

BSDS Travel Fellowship Report
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It was an honour and privilege to receive the BSDS 2019 travel fellowship supporting my attendance at the American College of Mohs Surgery annual meeting, in Nashville, Tennessee. This opportunity came at a timely moment during my Mohs fellowship at Oxford University Hospital. Also, two of my mentors were trained in the US and were members of the ACMS, encouraging further my participation. The meeting would have been an opportunity for me to consolidate my learning, learn of new techniques and of course, a chance to network with colleagues from around the world. I had spent a month that year with Dr David Leffell and the team at the Yale Mohs unit so was already looking forward to catching up and making new acquaintances.

However, a few weeks before I was due to fly to Nashville, lockdown was announced and the world travel, meetings, dermatology and the world as we knew it stopped. Unfortunately, as the meeting had to be cancelled on last minute bases the online version was limited. I was able to still submit my work for the meeting and share my experience with others. My three posters I submitted were, a) Pain and Anxiety Management Practices in Mohs Micrographic Surgery: A UK National Survey, b) Mercedes' Technique For Periocular Mohs' Micrographic Surgery, c) Utility of the Skin Cancer Quality of Life Impact Tool in high-risk non melanoma skin cancers treated with Mohs Micrographic Surgery. It is always interesting to see the work done by others especially as a lot of Mohs surgeons in the USA perform Mohs' on a higher volume for squamous cell carcinoma than we do and also melanoma.

It was a shame not to attend in person as I was so looking forward to the meeting, I had also arranged a visit to a local unit afterwards and was going to explore the 'South' Memphis and New Orleans, all part of a lovely trip which unfortunately never happened however I am determined to go back and attend next time it is in Nashville.

But I was lucky we carried on doing what we loved in beautiful Oxford and had so many grateful patients. We ended up formulating covid pathways for surgery and we were one of the few departments to carry on Mohs surgery throughout the pandemic, introduced early on covid testing and found a new way of working.

I was also able to attend the virtual Hugh Greenway's 37th Superficial Anatomy and Cutaneous Surgery course in Aug 2020. The Hugh Greenway course has become something of a rite of passage for budding Mohs surgeons. The course covers anatomy; skin flaps and grafts; and some aspects of cosmetic dermatology and scar management. Experts in the field of dermatological surgery and cosmetic dermatology deliver lectures and they were enthusiastic and inspiring. A vital aspect of the course is the opportunity to practice new skills and techniques on cadavers which was missed on the virtual version, but the lectures were truly fantastic. The lectures were running from 08:00 am until 20:00 West coast real time which meant I became nocturnal and was sleeping through the day and awake at night for two days in London. But it was great to be able to ask questions and participate. It was the first meeting in months that I was able to attend and was hugely educational

I wish to thank the BSDS for awarding this travel fellowship that enabled me to have this valuable and interesting experience.