WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION AND WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT INVOLVEMENT?

I originally joined DPA as a resident physician member. Over time, I became a member of the Education Committee, Membership Committee, and the White Paper Task Force.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT THE DPA?

What I enjoy the most about the DPA is that I get to meet, engage, and collaborate with so many likeminded individuals who are working hard to advance the future of pathology and medicine.

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