

National Society for Histotechnology 3545 Ellicott Mills Drive Ellicott City, MD 20143

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# Volunteer Appreciation – Paule Cham, IHC Committee and Nominations/Election Committee



#### Q: Tell us about yourself and where you work.

A: Hello, I'm Paule Cham. I have been a HTL for 6 years and I work for Janssen R&D Pharmaceutical.

## Q: What have been your challenges and highlights over the past few years?

**A:** My challenge is getting some of my IHC assays to work. Highlights are when I get them to work!

### Q: How has volunteering helped you build upon your successes and/or addressed your challenges?

**A:** Volunteering has helped me to build my network and learn from different seasoned techs.

#### Q: What advice do you have for others who would like to volunteer?

A: Volunteer as much as you can and don't be afraid to ask questions and open up.

#### Q: How did you become involved in the field of histology (what drew you to the field)?

I've always love histology as a subject, however, I did not know there was a specific field until I started work at the morgue and helping the pathologist. I became more curious, and the more I asked the more I learned and after a few months I was shadowing the Path A and the techs. I was informed by my manager about the histology program at Drexel University. So, I took a leap of faith, applied and completed the program (a Masters of Histechnology). It is a great program that I would highly recommend to anyone who's interested in pursuing a master's degree. This is where I learned you can help people and save lives without being in the forefront. Also, we matter, because without us (Anatomical Pathology), there's no diagnoses or treatment plan for patients and love ones (not to be boastful)!

#### Q: What important skills should people have if they wish to pursue a career in pharma?

**A:** IHC (Immunohistochemistry), animal study (Anatomy), being able to think outside the box (independent learner, explore possibilities), and to know histology well.

#### Q: What is your favorite aspect of your job?

**A:** I love my team which is important. Support is very important in a workplace as it gives you sense of drive. I also love IHC!



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### Q: When you are not at work, what are your passions/hobbies?

**A:** I have two beautiful children and they keep me on my toes. I love audiobooks, I love to learn about new cars, I love to travel, hiking, meditation and drinking tea. I am always looking to challenge myself and learn new things, new culture, new experiences.

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