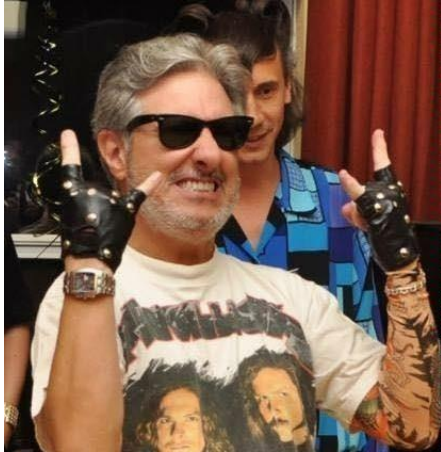


ASHI Member Spotlight

Member Spotlight



Name & Credentials: Andrés Jaramillo, Ph.D.

Title: Director, Histocompatibility Laboratory

Place of employment: Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Graduated from: University of Louisville

How long have you been an ASHI member? 21 years

When did you attend your first ASHI Meeting? Atlanta, Georgia in 1997. My special memory of that meeting was how friendly and welcoming the ASHI community was!

What made you decide to work in HLA? My first job after college was at the "Institute of Immunology of Colombia" in Bogota, Colombia and I was involved in the Histocompatibility laboratory. I found the genetics and the role of HLA on the immune system fascinating and a rewarding line of work.

Most rewarding aspect: To help get someone a life-saving organ is always so rewarding. Even people that have been on dialysis for several years get their normal life back after they get a kidney transplant. I never get tired of listening to the stories of transplant recipients. My brother is the recipient of a kidney donated by one of my sisters. He has had a great personal and professional life that could not have been possible without that amazing gift from my sister. It was the gift of life.

Fun fact: I love my job, and I like to mix work with fun. I like hard-working people that don't take life too seriously (don't take life too seriously, nobody gets out alive anyway). I am very practical, and I am always trying to find easier ways to get the job done (hard work never killed anybody but why take a chance?). So, I'm always trying to find a solution to every problem. In this regard, the only people I dislike are complainers; they are always trying to find a problem to every solution.

I like hiking, kayaking, dragon boat racing, wine, and music. In addition, I like to talk to people just for the fun of it. My father told me once about "the lost art of conversation". I'll always remember that!!