

## ESVS TRAVEL GRANT REPORT

The travel grant offered to me by the *European Society for Vascular Surgery* allowed me to visit the Department of Vascular Surgery Department of the *Barnes-Jewish Hospital* associated with the *School of Medicine at Washington University* in Saint Louis, Missouri, USA. As such, I had the opportunity to spend a whole month (July 2019) under the direct supervision of Dr. Sanchez at this top end Vascular Surgery Department that is a reference center for three different states and has one of the greatest vascular case-load of North America.

My experience in the Vascular Surgery Department of the Barnes-Jewish Hospital, was absolutely enlightening, both at the professional and the personal levels. I've had the opportunity to see up close and first-hand the surgical approach to the arterial and venous thoracic outlet syndromes by the hand of Dr. Thompson. Furthermore, I was able to watch cutting-edge technology, some part of ongoing clinical trials, including complex aortic endovascular aneurysm repair (aortic arch fenestrated endografts, custom-made fenestrated and branched aortic endografts), thoraco-abdominal open surgical repair, as well as lower limb surgical and endovascular revascularization, carotid surgical and endovascular treatment, among others.

The vascular team, formed by attending specialists, fellows and residents, is amazing and very keen to teach and show me their techniques as well as tips and tricks in all the different types of procedures. Although, my stay in this vascular department was strictly as an observer, as per their bylaws similar to most American centers that accept foreign visitors. Nonetheless, it was an amazing experience that, beyond the vascular surgery techniques, allowed me to have a close contact with a completely different healthcare system.

I am most grateful to the *European Society for Vascular Surgery* and to the Secretary General Prof. Sebastian E. Debus for this unique opportunity.

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