

## **BSDS Travelling Fellowship 2011**

I was fortunate to be able to travel to the 44<sup>th</sup> American College of Mohs Surgery's Annual Meeting last May, with the help of the BSDS Travelling Scholarship. The meeting was in Chicago, a great city even though torrential rain was the order of the day for much of my stay!

This was my first time attending the Mohs College meeting, and the trip across the pond was worthwhile. The scientific programme was excellent and, with the exception of the morning mini-sessions, the lectures did not run concurrently so that no difficult choices had to be made about what sessions to attend.

The meeting consisted of just over four days of scientific sessions, covering (amongst other topics) pathology, reconstruction, skin cancer, transplant recipients, as well as some more US-specific topics such as 'Coding Update'. Some of the sessions that I found most useful included 'How Would You Reconstruct It?' – the title is self-explanatory, with a panel of experts discussing various options for dealing with difficult Mohs defects, and 'Complications: Prevention, Early Detection and Management'.

The keynote address was 'Extreme Altitude Medicine', delivered by Dr. Scott Parazynski, a physician-physiologist-astronaut-mountaineer. His lecture on his career to date, although very different from the average Mohs surgeon, was very enjoyable.

I enjoyed having the opportunity to meet residents, fellows and dermatologic surgeons from other countries – although most were from North America, delegates had travelled from as far as New Zealand.

I would like to thank the British Society for Dermatologic Surgery for awarding me the Travelling Scholarship to attend the ACMS meeting. I left feeling inspired to put what I had learnt into practice.

Thank you

Benvon Moran  
Dermatology SpR  
St. James's Hospital, Dublin