



The Pennsylvania Newsletter

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"Your Professional Organization for over Seventy Years"

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The New and Improved LaboratoryScienceCareers.com

Joshua Cannon
ASCLS-PA President

LABORATORYSCIENCECAREERS

Note: This article was originally published in ASCLS TODAY (Volume XXXIII Number 5).

Beginning in March of 2018, I had the pleasure of working with two ASCLS colleagues—Lezlee Koch and Susie Zanto—to redesign LabScienceCareers.com, a website housed under Coordinating Council on the Clinical Laboratory Workforce. This website was initially created to serve as a resource for high school students who were interested but knew very little about careers in the laboratory sciences. We are happy to announce that the new and improved LaboratoryScienceCareers.com (LSC) is live!

LSC is not only a resource for careers in clinical pathology (e.g., medical laboratory scientist) but also anatomic pathology (e.g., cytotechnologist, histotechnician). It also covers lesser known careers, such as a laboratory information systems administrator, and provides information for careers in public health, industry, research, and education.

Questions such as "What is laboratory science?" and "Is laboratory science right for me?" are answered. Although the website originally had a target audience of high school students, we felt there should also be information for college students who are undeclared or students who may be graduating with a general health or science degree and want to know what opportunities are available to them. The importance of the role laboratory

professionals play in healthcare is discussed, along with a brief history of laboratory science. Students learn some of the personality traits and skills that are helpful to have when working in the laboratory sciences, and the next steps to take if they believe a laboratory science career is the right fit for them. Students are encouraged to meet with their guidance counselor, science teacher, or health professions advisor; find a personal or professional mentor; and ask for a tour of the laboratory facilities at their local hospital.

Education pathways, certification, and licensure are discussed, and students are able to easily search for programs they're interested in that are accredited by National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences or Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

There are many medical laboratory professionals featured on LSC who share their journey to becoming a medical laboratory professional. We are currently looking to feature individuals outside of the clinical laboratory who showcase diversity in the laboratory sciences. If you know someone who may be a good fit, please contact me at joshua.cannon@jefferson.edu.

We ask that you send LSC to guidance counselors at your local high school and advisors at the program you graduated from or are currently enrolled in. Send it to friends and family who may have an interest or know someone who may be interested.

Please visit www.laboratorysciencecareers.com to learn more. If you have any suggestions, feel free to contact me.

**The Pennsylvania Newsletter is the official publication of
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Note from the Membership Chair: Why I have chosen to remain a member of ASCLS

Marianne Downes

ASCLS-PA President-elect and Membership Committee Chair

The membership deadline has now come and gone. Some of you may be receiving communications that it's time to renew your membership, or that your membership has lapsed. Some of you are looking at the holidays coming up and wondering if membership really fits in your budget and why you even became a member in the first place. For a fair number of you, membership in ASCLS is/was an expectation of your educational program, and now that you've completed the program and passed your certification exam (Congratulations!) you are questioning the need to continue your membership in ASCLS. Without a sales pitch or ulterior motive, please let me share with you the reasons that I have chosen to remain a member (both active and inactive at times) in ASCLS.

The goal of ASCLS is to be the premier professional organization aimed at providing safe and effective patient care through continued support and education of the laboratory professionals charged with maintaining and practicing the standards of quality in laboratory testing. ASCLS is a grassroots organization whose members are all laboratory professionals. We each have a say and a mission to direct the efforts of ASCLS through a number of avenues; Education, workforce and political action, patient safety, and quality standards.

ASCLS maintains the Body of Knowledge for laboratory professionals of all levels. This body of knowledge is part of what defines us as a profession. Part of this is also to define the Entry Level Curriculum as the knowledge that students of the profession should master as part of their educational program. An education which goes beyond that of a traditional degree in Biology, Biochemistry, Immunology, Microbiology, or Chemistry. As an active member of ASCLS within my chosen scientific assemblies, I have a charge and a role to keep these documents current with the actual practice of my fields of expertise.

When I was young in my career, ASCLS afforded me the opportunity for mentorship and networking which allowed me to better evaluate my work environment, responsibilities and remuneration with those from similar entities around the country. This gave me the ability to negotiate for benefits for myself and when necessary explore other job opportunities. This also afforded me a means to get involved in my profession and have a say in the direction of ASCLS in a manner that I do not have with ASCP or AABB (other professional

organizations to which I belong). The networking and mentoring also enabled me to chart a course towards my career aspirations to become an educator.

While I was pursuing a graduate degree in a different state, working part time, and being a single mom, I did not have the time or ability to prioritize being active in ASCLS or in my constituent society. However, I chose to continue my membership so that, even while inactive, my financial support could enable those who were active to speak on my behalf and keep me plugged in and informed as to happenings within the field and legislative concerns which would impact our profession. I was able to focus on my own priorities knowing that others had the means to continue to speak and influence on my behalf because I was supporting those efforts with my membership dues, and knowing that this inactive season would eventually give way to a time that it would be my turn to be active so that others will be able to be inactive.

Once I was preparing to graduate, again, the mentorship and networking in ASCLS allowed me to find my ideal position in education and attend my first CLEC. I soon was active again at my constituent society level as a board member, membership development chair and now as president-elect. It is my turn to represent the interest of all laboratorians as others have represented my interest. They have paved the way through determining the body of knowledge and entry level curriculum through which I was taught and hosting the continuing education sessions I've needed to stay on top of my field. They've empowered me with the patient safety statistics and real knowledge of sources and harms of preanalytical error to approach the hospital patient safety committee chair and enact policy changes to ensure quality care for patients served by that facility. The mentors I've had through ASCLS have challenged me to stay on the top of my profession and be the face of my profession as I moved to facilities where certification was not the norm. Through writings in the Clinical Laboratory Journal, I found the path to graduate education so that I would be qualified to educate the next generation of laboratorians. Through my support the society was able to continue to represent me and my interests on Capitol Hill even when I was an inactive member. Now I can continue to be active and direct my society through my vote and representation within this grass roots organization.

ASCLS-PA Welcomes New Members

ASCLS-PA would like to welcome all of the new members who have joined ASCLS this fall. If you work with one of these new members, please welcome them to the society and encourage them to become active. Start your activity by attending the 2020 ASCLS-PA/PASSAMT Joint Annual Meeting on May 3rd and 4th in Plymouth Meeting, PA. See details in the "Save the Date!" article later in this newsletter.

Adam Weinstein	Plainsboro	Kalyn Lundberg	Summerhill
Amanda Rush	Indiana	Katherine Butina	Johnstown
Andrew Baughman	Altoona	Katherine Carlin	Coraopolis
Andrew Gyorko	Confluence	Kayla Makin	Portage
Ann Gaydos	Reading	Lacey Ross	King Of Prussia
Bradkee Hitch	Croydon	Logan Redcay	Carlisle
Brittany Prugh	Commodore	Marcy Anderson	S Burlington
Cameron McCulloch	Rocky River	Megan Desmond	York
Catherine DeLoriae	Pittsburgh	Michael Gubler	Collegeville
Courtney Kimmell	Athens	Michael Lee	Carlisle
Dean Rulapaugh	Johnstown	Michele Kamar	Dallastown
Deanna Miller	Annvile	Morgan Kadel	Coaldale
DeMarla Eschenbach	Johnstown	Neera Acharya	Cincinnati
Ebelin Dutan	Allentown	Payton Amstutz	Wapakoneta
Eileen Henry	Levittown	Prit Desai	Cypress
Elizabeth Rush	Perkasie	Ravinder Pinghlia	Piscataway
Emilie Rabut	Clarksboro	Robin Cebula	Natrona Heights
Gavin Oswalt	South Fork	Samantha Maynes	Mount Laurel
Jasmine Aldras	Reading	Sara Hassan	Downingtown
Jazzmin Hillanbrand	Norristown	Sarah Buick	Perkiomenville
Jenna Mobile	West Chester	Sarah Rosengrant	Philadelphia
Joy James	Brandon	Stacey Menoher	Ligonier
Julie Jafarli	Huntingdon Valley	Stephanie Lenavitt	Reading
Julie Van O'Linda	York	Steven LaCour	York
Justin Sweitzer	Glen Rock	Summer Reeder	East Waterford
Kacie Meckley	Spring Grove	Tammi Cremer	South Williamsport
		Yanhuan Renn	Wellsville



ASCLS-PA Awards Updates and Nominations

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Awards Chair

Nominations are now being accepted for the following awards to be presented at the Annual Meeting in 2020.

- Dolbey Award—Member of the Year
- Estolle Grosse Award
- Corporate Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Each nomination must be accompanied by a short essay by the nominator explaining the reason as to why the nominee is deserving of the award. There is a separate nomination form for the Dolbey Award which must be submitted along with the essay.

The president and the Board of Directors are responsible for nominations for the Key to the Future Award. The president is responsible for submitting names for

the Omicron Sigma Award to both ASCLS and to the state Awards Chair by the deadlines.

Deadline for receipt of nomination forms is **FEBRUARY 1, 2020**. Please submit completed nomination form electronically to Mary Gourley at m.gourley@verizon.net by the deadline. Incomplete forms will not be considered.

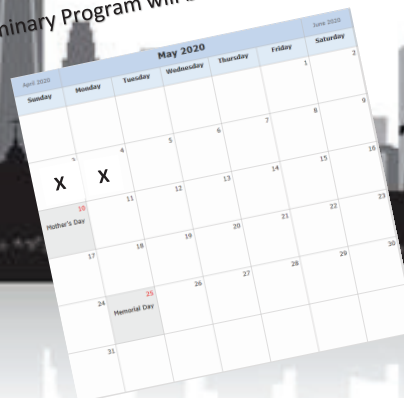
Nomination forms may be found on the website; please refer to the ASCLS-PA Handbook or you may contact President Joshua Cannon or Mary Gourley for nomination forms. All nominations are welcome and anyone can nominate.

Let's have a banner year for awards 2020.

The 2020 Annual Meeting of ASCLS-PA and PASSAMT will be held at the DoubleTree Suites, Philadelphia West in Plymouth Meeting, PA on May 3 & 4, 2020

20 Hours of State-of-the-Art
PACE approved laboratory
continuing education in a
comfortable, convenient location

Save the Date!
Preliminary Program will be mailed in early March



Questions?

Contact Sharon Straus at
610-207-1197 or e-mail at
SStra610@aol.com

Look for the program and to register
online at www.ascls-pa.org
in early March



Save the Date!

Sharon Strauss

ASCLS-PA Past President and 2020 Annual Meeting General Chair

Plans are underway for the 2020 ASCLS-PA/PASSAMT Joint Annual Meeting to be held May 3 & 4, 2020 at the DoubleTree Suites Philadelphia West in Plymouth Meeting, PA.

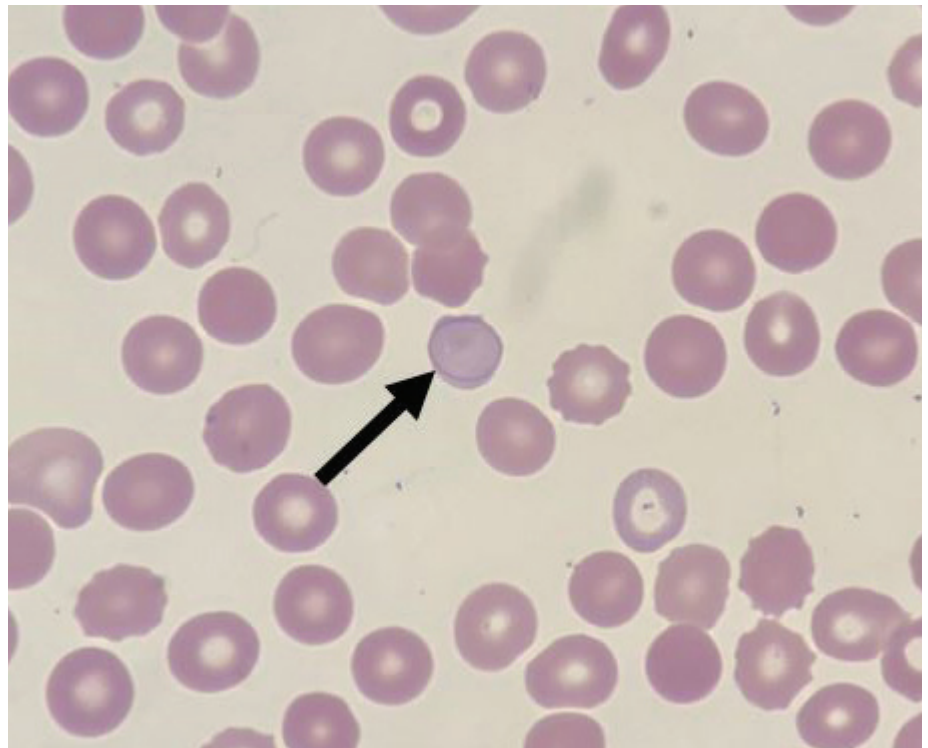
The organizations' Board meetings and the ASCLS-PA Annual Business Meeting will be held on May 3rd with a full day of PACE-approved educational sessions and vendor exhibits on May 4th. Make plans to attend this

event. Let us know if there are any topics or speakers that you would like to hear. Check the ASCLS-PA website at www.ascls-pa.org for additional information as it becomes available.

A small room block has been reserved for Sunday night, May 3rd. If you would like to make a reservation, call the central number at 1-800-222-8733 and reference the group code of "ASC."

Name that Finding!

Try to identify the red blood cell inclusion at the arrow. The answer will be posted to the ASCLS-PA Facebook page approximately one week after newsletters have been mailed.



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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.



Follow us on Instagram

@asclspa





The Pennsylvania Newsletter
130 South 9th Street
Edison Building, Suite 2211
Philadelphia, PA 19107

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ASCLS Pennsylvania

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
130 South 9th Street
Edison Building, Suite 2211
Philadelphia, PA 19107
to insure uninterrupted service

Coming Events

ASCLS-PA Board Meeting

January 25, 2020 at 9:30 AM (Philadelphia, PA)

ASCLS-PA Annual Business Meeting

May 3, 2020 (Plymouth Meeting, PA)

ASCLS-PA Annual Continuing Education Meeting and Exhibits

May 4, 2020 (Plymouth Meeting, PA)

ASCLS National Meeting

June 28–July 2, 2020 (Louisville, KY)

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

To get involved, please email Joshua Cannon at
joshua.cannon@jefferson.edu

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