



The Pennsylvania Newsletter

Official Publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania
"Your Professional Organization for over Seventy Years"

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Spring 2015



Message from the President ASCLS-PA Goes to Washington

Michael Osborne
ASCLS-PA President

Dear Pennsylvania Laboratory Colleague,

We have added about 40 new members to our group within the last few months. **Thank you.** Please see a welcome for our new member's included in this newsletter. We are only as strong as our membership!

I am proud to tell you that 5 members of ASCLS-PA will be traveling to Washington, DC on March 16 and March 17, 2015 to meet with our representatives in Congress. ASCLS-PA members Stephanie Noblit, Jean Buchenhorst, Andy Huynh, Kimberlee Gallagher and I will travel, prepare and then meet with the staff from our two Senators' offices and also either staff or the Representatives themselves. We will be talking about pocketbook issues important to all of us in laboratory medicine. This "Legislative Day" is a joint effort of many professional laboratory societies including ASCLS, CLMA, AACC and more... *Truly volunteerism and democracy in action and at its best.*

We will be asking our representatives for support on issues such as:

Laboratory Developed Tests (LDTs) and what restrictions should be placed on them.

AACC's effort to Harmonize Methods – A serious healthcare issue today is that patients' lab results can disagree depending on where their tests were performed and what measurement procedures were used and the goal is to organize global efforts to achieve harmonization of—or ensure uniformity among—clinical laboratory test results

PAMA – (Protecting Access to Medicare Act) Deadline is January 2016. This is important- all labs need to submit the data so that real reimbursements can be established

from the pool of laboratory data and new payment schedules set.

Workforce Development Issues to ensure that our state officials are aware of the needs in the clinical laboratory community.

I personally am honored and am looking forward to this initiative and will report back to you with the progress we make.

If you would like to do this same type of grass roots political activity here in our great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania please let me know. ASCLS-PA - we are YOUR lab group in the Commonwealth. We are Pennsylvania's Laboratories: from Abington to York, Pittsburgh to Scranton, Erie to Philadelphia and everywhere in between. Feel free to schedule visits with your Pennsylvania representatives either locally or in Harrisburg.

I invite you to please call my cell 267-273-6415 or email me (Michael.R.Osborne@questdiagnostics.com) with any suggestions how we, as a group, can be more relevant to your everyday duties and professional development. We value your membership and appreciate your suggestions

I invite you to please register for our May 5th - 6th 2015 Annual ASCLS-PA educational seminar and yearly show in Harrisburg, PA. You can find the program at www.ASCLS-PA.org. We are encouraging our new and more seasoned members to use this meeting as a sort of reunion or way to reconnect with those you attended school/training. The years have taken you to many parts of the state and positions and this would be an ideal forum to reconnect with old friends and colleagues. Plus *you will have fun sharing memories.* Thank you.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US ON OUR WEBSITE

Make sure you bookmark www.ascls-pa.org to stay in touch with us. You can find numerous updates and information on the web site about upcoming meetings as well as the bylaws changes which will be voted on at the May 4, 2015 meeting.



Come to Atlanta for the ASCLS Meeting!

Scott Aikey
ASCLS AMSC Vice-Chair

The American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science Annual Meeting Steering Committee is pleased to invite you to join your fellow clinical laboratory professionals at the 83rd annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science. The Abstract and Proposal Review Committee and the Annual Meeting Steering Committee have planned an outstanding program of cutting-edge presentations to enhance your knowledge and expand your horizons in laboratory science. The Advanced Management Institute returns with advanced topics for managers on Sunday, July 26 and Monday, July 27. This year's AMI focus is "people."

Our destination this year is Atlanta, Georgia, and our hotel is the Omni at CNN Center. In addition to the learning opportunities afforded at our meeting, Atlanta is a great location for activities or just relaxing and soaking up the sunshine. The CNN Center is a short walk from our meeting hotel as is the Georgia World Congress Center, the site for the 2015 Clinical Lab Expo. Be sure to visit the Expo and see the latest in laboratory science at hundreds of vendor booths.

The meeting will offer a variety of events and opportunities, both educational and social. The ASCLS

educational program provides attendees with numerous avenues to gain knowledge including formal sessions, informal luncheon round table sessions, and member submitted papers presented by nationally renowned speakers.

The Clinical Lab Expo will provide an opportunity to view laboratory technological advances. ASCLS Governance sessions will offer you, the grass roots members, the opportunity to take an active part in your organization. The social events will provide time to relax after a long day of learning, network with old friends, make new friends, and have fun.

There are numerous activities and sights for you to enjoy in Atlanta, including the World of Coca-Cola Museum and the Georgia Aquarium. A new addition to the landscape since our last meeting in 2011 is the 200-foot ferris wheel, Skyview Atlanta, in Centennial Olympic Park, located just outside our hotel.

We cordially invite you to join us to explore the science and the exhibits, network with your fellow laboratorians, and enjoy the warm southern hospitality of "Hotlanta," Georgia.



A Call for ASCLS-PA Awards Submission

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Bylaws Chair

Nominations are now being accepted for the following awards to be presented at the Annual Meeting in May 2015.

- Dolbey Award – Member of the Year***
- Estolle Gross Award***
- Corporate Award***
- Lifetime Achievement Award***

Each nomination is to be accompanied by a short essay by the nominator explaining the reason as to why the nominee is deserving of the award.

Description of the various awards can be found in the handbook which can be found on the ASCLS-PA website. Peer recognition of the work your colleagues perform for the Society is the highest form of flattery. Let's make this a banner year for nominations.

Deadline for receipt of nomination forms is April 1, 2015. Please submit completed nominations electronically to Mary Gourley at m.gourley@verizon.ney by the deadline.

Please contact President Michael Osborne, Scott Aikey, or Mary Gourley for nomination forms. All nominations are welcome and anyone can nominate.



Your Best Value – the ASCLS-PA Spring Meeting – 2012 Registration Rates in 2015

Mary Beth Miele

ASCLS-PA Annual Meeting Program Chair

Want to find out how to take your job seriously, yourself lightly and make the workplace fun? Then come to the **80th Annual Meeting** of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Society of American Medical Technologists.

What do the following persons have in common?

- Microbiologists from Geisinger Health Systems, Hershey Medical Center, and Quest Diagnostics
- an Infectious Disease physician from Reading Health Systems
- a bariatric surgeon
- a motivational speaker
- an Assistant Vice President of an immunohematology service at a large reference laboratory
- a Vice President of Government Affairs for a national reference laboratory
- a Medical Affairs manager from industry
- the ASCLS President-elect
- the ASCLS Region II director and MLS program director at Rutgers
- Associate professors from the PSU College of Medicine and University of Delaware
- a LEAN Six Sigma Master blackbelt

Answer: They will ALL be presenting talks on **Tuesday, May 5, 2015** at the meeting at the **Holiday Inn, Harrisburg East**, located at 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA.

On **Wednesday, May 6**, the following experts will be presenting.

- a Specialist in Blood Bank (SBB)
- the Associate Medical Director of the Blood Bank from Johns Hopkins
- the Medical Director of Transfusion Medicine at Penn State Hershey
- the Medical Director of and the Live Donor Liver program, Penn State Hershey
- Fellows from Blood Bank services & Hematology-Oncology and a Pathology Chief Resident
- the Medical Director of the Central PA Blood Bank
- Professors from the University of Delaware and Penn State Hershey
- a supervisor of Phlebotomy & Client Services, and Specimen Processing Area
- a breast cancer surgeon
- an Inter-regional Commissioner for CAP Lab

Accreditation program

- a veterinary forensic pathologist from PSU

Of the 30 speakers at this meeting, 30% started their careers as Medical Laboratory Scientists, 30% have PhDs, 30% are MDs or DOs, and 10% have Master's degrees.

Come to the meeting and expand your knowledge about a variety of health care related topics. Take time to meet our speakers and ask them about their career paths. Find out how your position in the laboratory services can serve as a stepping stone into other positions within health care and beyond. Come and network with your colleagues and industry partners. We have put together a robust schedule of activities.

This 2015 program has 31 hours of PACE approved continuing education credits planned over the two day meeting. Three meeting rooms will be used each day. Chemistry, hematology, coagulation and a variety of general topics will be presented both days. On Tuesday, a microbiology track will be offered and on Wednesday a transfusion medicine track is planned. Vendor exhibits will be part of the meeting. If interested in exhibiting, please contact Mike Osborne.

Near the time you receive this newsletter you will receive the printed program. **Of note, a few speaker changes have been made.** [Please refer to the website and the updated program overview.](#) The *In Vivo* Microscopy Talk has moved to Tuesday, May 5 at 2:15 PM and the Personalized Medicine talk has moved to Wednesday, May 6 at 2:15 PM. The Team Unity talk has been moved to the 11 AM time slot on Wednesday, May 6.

On Tuesday, we will kick off our meeting on a light note with Tammy Miller sharing ways we can improve our workplace by adjusting our perspective and reaction to everyday situations in which we find ourselves. She will deliver our plenary session entitled "This Funny Place Called Work". Following the plenary talk, the following topics will be presented: Probiotics, Can platelet size predict future events, Diagnosis and treatment of colorectal cancer, History of automated clinical chemistry methods, Effect of bariatric surgery on laboratory results, Bridging the gap between laboratory and nursing staffs, The DCLS – a new career path for MLS, Government affairs and lab services, Future trends in *in vivo* microscopy and LEAN concepts for process improvement. Microbiology-

continued on page 4

ASCLS-PA Spring Meeting

continued from page 3

related topics presented will be: Rapid testing methods, such as MALDI-TOF applications and Multiplex testing of blood culture isolates; Fighting emerging pathogens including Ebola, and returning diseases, such as measles, mumps, and rubella; and Lyme disease diagnosis and treatment.

On Wednesday, the following topics will be presented: How to share the value of laboratory services with others, Quality control – what you need and how to show you’ve done it, Practical suggestions on how to get healthcare workers to act as an effective team, How veterinary forensics can provide evidence in family violence investigations, and The laboratory’s role in personalized medicine. Disease associated talks focusing on diagnosis and treatments will include: preeclampsia, congenital bone marrow syndromes, how blood clots, update on breast cancer, and a cure for hepatitis C. Transfusion medicine related topics will be: How to prepare for BB assessments/inspections, Molecular immunohematology, Reversal of anticoagulant therapy, Platelet use guidelines, and Assessing your knowledge – Transfusion Medicine Jeopardy.

ASCLS-PA and PASSAMT are pleased to offer special registration rates to members. Daily rates are as follows: Regular member rate - \$95; Non-member rate - \$130; Student member rate - \$25; and Student non-member \$40. **Continental Breakfast and Buffet Lunch are included in your daily registration.** Registration begins at 7:30 AM both days. (And as mentioned above, you are invited to attend the Awards banquet on Tuesday night at a nominal charge of \$40 per person.) Registration for the meeting can be paid by check or **Mastercard or VISA**. Discounted lodging rates (\$111/night) are available by calling 717-939-7841 and indicating that you are

attending the “American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science-PA” meeting.

For updated information about the annual meeting, please check our web site, www.ascls-pa.org. If you would like to serve as a moderator at the meeting, please contact Mary Beth Miele at mmiele@hmc.psu.edu. We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting where you can enjoy outstanding continuing education and take advantage of networking opportunities with colleagues in Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

ASCLS-PA members and those interested in joining are invited on to the **House of Delegates on Monday, May 4 at 6:00 PM** at the hotel. We have a lot of opportunities for you to become involved in your profession. Our society is committed to helping you make the connections you need and to participate in legislative and continuing education opportunities. Come and engage in our future, make a difference!

2015 ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE

General Chair:

Scott Aikey, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}

Program Chair:

Mary Beth Miele, Ph.D., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, RM(NRCM)

Vendor Chair:

Michael Osborne, BBA

Registration Chair:

Sharon Strauss, MS, SM(NRM), MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SM^{CM}, DLM^{CM}

Committee Member:

Rebecca Falsone, B.S. MT(ASCP)

PACE Coordinator:

Katie Franz, MT(ASCP)

PSSAMT Contact:

Debra Smeal, MT, AMT

SAVE THE DATE!

The ASCLS-PA Annual Spring Meeting and Expo will be held on May 5-6, 2015 at the Holiday Inn East in Harrisburg, PA

Two full days of educational sessions as well as Vendor tables are planned.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

The full program will be mailed as well as posted on the website. If you don't receive a copy, please go to www.ascls-org and click on the link to the program.

A Reunion in May

Have you even wondered where some of your “old” college classmates or former coworkers may have moved to and what they are doing now that the years have passed? If so, the ASCLS-PA Annual Meeting may be a good opportunity to renew these old friendships and share some wonderful memories. This event provides a chance to step away from your work environment and engage with friends (past and new) who are seeking to grow and expand their knowledge. There will be formal and informal learning opportunities available for those who attend the meeting. There will be vendors available to present their specific products and networking connections that are abundant.

Please join us for an event filled with laughter, friendship and nostalgia as we meet in Harrisburg, PA on May 5 and 6, 2015. Perhaps you may rekindle a long lost friendship that will burn brightly into your future!



Motions from the Most Recent ASCLS-PA Board Meeting – February 7, 2015

William Hunt
ASCLS-PA Secretary

MOTION #1: Moved by Miele, seconded by Franz that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented.

Motion #2: Moved by Miele, seconded by Franz that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors accept the Treasurer’s report dated 1/30/15 for the Operating Funds as presented and file for audit. Motion Passed.

Motion #3: Moved by Strauss, seconded by Franz that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors accept the Treasurer’s report dated 1/30/15 for the Scholarship Funds and file for audit. Motion Passed.

Motion #4: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors accept the minutes of the 10/18/14 Board of Directors as presented. Motion Passed

Motion #5 Moved by Hunt, Seconded by Strauss that the Nominations deadline for all ASCLS-PA awards be moved to April 1, 2015. Motion Passed

Discussion regarding ASCLS deadlines.

Motion #6: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors amend the proposed Bylaws Article VIII to read “A quorum shall consist of the President or alternate plus three (3) other board members and six (6) voting members of the Society.” Motion passed

Motion #7: Moved by Aikey, Seconded by Miele that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors amend the proposed Bylaws Article X to read “The directors shall represent the Society between Annual Business Meetings to conduct such business as may be required for the good of the Society.” Motion passed

Motion #8: Moved by Franz, Seconded by Hunt that the ASCLS PA Board of Directors allocates \$1,000 from O&A for society sponsored memberships at the ASCLS-PA annual meeting. Motion passed

Motion #9: Moved by Hunt, Seconded by Franz that the ASCLS PA Board of Directors approve \$2,000 for the Dolbey graduate scholarship and \$1,500 for the Memorial Undergraduate scholarship award. Motion passed

Motion #10: Moved by Hunt, Seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS PA organize and pay for a state educator dinner on the evening of February 18, 2015 at the CLEC meeting in Cincinnati not to exceed \$300 from the O&A fund. Motion passed

Motion #11: Moved by Strauss, Seconded by Franz that the ASCLS PA Board of Directors approve that any money remaining in the Legislative Day budget originally allocated to pay for registration be divided among those attending. Motion passed



Save the Date for the Student Review Session

Ryan Stetz
ASCLS-PA Student Representative

As students, our clinical year can be quite hectic. Studying material for our didactic classes as well as clinical rotations can seem overwhelming at times. Add to that, reviewing for the Board of Certification exam and stress levels can rise quickly. Thankfully, ASCLS-PA hosts the annual ASCLS-PA MLS/MLT Student Review Session annually. Scheduled for June 6th 2015 at the University of the Sciences, Philadelphia from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (room PTC 140), Pathologists and Laboratory Professionals will provide a comprehensive review on the main laboratory disciplines (Chemistry & Urinalysis,

Hematology & Coagulation, Immunology, Microbiology, and Blood Bank) featured on the certification exam. In addition, the presenters will provide students with a study guide composed of pertinent review questions. Admission will be \$30 and lunch will be provided. More details will be provided at a later date and posted on the Society website. If interested or if you have any questions, please contact Ryan Stetz, ASCLS-PA student representative, at Ryan.Stetz@uphs.upenn.edu or check the ASCLS-PA website as www.ascls-pa.org.



ASCLS-PA Revised Bylaws and SOPs: Member Vote to Occur on May 4, 2015

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Bylaws Chair

A task force has completed the task of updating the Pennsylvania Bylaws. The Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the changes. The revised Bylaws document has been submitted to the ASCLS Bylaw Committee for approval.

The major changes contained in the revision:

1. Articles on the Code of Ethics and ASCLS Presidents Council have been removed.
2. The ASCLS-PA House of Delegates has replaced by the Annual Business Meeting (the meeting is held in conjunction with the Annual Spring meeting and all members are encouraged to attend)
3. Revisions to the Standard Operating Procedures to be approved by the Board of Directors instead of the House of Delegates. (Bylaws will still be approved by 2/3 of the voting members at the Annual Business Meeting)
4. Membership classes have been replaced with the ASCLS Membership Classes.
5. The number of Directors at Large have been reduced from six (6) down to three (3). (The Board would now consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, three (3) directors at Large, one (1) voting Student, and one (1) voting First Year Professional)

The process for amending these documents is as follows:

1. Changes are submitted to the Bylaws committee which will put the changes into amendments. COMPLETED

2. The amendments are the submitted to the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors for review and approval. COMPLETED
3. The Bylaws Committee has submitted the amendments to the ASCLS Bylaws Committee for review to verify compliance with the ASCLS Bylaws and SOP's. COMPLETED
4. Approval by the ASCLS Bylaws Committee. COMPLETED
5. Approved amendments to be distributed to the membership at least 30 days prior to vote. PENDING
6. Approval by the voting members attending the Annual ASCLS-PA House of Delegates in May 2015. PENDING
7. If approved by 2/3 of the voting members, the amended Bylaws will be sent to the ASCLS National office and Bylaws Committee. PENDING

THE BYLAWS HAVE BEEN POSTED ON THE ASCLS-PA WEBSITE. THE PORTIONS TO BE DELETED ARE PRINTED IN BLUE AND THE WORDING STRUCK THROUGH; THE NEW WORDING IS PRINTED IN RED AND UNDERLINED. PLEASE REVIEW. PLEASE CONTACT MARY GOURLEY (412-398-9567) IF YOU NEED A HARD COPY OF THE AMENDMENTS.

The voting members at the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates to be held on May 4, 2015 at 6pm will vote the Bylaws and SOP amendments.

I want to thank the members of the Task Force (Scott Aikey, Bill Hunt, Mike Osborne, and Sharon Strauss), the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors, and the ASCLS Bylaws Committee for their hard work on this monumental task.

A Call for Nominations for ASCLS-PA Elected Positions

At the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates, to be held on May 4, 2015, delegates will be voting on several positions which are up for election.

Nominations are now being accepted for the following positions to be elected at the House of Delegates:

- President-Elect**
- Treasurer**

If you are interested in running for one of above positions or if you would like more information, please contact Mike Osborne at Michael.R.Osborne@questdiagnostics.com.



If you haven't yet "liked" us on facebook, please go to our Facebook page and "like" us. We can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/ASCLSPennsylvania> or just search for ASCLS Pennsylvania

Welcome

ASCLS-PA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ASCLS-PA would like to welcome all the new members who have joined our organization between July 1, 2014 and January 31, 2015. If you work with one of these new members, please welcome them to the Society and encourage them to become active!

Annette Iacono	Professional I	Aston	Natalie Belfanti	Student	
Genevieve Edwards	Professional I	Berwyn	Melody Botterbusch	Professional I	
Victoria Ciancitto	First Year Professional	Milford	Amanda Dellinger	Professional I	
Jennifer Clark	Student	St. Marys	Sarah Johnston	Student	Shippensburg
Lindsay Wilson	Student	Titusville	Kayla Miller	Student	Fairfield
Kelly Lundberg	First Year Professional	Harrisburg	Christina Scott	Professional I	Lewisberry
Kristy Matulevich	Professional II	Bryn Mawr	Chelsea Small	Student	Hanover
Janette Boulden	First Year Professional	Conshohocken	Barb Steiber	Professional I	York
Thomas Nguyen	First Year Professional	Plymouth Meeting	Kerry Then	Student	Hanover
		Glenoden	Christopher Walker	Student	York
Pa Alimamy Bangura	Student	Philadelphia	Michael Zanecosky	Student	Sinking Spring Falls
Fathma Abdalla	Student	Narvon	Mary Zavrotny	Student	
Karen Gassmann	Student		Jennifer Slodysko	Professional I	
Victoria Gawel	Student	Philadelphia	Elisha Cruz	Student	Reading
Coral Holly	Student	Lansdale	Marta Wach	First Year Professional	Woodlyn
Kelly King	Student	Philadelphia	Zeljka Burchill	First Year Professional	venango
Kimiben Patel	Student	Philadelphia	Donna Young	First Year Professional	Benton
Ryan Stetz	Student	Philadelphia	Georgeann Laughman	Professional I	Harrisburg
Christine Thompson	Student	Philadelphia			

Help ASCLS Go Viral!

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science is looking for creative videos to post on YouTube in order to promote the ASCLS!

Things to consider:

- These videos will be used by the ASCLS National Membership Committee to serve as a recruitment tool for the organization.
- The winning video will focus on promoting the ASCLS in a creative way. ASCLS must be mentioned in your video to be considered for the competition.
- All videos will be available to watch on ascls.org after April 1st.

-The winning video submission will receive a \$200 cash prize to go towards a party!

-The designated leader of the winning video will win a free student registration to the 2015 ASCLS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA

-Submissions are due by April 1st, 2015! Video submissions, as well as any questions, can be directed to laceyanncampbell@gmail.com



The Pennsylvania Newsletter
8 Lakeview Court
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

**Moving? Remember you can
update all your membership
information online at
www.ascls-pa.org**

**Or send your attached label
and your corrected address to:
ASCLS-PA
8 Lakeview Court
Sinking Spring, PA 19608
to insure uninterrupted service**

Coming Events

Board of Directors Meeting and House of Delegates: May 4, 2015 (Harrisburg)

ASCLS-PA Annual Spring Meeting and Expo: May 5-6, 2015 (Harrisburg)

Annual Student Review Session: June 6, 2015 (Philadelphia area)

ASCLS-PA Planning Day: June 13, 2015 (Philadelphia area)

All members of ASCLS-PA are welcome and encouraged to attend any meeting of the Board of Directors

To get involved, simply email Michael Osborne at Michael.R.Osborne@questdiagnostics.com

**The Pennsylvania Newsletter is the official publication of
The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science – Pennsylvania**

President: Michael Osborne

President-Elect: Jean Buchenhorst

Past President: Laurie Taraborrelli

Editor: Scott Aikey

Editorial Staff: The ASCLS-PA Board of Directors

Website: www.ascls-pa.org