



The Pennsylvania Newsletter

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"Your Professional Organization for over Seventy Years"

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Message from the President: She's Baaack!

Barbara Snyderman
ASCLS-PA President

I'm honored to serve as your President once again. If my name sounds familiar, it is because I have served as your state society President once a decade for the last four decades! I have also just completed nine years on the ASCLS Board of Directors, having served as Region II Director for two terms and finally as ASCLS President.

If that sounds like a lot of work, at times it has been. The joy of serving my professional society has outweighed the few moments of sheer panic when I realized I needed to get a report done or that I had two conference calls scheduled for the same hour. I have been an active participating member of ASCLS since 1977 when I joined as a third-year student in my Medical Technology program at Hahnemann in Philadelphia. I served on the Student Forum Board, as State President and on many committees prior to being elected to the national board.

It would take an entire issue of this newsletter to share the experiences I've had during my membership. The best part has been the friendship and support I have received from this society on a local and national level. Forty years of membership have given me many mentors, friends, and colleagues from all over the country. I have traveled to places I may not have had the opportunity to visit, like Alaska, Texas, California, Minnesota, and many others.

My membership has given me the chance to obtain many credits for my Certification Maintenance Program (CMP). I know what you're thinking: she sounds like she is old and doesn't need the CMP and while that is true,

I believe part of being a professional is to keep current with what is going on in our profession.

Another benefit of membership in ASCLS is that it has also afforded me opportunities to work outside the laboratory. I've met three of my managers at meetings or through ASCLS contacts. I have also provided references for many colleagues over the years helping them reach their goals.

What is in store for ASCLS-PA this year? The Board plans on continuing its work of past years, including a spectacular spring meeting in May 2018. Last year's meeting was extremely successful, with many vendors and continuing education sessions available.

We also plan to support a charity through various activities this year, in addition to supporting the ASCLS Political Action Committee. More information on each of these will follow.

My personal goal is to provide continuing education sessions to all areas previously designated as our chapters. Please contact me if you have a location available—perhaps a conference room in your facility that would be willing to host other medical laboratory scientists from your area. My email is barbarasnyderman@gmail.com. Those areas are designated Northwest, Southwest, North Central, South Central, Northeast, Lehigh Valley, Delaware Valley and Susquehanna Valley.

Thank you all who continue to support ASCLS and ASCLS-PA by renewing your membership and participating if you are able. We need to grow our membership so that our voice is louder than ever.

If you have renewed your membership, we thank you!
If you have not, this may be your last issue.
Go to www.ascls.org and renew your membership today!



Issues Update

Sharon Strauss
ASCLS-PA President Elect

At the 2017 ASCLS Annual Meeting, Jim Flanigan presented the strategic plan that ASCLS will be using over the next few years. They will be using various social media to better collect data to benefit the society. ASCLS has taken over administration of CACMLE and launched some of their own programs. They are working on “voter voice,” a program to allow members to contact their legislators about governmental issues that arise. The ASCLS Journal is being moved to a platform called “Highwire” by the end of the year. Work on an e-version of ASCLS Today is moving forward. The new website is continually being improved and is focusing on social networks. Jim introduced the new proposed membership categories. The President-elect’s seminar previously held at the Annual Meeting is being replaced by a session called “Constituent Leader Institute” and will include various modules.

Cindy Johnson, ASCLS Secretary/Treasurer presented the financial report showing that there will be a surplus at the end of the fiscal year. She reported that membership is up to 9,056.

Perry Scanlan, Editor in Chief of the Journal, gave an update. They are working on improving manuscript response time and review. They will be using “Bench Press” for electronic management of manuscripts by the end of 2017.

There was a presentation about the Mentorship Program. This year there were 14 pairs of mentors/mentees. The new year starts in the fall. The hope is that it will be taken to the state level. Get involved!

Rick Panning is in charge of the “Root Cause Taskforce” whose goal over the next five years is to revitalize states. The candidates for national office were announced.



New Professional and New Member Forum

Khadidja Derrouche
ASCLS-PA New Professional and New Member Director

This year I had the privilege of attending the 2017 ASCLS Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA as a delegate. One of the sessions I participated and voted in was the New Professional and New Member Forum Business Meeting and Elections. Potential candidates spoke about their achievements in the professional field and what drives them to be part of ASCLS; they outlined their goals and plans to achieve these goals if elected as new officers. Maria Rodriguez was voted Director of the Student Forum, and Karen Larson was voted Director of the New Professional

and New Member Forum. Many congratulations to both winners! It is important to note that many of the positions up for election had a maximum of one or two runners. This begs of us to be more involved in the society and to participate in the shaping of its trajectory. The richness that comes from the ideas and the leadership styles of different people is what will help our society and the medical laboratory science field as a whole to grow and move with certainty into the future.

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

President: Barbara Snyderman

President-elect: Sharon Strauss

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A Word from the Membership Committee Chair

Marianne Downes

ASCLS-PA Membership Committee Chair

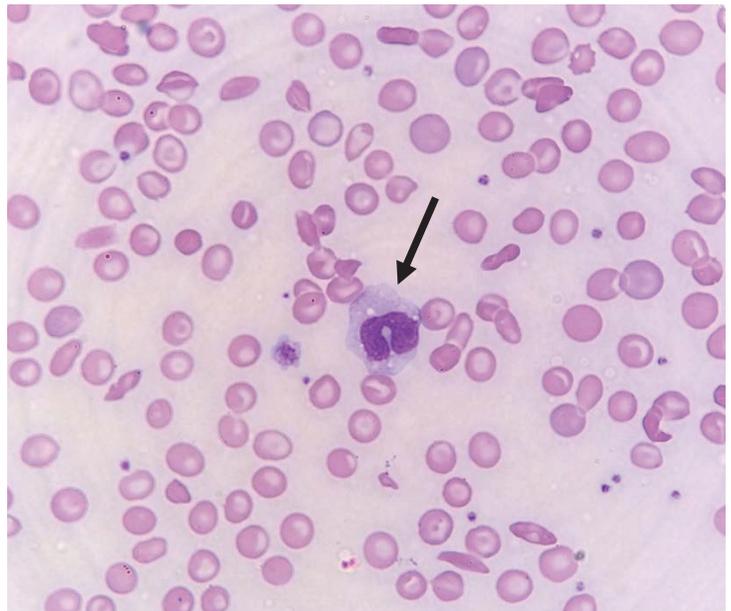
Did you remember to renew? If you are like me, you are a member of multiple professional and community-related organizations. Keeping track of when to renew your membership can be cumbersome and easily forgotten. Do you even remember if you remembered to renew? Rather than look for a cancelled check or credit card receipt please go to the ASCLS webpage (ASCLS.org) and check out your profile. To do this, click on "Member Portal" in the top right corner and login. After you login, your membership expiration date is on the top right corner of the page below your name. While you are there, be sure to update your contact information, and check out the membership community. There are a number of community-interest pages and you may want to increase or decrease the pages you subscribe to or change the way you get alerts about the content in those pages. The ASCLS-PA Board will be reaching out to lapsed members over the next few weeks to help you with information and verify that your contact information is correct.

We are grateful for our loyal members, and we want to welcome our new members. These are the members who've joined ASCLS-PA from May 1, 2017 until Sept. 15, 2017. If you work with or see these folks, please welcome them to ASCLS-PA and help them get involved!

Samantha Lee Bevacqua	Waterford	PA
Megan Frame	Woodford	VA
Brianna Blackwell	Hunt Valley	MD
Ashley Christofaro	Shippensburg	PA
Shane Fuller	York	PA
Kylie Jones	Spring Grove	PA
Rhiannon Judge	Sweet Valley	PA
Taylor Kail	Hanover	PA
Alex Kishbaugh	Mechanicsburg	PA
Svetlana Lane	York	PA
Randy Meskow	Monaca	PA
Tori Sprenkle	Red Lion	PA
Elizabeth A. Sloan	Roebling	NJ
Jessica Huff	Easton	PA
John Traugher	Waynesboro	VA
Kareem Elnahrawi	Oakland	NJ
Christine Palermo	Hatboro	PA
Francine Dennis-Payton	Phoenixville	PA
Joann Kerns	Conshohocken	PA



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





Membership Committee Update

Marianne Downes

ASCLS-PA Membership Committee Chair

The major news from the membership committee results from a task force formed to investigate concerns over drops in membership from student to First Year Professional (FYP) and FYP to Professional I or Professional II memberships. The task force surveyed persons within the student and FYP categories and significant concerns within these groups were the cost of membership, and perceived value of their membership. The task force looked at the membership structures of a large number of organizations of diverse interests. They found that in the majority of these organizations (>80%) there was a longer conversion period between student and full-professional memberships. A significant number of organizations offered some sort of premium membership package as well. The task force proposed a new membership structure that might ease the student to professional transition, and increase membership value. The proposal was discussed and debated at the

House of Delegates. The proposal can be found within the Membership Committee report to the BOD at: http://www.ascls.org/images/Leadership/delegates/House-of_Delegates_2017/Membership_Committee_Update_20170730.pdf . All ASCLS members are invited to view the proposal and send any comments on the current provisions in the proposal to the ASCLS-PA Membership committee chair, Marianne Downes, by email at mtdownes@hsc.wvu.edu by November 1, 2017. Marianne will collate and forward responses onto the ASCLS national Membership Committee. The proposal is currently back in committee for revision. Any changes to the membership structure will require a revision of the ASCLS bylaws and therefore must be voted on by the ASCLS House of Delegates. There are plans for a new version of the proposal to be put forth for a vote at the 2018 House of Delegates meeting in Chicago, IL. If the proposal is approved at the 2018 House of Delegates, it will become active for membership renewals in 2019.

DELAWARE VALLEY SPOTLIGHT ARTICLE



How Your Local Chapter Can Provide Opportunities at the National Level

Nassouh Mourabet

ASCLS-PA Delaware Valley NPNM Director

It was only about a year ago that I became the ASCLS-PA Delaware Valley Student Director, but during that year I had the wonderful opportunity to work with many members from the state and local societies. I attended meetings, volunteered, socialized at gatherings, and worked close with the Pennsylvania Student Director to set up the MLS/MLT Review Session. All of this meant that when I expressed interest to attend the National Meeting, all of my fellow ASCLS-PA members encouraged me to apply for the Student Forum Travel Grant. The state society was even generous enough to fund my trip at the level of a delegate, after I had shown so much interest in going to San Diego. In June, I heard back from the Student Forum and was told that I was one of two students that received a travel grant.

I did not know much about ASCLS, outside of the local and state level, and the national meeting served as my first real exposure to the national level of ASCLS. I got to meet

and talk to the President-elect, preside as a Sergeant-at-Arms, and even run for Vice-Chair of the New Member/New Professional Forum (unfortunately, I did not win). I met students and future professionals from all across the country and talked to them about their hopes and dreams in the clinical sciences and ASCLS. I even spent a day at the AACC Clinical Lab Expo, the largest in the world, and saw all the equipment that will make it to our laboratories in the future (there was even an automated microbiology lab virtual reality walkthrough!). My week in San Diego was phenomenal, and the highlight of my year as an MLS student and as Student Director for the Delaware Valley.

Thank you to ASCLS-PA and the ASCLS Student Forum for making my trip possible. It was truly an unbelievable experience. Thank you to Delaware Valley for letting me serve as Student Director, and I look forward to my term as New Professional/New Member Director.



ASCLS Recognizes PA Members at the 2017 Annual Meeting

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Awards Chair

The ASCLS Annual Meeting was held in San Diego, CA on July 30 through August 3, 2017. At the ASCLS Awards ceremonies, several ASCLS-PA members were recognized.

Scott Aikey presided at the ASCLS 85th Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony at 8:00 AM on August 3, 2017.

The following ASCLS-PA members attending the meeting were recognized at the ceremony:

Constituent Society Publication Award:
The Pennsylvanian, third place for Paper-Based
ASCLS Student Forum Travel Grant: Nassouh Mourabet
New Professional of the Year Nominee: Stephanie Noblit

Membership Milestones: 40-year: Barbara Snyderman, Sharon Strauss

Key to the Future: Khadidja Derrouche, Gabriela Peterson, Jennifer Slodysko

Omicron Sigma: Scott Aikey, Jean Buchenhorst, Marianne Downes, Katherine Franz, William Hunt, Sharon Strauss

Bio-Rad Scientific Assembly Professional Achievement Award: Laboratory Administration/Consultant/Quality/Accreditation/Industry – William Hunt

Constituent Society Members of the Year Recognition: Katherine Franz

The recipient of the ASCLS Lifetime Achievement Award was Mary Ann McLane of Delaware.



Awards Committee Update

Scott Aikey
ASCLS Awards Committee Member; ASCLS-PA Treasurer

I attended the ASCLS Awards Committee meeting in San Diego at the ASCLS Annual Meeting. I am a new committee member to this national committee starting this year, with a three-year term. The purpose of the Awards Committee is to solicit, judge, and award ASCLS awards. This year, in addition to managing the Awards process, the Committee will be developing a fully online submission process for all of the ASCLS awards. Members

will be able to complete the awards nomination process, including entering all of the relevant data, online. The judging and RSVP process will also be online. In addition, the committee will be looking at how we present the Industry Awards next year. It has been suggested that the awards be presented in the Exhibit Hall in the vendor booth who is winning the award. I look forward to being a part of this committee in the coming years.



Bylaws Committee Update

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Bylaws Chair

The ASCLS Bylaws Committee met on July 30, 2017 at 6:00 PM. The Committee Chair, Beckie Hetrick, reviewed the charges to the Committee for the coming year and procedure to be followed for updating of state bylaws. For the 2017-2018 year, the committee chair is Beckie Hetrick, Vice Chair is Barbara Snyderman, and Board

Liaison is Claude Rector, Director of Region VII. The committee meets monthly via zoom. It was also discussed that an amendment to the ASCLS Bylaws which addresses the membership categories may be presented to the 2018 House of Delegates next August. The Committee is awaiting direction from the Board of Directors.



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Coming Events

ASCLS National Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo **July 30–August 2, 2018 (Chicago, IL)**

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

To get involved, simply email Barbara Snyderman at barbarasnyderman@gmail.com



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