



# 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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**If you have renewed your membership, we thank you! If you have not, this may be your last issue. Go to [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org) and renew your membership today!**



## Welcome Message from the President

**Jean Buchenhorst**  
ASCLS-PA President

It is an exciting year to be a member of ASCLS in Pennsylvania! The national meeting will be held in Philadelphia in August 2016 and I hope many of you will be able to take advantage of the opportunity to attend the national meeting. The exhibit hall is always amazing with the instrumentation that is on display. Since the national meeting will be in Philadelphia this year, the 2016 Annual Spring meeting will be held once again in Harrisburg. Marybeth Miele and Becky Falsone did an excellent job with selecting the speakers and topics last year, and I'm looking forward to another great meeting again this year.

With all this going on this year, please tell your coworkers and get them involved. The State Society could use your ideas and your help. We are looking to grow our state membership and there are many opportunities to get involved in leadership of ASCLS-PA. This can help with your certification maintenance points as well; participation on a professional group board earns a point per year. Board meetings are open to all members; our fall board meeting will be held on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation's first hospital.

I became involved in ASCLS when I became a Program Director at Graduate Hospital. ASCLS sponsors CLEC, the Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference, a yearly meeting for laboratory educators not offered by other professional groups, which is great for someone moving from the bench to the classroom. ASCLS-PA also has a yearly educators' Scientific Assembly meeting, which is also very useful for those in education especially for the networking aspect. The Delaware Valley chapter has arranged many free continuing education lectures that students as well as laboratory scientists can attend. It helps to start off a student's career to begin networking at meetings. The Annual state meeting is another excellent opportunity to learn and network.

There are many ways to find out about what is happening within ASCLS: the ASCLS and ASCLS-PA facebook pages, the ASCLS and ASCLS-PA website as well as contacting me directly via email: [Jean.Buchenhorst@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:Jean.Buchenhorst@uphs.upenn.edu) or by phone: 215-892-7634. I'm looking forward working with you for a rewarding year as president of ASCLS-PA!



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## An ASCLS Annual Meeting Recap July 26 - August 1, 2015: Atlanta, GA

**Michael Osborne**  
ASCLS-PA Past President

I was very fortunate to attend the largest clinical laboratory education and laboratory exposition meeting in the world a few months ago in Atlanta, GA. This combined ASCLS/AACC meeting attracted participants from around the corner from the Georgia Congress Hall Center and around the world. With over 900 exhibitors, it was the largest laboratory trade show I have ever attended in my 24 + years in the lab business. It was also a chance for me to work at my employer's (Quest DGX) trade show booth for a number of days during the show in addition to attending the numerous education and scientific presentations and participating in both National ASCLS and ASCLS-PA Business, Social and Educational Events.

I must thank ASCLS-PA for their help with me attending this phenomenal event as Past President of ASCLS-PA. It was a chance to meet and network with other volunteer representative's from ASCLS-PA, ASCLS Region 2 and ASCLS National. As an extra special benefit I was able to see one of our own,

Barbara Snyderman installed as the new National ASCLS President for 2015-2016. Lab hats off to Barbara! I know we are in capable hands as our organization continues to be our voice at the table in this rapidly changing volume to value healthcare environment we all find ourselves in these days whether it be in a hospital, diagnostic manufacturer, higher education, academic or community medical center or private commercial laboratory.

The ASCLS House of Delegates passed resolutions on two major issues at the annual meeting:

1. A new position paper on Patient Safety authored by Cathy Otto and her committee and
2. A broader more encompassing inclusive Diversity definition.

For more information on these two subjects please, see the National ASCLS website. [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org)

The lab business looks and feels much different than it did five years ago and I suspect it will look and feel much different five years from now and hopefully for

the best. As a member and volunteer for ASCLS we can help insure that it does. We must remember we are intelligent and highly trained, certified laboratory and health care professionals who make significant contributions to patient care.

Look at it this way. If our test result can guide a patient's therapy to avoid the unnecessary expense or side effects of a course of therapy that may not work, then we are adding significant value to first and most importantly the patient, but also to the physician and the healthcare enterprise where we work.

I encourage you to join our local statewide ASCLS-PA as a member and



The Pennsylvania delegates sit front and center at the 2015 ASCLS House of Delegates in Atlanta, Georgia. From right to left: Scott Aikey, Michael Osborne, Jean Buchenhorst, Stephanie Noblit, Sharon Strauss, and Mary Beth Miele.

Other ASCLS-PA members present at the 2015 ASCLS Meeting not pictured were: William Hunt, Mary Gourley, Ryan Stetz and Barbara Snyderman

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## Leadership Training in Action

### Stephanie Noblit

ASCLS-PA Leadership Academy Inductee

The ASCLS Leadership Academy is a program designed to prepare ASCLS members to take on leadership roles within the organization. The program, now in its ninth year, provides participants with a structured program of study of critical leadership topics. In addition to participating in leadership topic discussions, the participants of the leadership academy are also faced with the task of identifying a problem or need within ASCLS. They then work on a yearlong project to help fix the problem or meet the specific need. The class presents their project at the ASCLS National Meeting the following year. Past leadership academy projects included creating a member recruitment tool kit, conducting a member retention survey to find out why people don't renew their ASCLS memberships, and designing infographics to better represent information about ASCLS.

This year I was inducted into the 9<sup>th</sup> leadership academy class along with four other women from around the country. Our class met for the first time face to face at the national meeting in Atlanta. During our time in Atlanta, a day and a half was reserved for leadership academy activities. Our lectures during our time together focused on two topics: the history of ASCLS and the profession and learning about different leadership and communication styles.

Learning about the history of ASCLS and the profession was meant to inspire us for the year ahead. During this discussion we learned that our professional society was really shaped by a small group of people that believed we could stand alone as a profession separate from pathologist. It was the beliefs and audacity of these people that shaped what our profession is today. Our mentors told us that wanting to be a part of the leadership academy made us very similar to that small group of people from more than 80 years ago. The power to shape



**ASCLS' 9<sup>th</sup> Leadership Academy Class**

Bottom row (left to right): Gretchen Brocksmith, Louisiana, Stephanie Noblit, Pennsylvania

Top row (left to right): Karen Williams, Louisiana, Kemorine Roberts, Georgia, Renee Sutton, Michigan

the future of ASCLS and the profession was in our hands.

Our discussions on the different communication and leadership styles were also eye-opening. It is important to understand what your own personal communication and leadership styles are so you can play to your strengths while also working on your weaknesses. Understanding different styles also helps when working with others as you have a better idea of how they will react to certain situations and how to work with them so they will be the most productive. No communication or leadership style is better than the other. In fact, the best teams are those that contain people from styles across the board.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead with leadership academy. I am excited to see what my class can do and the leader I'll become.



## ASCLS National Meeting in Philadelphia 2016 August 1 – August 4, 2016

**William Hunt**

Host Society Liaison to the 2016 ASCLS National Meeting

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science national meeting will be held August 1 - 6, 2016 in Philadelphia. At the ASCLS National Meeting in Atlanta the State Society gave a well-received presentation of Philadelphia...of course what wouldn't be well received with the Pennsylvania delegations handing out Tastykakes to the ASCLS House of Delegates. Many thanks to everyone who gave photos of themselves and others for the power point, it made our invitation to ASCLS unique.

Our hotel next year is the Loews at 12<sup>th</sup> and Market across the street from the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The meeting is easily accessible via public transportation both SEPTA (regional trains-Jefferson Station) and the PATCO high speed line from New Jersey.

ASCLS-PA is the Host State Society so we are asking for volunteers to help with a Host Society booth on Monday afternoon and Tuesday to help attendees navigate Philadelphia. In addition we need hosts to assist in organizing outings in the evenings to show off Philadelphia. A walking tour of the historic sites, a dinner at Victor's Café or the Philadelphia Waterworks to show off Boat House Row. In addition

assistance is needed to help create a "Laboratory Tested" restaurant list for our visitors.

The meeting is not all fun. The Advanced Management Institute (AMI) will return for the third year. The 2016 Clinical Lab Expo is Tuesday August 2<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup>. The Clinical Lab Expo in conjunction with AACC is the largest laboratory vendor show in the world. Most can't walk the exposition in one day!!

Cutting edge scientific sessions will be Monday August 1<sup>st</sup> through Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup>. ASCLS governance starts on Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup> and the House of Delegates (governing body of ASCLS) will be on Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Having the national meeting so close is a unique opportunity to get involved in your Society. Many of you will have the ability to attend without the added cost of flying or hotel rooms. We are well aware of the difficulty of getting employer support to attend national meetings...this one is coming to you and represents real value for your professional development. If you would like to help please contact Bill Hunt at [William.hunt@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:William.hunt@uphs.upenn.edu)



The ASCLS-PA Annual Meeting will be held on April 11-13, 2016 in Harrisburg, PA. As the date draws closer, more information will be posted on the ASCLS-PA website.

## STAY IN TOUCH WITH US ON OUR WEBSITE

Make sure you bookmark [www.ascls-pa.org](http://www.ascls-pa.org) to stay in touch with us. You can find numerous updates and information on the website about upcoming meetings.





## Numerous Scholarships Available!

**Ryan Stetz**

ASCLS-PA New Professional Representative

ASCLS is influential in cultivating interest in the field of medical laboratory science and takes great pride in offering its members opportunities to apply to several scholarships. Student members that are entering a NAACLS accredited program in Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology or Clinical Laboratory Technician/Medical Laboratory Technician programs are encouraged to apply to the ASCLS-PA Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship and Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity and Education and Research Fund Scholarships. The Edward C. Dolbey Scholarship is available to active ASCLS/ASCLS-PA members of a two year duration that have made a contribution to the clinical laboratory science profession. The Dolbey Scholarship applicant will already hold a MLT, HT, or CT certification and currently enrolled in a baccalaureate or graduate degree program in any field relating to clinical laboratory science. In addition, members of at least two year duration are

eligible for the Continuing Education Assistanceship Award. This award serves to assist members of ASCLS-PA in their pursuit of continuing education in the field of Clinical Laboratory Science for the purpose of maintaining or upgrading their present position by attending a workshop, seminar, college course, or other approved program designed for continuing education in the field of clinical laboratory science.

I am proud to be part of an organization that takes education in clinical laboratory science seriously. As the recipient of the 2015 ASCLS-PA Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship, I can certainly attest that these scholarships help defray the financial costs of tuition and continuing education workshops. To the class of 2016, these scholarships are here for you. Do not hesitate to apply. More information can be found on the ASCLS-PA website. Good Luck!

### ASCLS ANNUAL MEETING RECAP *continued from page 2*

volunteer. I also strongly encourage you to make plans now for August 2016 when the National ASCLS/AACC meeting will be in Philadelphia. The ASCLS-PA will be the host constituent society for this premier world laboratory exposition and we are honored to do that.

Like anything in life the more we give, the more we get in return. As a volunteer for ASCLS, I have had a tremendous experience to meet fantastic, giving, dedicated laboratory professionals from across the commonwealth and nation. It is not the promises we make in life but it is the promises we keep in life that round out who we are and build our character. I am glad this is one promise I kept to myself by attending this National Meeting. Please make the promise now do the same for yourself next year.



Mary Gourley, pictured on the right, receives a 50 year membership award at the 2015 ASCLS Annual Meeting: Also pictured is Beverly DeNard from New York.



## Reflections on Becoming President of ASCLA

**Barbara Snyderman**  
ASCLS President 2015-2016

All ASCLS Past Presidents asked will tell the new President-elect that being PE is the hardest of the three year Presidential commitment. Appointments, Long Range Planning, Board Planning Day, and Orientation sessions at the Annual Meeting are just some of the things that add up to a non-stop President-elect's year. They were not kidding! I felt a great sense of relief at the ASCLS Annual Meeting in Atlanta on Tuesday afternoon when the President-elects' Orientation Seminar was complete. From that moment, I relaxed and allowed myself to enjoy the experience of the meeting.

I am not saying the meeting was not hectic! There were board meetings to attend, committee meetings, scientific sessions to moderate, and a pretty big speech to practice. The week flew by, as they always do, but this one seemed to go even faster.

During the installation ceremony, I did my best to keep my emotions under control. I bit my lip and stared into Past President Susie Zanto's eyes as she spoke, but in the end the tears came. It is such an honor—a lifetime dream—to lead ASCLS that I could not contain myself!

One of the highlights of the moments post installation is to continue to lead the House of Delegates meeting. If you have ever attended a national meeting, you know that there are commendations and announcements following the President's acceptance speech. I had a huge surprise when I called on Delegate Mary Beth Miele, who had a message and gift from my longtime friend and fellow MLS student, Angela McNaughton, who I mentioned during my interview with Bill Hunt for an article in the last issue of this newsletter.

Angela sent cards, mementoes and gifts with Mary Beth to present to me upon my installation. Some of the items she has kept since we were students and others were tokens to commemorate the occasion. To say I was surprised is a huge understatement! Once I got to review all that she sent, the tears flowed again.

Finally, I want thank the members of ASCLS-PA for the friendship shown to me over the years. I would not be here without the mentoring, help and support from all of you.



Barbara Snyderman addresses the 2015 ASCLS House of Delegates after being installed as the 2015-2016 ASCLS National President.

# Welcome

## ASCLS-PA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

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

|           |            |                 |    |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|----|
| Yusi      | Baxter     | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Indira    | Cartwright | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Justyn    | Garcia     | Munhall         | PA |
| Khalid    | Al-Mubarak | Hershey         | PA |
| Lucy      | Aplan      | State College   | PA |
| Travis    | Bicher     | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Nicole    | Bowman     | Columbia        | PA |
| Andrea    | Camp       | Beavertown      | PA |
| Shannon   | D'Alessio  | Dillsburg       | PA |
| John      | Eisenhower | York            | PA |
| Laurie    | Hanline    | Jacobus         | PA |
| Suzanne   | Hulme      | Nescopeck       | PA |
| Caitlin   | Jeschke    | Reading         | PA |
| Joan      | McMaster   | Clifton Heights | PA |
| Sarah     | Menz       | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Kayla     | Miller     | Fairfield       | PA |
| Nicole    | Moyer      | Quakertown      | PA |
| Jodie     | Nelson     | Kane            | PA |
| Stephanie | Noblit     | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Claudia   | Prieto     | Annvile         | PA |
| Catherine | Richards   | York            | PA |
| Brian     | Singh      | Levittown       | PA |
| Mariah    | Snyder     | Dover           | PA |
| Ryan      | Stetz      | Philadelphia    | PA |
| Kerry     | Then       | Hanover         | PA |



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***8 Lakeview Court***  
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**Moving? Remember you can  
update all your membership  
information online at  
[www.ascls-pa.org](http://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**

**ASCLS-PA Fall Board of Directors Meeting: October 17, 2015 (Pennsylvania Hospital)**

**ASCLS-PA Winter Board of Directors Meeting: February 6, 2016 (Quest Diagnostics)**

**ASCLS-PA Spring Meeting and Expo / Board Meeting: April 11-13, 2016 (Harrisburg)**

**ASCLS National Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo: August 1-4, 2016 (Philadelphia)**

All members of ASCLS-PA are welcome and encouraged to attend any meeting of the Board of Directors  
To get involved, simply email Jean Buchenhorst at [Jean.Buchenhorst@uphs.upenn.edu](mailto:Jean.Buchenhorst@uphs.upenn.edu)

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