

Theophilus Teddy Kojo Anyomih, Ghana

ISS/SIC Travel Scholar of the 48th WCS, Krakow, Poland, August 11 to 15, 2019

I aspire to be an academic surgeon involved in Global surgical research, contributing to improving surgical outcome worldwide especially in low- and middle-income countries like Ghana. After fulfilling experiences of tutoring medical students and junior doctors, I look forward to dedicating a good percentage of my time to teaching and mentoring young aspiring surgeons.

Attending the WCS2019 was really an eye-opener and a great opportunity for me to learn from others who are already living my dreams. It offered me the opportunity to partake in two courses that have greatly improved my thoughts on academic surgery and my writing skills; Career development for academic surgeons and the writer's course. These courses brought together authors, editors and experienced academic surgeons to share their experiences, mistakes, successes and to guide us and essentially mentor us. We interacted with them and learned from their experiences. Thanks to the writer's course I have successfully reviewed my first article and looking forward to review more articles.

Every student, resident or junior doctor looking at a career at academic surgery should definitely attend these courses. I could only get this opportunity because I was supported as a Travel scholar

I come from an area with very few academic surgeons. It was therefore great excitement and a rare opportunity to meet 100s of academic surgeons who were overly excited and willing to speak to and guide young doctors like myself. It was an honour to meet with Andrew Hill, Michael Sarr and Herbert Chen and the likes who said very encouraging words to me.

I got to give two oral presentations-this gave me the chance to share the work I have been involved in and confidence to present to a wider group of people with varying backgrounds and levels. I also had the chance to listen to other presentations and abstracts and learn from them.

I am honoured to have been selected as a travel scholar to the World Congress of Surgeons 2019-It would have been impossible for me to make it to the congress to learn the things that I learnt without financial support. I thank all those who contributed financially to help me make it to this congress, I am really grateful; I could otherwise have ever attended.

The ultimate beneficiaries of this scholarship are the patients who will be in my care and the students and young doctors I will mentor.

Thank you.

Theophilus Teddy Kojo Anyomih