



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM 2018

Asian Urology Residents Course

Anthony Ta (VIC) and Henry Yao (VIC)

We were both delighted to participate in the Asian Urology Residents' Course 2018 at Kyoto, Japan. We would like to thank USANZ for this opportunity, as well as IPSEN for their generous sponsorship. The AURC course is an educational program held by Urological Association of Asia (UAA) to help prepare residents for their fellowship examination. This course is attended by residents from 20 different countries. The course is usually held just prior to the UAA Congress and provides residents with the opportunity to extend their educational experience at the UAA congress.

The first day of AURC was a very informative day filled with lectures delivered by UAA faculty and UAA residents. A wide variety of topics were covered including kidney oncology, prostate oncology, female urology and reconstructive urology. Resident presentations were of high standards and often followed by nice summaries by UAA faculty to encapsulate the key messages helpful to passing the final exam.

On the second day, the AUA faculty delivered high quality and up-to-date lectures on a variety of topics including urothelial carcinoma, BPH and male LUTS, and urolithiasis. The lectures covered both basic knowledge as well as recent advances in the topics covered. In retrospect, these would be very helpful lectures for preparing for our own fellowship examination in Australia.

The third day of the course was largely filled with the AURC/AUA international resident examination. Just when we thought we had finished our final examination, we were confronted with a three-hour MCQ examination with challenging questions that certainly brought back memories from our not so distant fellowship examination.

The main highlight of the course was in fact networking with colleagues from various countries in Asia. We attended a social banquet held by the UAA on our first night with delicious food and excellent companionship. We shared stories on our training and our future career aspirations, and it was very interesting to learn about the differences in our training and the workforce needs of different countries. We certainly made a few friends along the way and would gather to try the local cuisines at the completion of each day's education.

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the AURC course for the education content as well as the social aspect of the event. We both made a few new friends and I'm sure we will continue to foster these new connections as we all continue on our journey in urology. We would both highly recommend this course to any future trainees.



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Canadian Senior Residents Meeting and CUA Annual Meeting

Matthew Hong (SA) and Kieran Beattie(NSW)

Each year, two SET6 trainees are invited to the Canadian Urology Association (CUA) Annual Meeting and an accompanying Annual Canadian Senior Residents Meeting, in exchange for two Canadian residents who attend our own Trainee Week in November. This year the CUA annual meeting with the Senior Residents Meeting alongside was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada. We were fortunate to be invited there and after a long journey to the eastern side of Canada, we were treated to a well organised program. We began with networking opportunities with a cocktail function for Canadian urology residents and their residency program directors followed by a social trip to Alexander Keith's Beer Brewery for a tour of their facilities, beer tasting, and dinner. The following morning, we attended the 11th Canadian Senior Urology Residents Meeting, which was essentially a four hour course on urodynamics. This course aimed to address a perceived gap in the training of Canadian urologists and had been developed over the previous decade. It mainly lecture based and encompassed everything from the basics of urodynamics to advanced urodynamic traces and case discussion.

The following three days were spent at the main CUA conference, where we were given complimentary full registration. The conference was similar in size and structure to our own USANZ annual meeting and consisted of a main program with a few satellite sessions and poster sessions held in parallel streams. Social events were organised including a President's Dinner on the final night at the Immigration Museum and Cunard Centre, which allowed us an opportunity to explore the historical significance of Halifax and sample the local lobster. As participants of the international exchange program we were invited to a more exclusive Past President's Dinner at the Maritime Museum where we networked with other invited guests and the USANZ/CUA Resident Exchange Program acknowledged. The main conference also provided a chance to meet up with a handful of our Australian colleagues present at the meeting, including Dixon Woon, completing an oncology fellowship at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and who won an essay prize, Ontario; Paul Anderson, Melbourne urologist who presented data from the WATER study in Aquablation, and Marcus Handmer, NSW trainee, who won an award for his poster on ocular radiation exposure in urological surgery.

Overall the exchange program lead to some fascinating insights into Canadian urology training and urology, as well as providing direct education with advanced urodynamics and a plethora of mainstream urology topics. Our discussions with Canadian residents revealed very similar dilemmas to our trainees: concerns about lack of employment following training and future access to robotic systems in a fully publicly funded health service. However, Canadian residents are fortunate to have very strong local training programs, some with a dedicated half day per week of pure academic education by their faculty. The reciprocal generosity of hospitality was also noteworthy: return transfers from the airport, a small gift from the CUA president, accommodation at the main conference hotel and perhaps most impressive, was the effort made by senior urologists at the meeting to engage in conversation with the Australian trainees.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support from Ipsen towards making this trip possible.



Matthew Hong (L) and Kieran Beattie (R) with Dr Gerald Brock, CUA President and an International Exchange Program recipient from the EAU.



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European Urology Residents Program (EUREP)

Isaac Thangasamy (NSW) and Paul Davis (VIC)

Over the past 15 years, the EAU has conducted an educational program for final year European urology residents in Prague. Paul Davis and Isaac Thangasamy were honoured to attend the 16th EUREP meeting representing the USANZ. The educational program was similar to the USANZ Trainee Week in many regards. Each day there was a different educational module and the topics included urological malignancy, benign and malignant prostatic disease, renal stone disease, urological infective conditions, trauma and paediatric urology. Each module had its own faculty of European experts. The urological malignancy module chaired by Professor Morgan Roupret from Paris was particularly good. Professor Shahrokh Shariat from Vienna was very informative and presented very well on muscle invasive bladder cancer. The days were long but the topics were covered in detail especially covering the latest evidence base. It was a very good educational experience. There was also an opportunity to attend hands-on training courses such as TURP, ureteroscopy/pyeloscopy and laparoscopic suturing. These sessions were a highlight for all attendees. The laparoscopic suturing module was especially beneficial with a solid hour of one-on-one teaching with a European expert.

The meeting also allowed a great opportunity to meet trainees from all over Europe. Over the 5 days, friendships were made and social media contacts swapped. Breaks between sessions were spent discussing the varied training pathways, EU politics and many other topics! The main social event was a lovely BBQ overlooking beautiful Prague's skyline and the river Vltava below. This was a lovely evening as were other nights exploring the popular nightlife spots around Prague. Paul and Isaac would like to thank Ipsen for their financial support in allowing this opportunity to come to fruition.