

THE ANALYZER



Volume 31

Issue 1



Lighting the Way for Lab Professionals in NJ

Special points
of interest:

- ASCLS
Annual
Meeting
- Leadership
Roster
- Strategic
Plan
- Each One,
Reach One
- Helping
Haiti

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Recap From Anaheim

By Josue Quillamor, BS, MT

For the final time, I would like to not just acknowledge but rather warmly thank ASCLS-NJ for giving me the opportunity to lead and represent ASCLS-NJ at the ASCLS Annual Meeting. As always, it has truly been an honor and a privilege to work with such dedicated and enthusiastic members committed to this organization. It has been an even greater experience being able to meet a diverse group of people from all across the country, lending a broader perspective of ideas, strategies, and goals within a common profession.

To quickly recap, those who attended this great affair were fortunate enough to listen in on some of the most engaging and insightful lectures by equally respectable scientists and professors. These leading professionals offered us a taste of what goes on behind “everyday” inventions like laboratory tests, which we may often overlook, as well as the brilliant minds of those formidable inventors. In addition to looking at the past, these speakers have taken us beyond the present and into the near future, teaching us about new tests and methodologies that naturally develop in correspondence with the changing times.

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NJ Caucus at the ASCLS Annual Meeting

New Jersey MLS Student Receives The Florence M. Cook Award

By Perla Simmons, MPA, MT(ASCP)SH

On August 2nd, 2010 after eleven months of extensive academic study and clinical rotations, students of the Florence M. Cook School of Medical Laboratory Science at Jersey Shore University Medical Center successfully finished their program. The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2010 was held at the medical center's Lance Auditorium in Neptune, NJ. The Keynote Speaker was Maris MS, RN. She is the current Dean of Science and Health Sciences at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, NJ. Ms. Lown's message was about “Authenticity”.

Since 1991, the program has awarded a special student who embodied the ideals of Ms. Florence M. Cook, the first program Director. The Florence M. Cook award acknowledges “academic excellence and clinical competence, embodiment of professionalism, high ethical standards, and potential for success as a clinical laboratory scientist”. This year, the award was presented to Kristine Joy Villanueva. Kristine Joy ranked the highest among her peers.

Congratulations Kristine Joy from ASCLS-NJ!



President's Greeting

by Nancy Thomas, MAS, MT(ASCP)

Hello all,

My name is Nancy Thomas and I am excited to serve as your ASCLS-NJ President for 2010-2011. Three years ago, I renewed my membership in ASCLS and attended my first board meeting. I was so impressed with the leadership in the organization that I volunteered to serve as P.A.C.E. coordinator. (Yes, I am the one responsible for eliminating paper P.A.C.E. certificates.) The following spring, I was elected to the Board of Directors and accepted the position of President Elect.

Our June Leadership Conference was well attended; fourteen leaders came forward to help formulate our strategic goals for the year. In addition, our new President Elect (James R Adams) was busy recruiting new members to serve on various committees.

Here are a couple of highlights from the meeting:

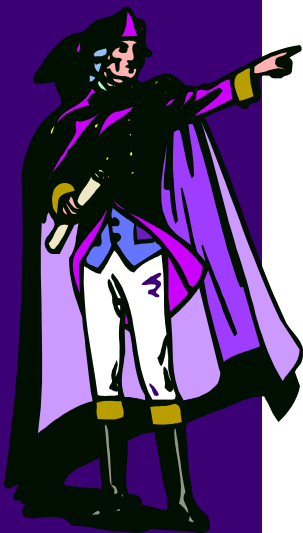
Membership Committee
Retention and Recruitment

WE WANT YOU to recruit a new member and we want you to come to the monthly board meetings and **GET INVOLVED!** ASCLS is your voice and your organization. Membership shows commitment to your profession. ASCLS-NJ is comprised of an amazing group of individuals who are willing to mentor and guide you, so don't be afraid to come to a board meeting.

Licensure Task Force Committee

Currently thirteen states have licensure laws. Edwin Ezechibweze came forward at the Leadership Conference and expressed an interest in revitalizing the Licensure Task Force Committee. An impassioned discussion followed his suggestions. The society has evaluated licensure in the past, but now is the right time to re-evaluate licensure in New Jersey considering healthcare reform. I know this will be a challenging process. If you are interested in working on this project with Edwin, please attend the board meetings.

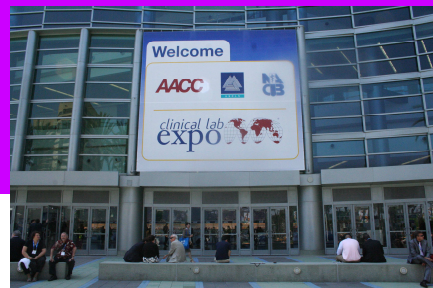
Our first board meeting is Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30pm at New Jersey Blood Services in New Brunswick. Hope to see you there!



STUDENT FORUM

ASCLS Annual Meeting: A Student's Experience

By Katie DeMenna



Clinical Lab Expo



Opening Keynote Speaker
Preeti Pancholi, PhD,
D(ABMM)



Awards Ceremony



Region II Caucus Meeting

This summer, from July 27 to 31, I had the privilege of attending the 78th ASCLS Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA as New Jersey's student delegate. Each year the meeting coincides with the ASCLS/AACC Clinical Laboratory Expo, which, with over 600 companies displaying their products, is the largest clinical laboratory expo in the world. My first day at the meeting was dedicated to exploring the large number of booths at the expo and learning about the latest products, services, and other technological advancements available for the lab. After the expo, the First-Timers' Reception gave me an opportunity to meet with other students from around the country, as well as more established members of ASCLS.

The next day began with the presentation of industry awards, followed by an opening keynote lecture about the evolution of molecular respiratory viral testing methods. After the keynote, I went to the first Student Forum meeting. At this meeting we discussed ways to increase student membership and involvement in ASCLS. After the Student Forum meeting I attended several more lectures: one about providing the face of the medical laboratory profession, one about the severity of the 2009-2010 Influenza season, and one presented by the CLS People to People delegation about healthcare and laboratory medicine in China.

My first lecture on Thursday dealt with advancements in automated molecular testing. Then after a few more hours at the expo, I went to another Student Forum meeting where we elected the National Student Forum officers for 2010-2011. Next, I attended a lecture about antimicrobial susceptibility testing and a presentation about the US Biovigilance Network, which provides surveillance of adverse events caused by blood transfusion and organ transplantation. Later that evening there was an awards ceremony honoring some of the exceptional members of ASCLS. New Jersey's own Susan Kusic was honored.

Early Friday morning I attended the Region II Caucus meeting where we discussed the budget and planned for the upcoming year. The rest of the afternoon included some of my favorite lectures of the meeting: one presenting unusual microbiology case studies, one discussing the development of and problems with artificial blood and universal RBCs, and another, given by the Los Angeles County Chief Medical Examiner, which featured case studies illustrating the various techniques for human identification and cause of death determination. Then after watching several ASCLS members present their case studies and research projects, I attended the closing keynote speech by Valerie Ng, PhD, MD. Dr. Ng emphasized the important role that we as medical laboratory scientists play in providing quality healthcare.

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A Helping Hand

By James R Adams, MSHS, MLS

Six months ago on January 12, 2010, a 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck one of the poorest countries in the world, the small nation of Haiti. An estimated 220,000 people were killed and another 300,000 injured. A message was sent out to

ASCLS-NJ members asking to help our

fellow laboratory professionals treat the survivors at hospitals and clinics in Haiti. A number of members responded with laboratory supplies and financial donations. In total there were nine boxes of supplies and several hundred dollars donated. Donations were sent through Randolph World Ministries, Inc.. Established in 2001, by fellow ASCLS member and former Region VI Director Tim Randolph, Randolph World Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides laboratory services to hospitals and clinics throughout Haiti.

Thank you to everyone who made donations.



Each One, Reach One

By Susan Mikorski M.Ed., MT(ASCP)SM

A number of years ago, ASCLS had a membership recruitment campaign called "Each One, Reach One". It was effective because it seemed so easy to recruit just one person, and it didn't require you to stand up in front of an audience and "make a pitch". All it required was a one-to-one conversation with a motivated listener. That person was someone who was professionally serious but needed a little personal encouragement. Who better to encourage than recent graduates? Who could be more enthusiastic, motivated, and ready to commit?

Recently Nancy Thomas, ASCLS-NJ President, sent letters of congratulations to New Jersey MLS and MLT graduates encouraging them to join ASCLS and inviting them to attend ASCLS-NJ board meetings. If you know a recent graduate:

1. Ask them about Nancy's letter
2. Find out if they plan to accept her invitation
3. See if you can "Reach One"

If your graduate is feeling a little shy, you could accompany them to their first board meeting and see how ASCLS-NJ operates. While you're reaching them, we can reach out to you.

Join us, Nancy's waiting for a response!



New Partnership Leads to Record Enrollment

By Perla Simmons, MPA, MT(ASCP)SH

Starting September 7th, 2010, the Florence M. Cook School of Medical Laboratory Science at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC) in Neptune, NJ will welcome its largest class in the history of the program. Twenty new student interns will be attending classes. Working through a federal grant for training allied health careers, Brookdale Community College (BCC) has forged new clinical affiliations with Meridian Health. The new affiliations will fulfill specific obligations of the grant for clinical training including a 2-year Associate Degree in Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) program.

The MLT students began with their pre-requisites at BCC in Lincroft for the first year. Then they move on to career courses for 11 months at the Florence M. Cook School of Medical Laboratory Science, at JSUMC. The MLS and MLT students will be attending the same didactic lectures, but their examinations will vary slightly. The MLS students will do their clinical rotations at JSUMC's clinical laboratory while the MLT students will rotate through the clinical phase of their training at Meridian Health's other clinical laboratories.

The Florence M. Cook School of Medical Laboratory Science at Jersey Shore University Medical Center has been training medical laboratory scientists for over 60 years.

Students come from affiliated universities with a minimum of three years of preparatory pre-requisites or have a BS degree from non-affiliated schools. After successful completion of the program, graduates qualify to take the national certification examination administered by the Board of Certification (BOC). Once they complete the program, each MLS student receives a certificate, which is credited towards a BS degree in Medical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology from their home universities. Students with a BS degree upon entering the program receive a certificate in Medical Laboratory Science. MLT students will receive an Associate in Applied Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology from BCC.




Recap From Anaheim (continued)

In regards to future generations of ASCLS-NJ members, I continue to especially encourage young graduates to take an active role within this constantly growing community by attending the Annual Meetings. These events can certainly give us a closer view of ASCLS as a governing body, whose decisions reflect and uphold the voices of its passionate members and the integrity of our profession as a whole. This "congress" of laboratory professionals can only be as efficient as the delegates who make up this assembly. So continue to challenge yourselves because there is always room for growth and success.

ASCLS Annual Meeting: A Student's Experience (continued)

On the last day of the meeting I attended the House of Delegates where several issues, such as the re-wording of the ASCLS Core Values and mission statement, were debated. The new officers for 2010-2011, including the national President Marcia Armstrong, were also introduced.

Attending the annual meeting was a rewarding and memorable experience that allowed me to learn new things and make connections that will help me throughout my career. I encourage everyone to attend a meeting in the future, you'll be glad you did!

Boards of Directors		
President Nancy Thomas, MAS, MT(ASCP) Second Year Director	President Elect James R Adams, MSHS, MLS Second Year Director	Past President Josue Quillamor, BS, MT Third Year Director
Secretary Susan Mikorski, M.Ed., MT(ASCP)SM Second Year Director	Treasurer Lucia Wang, MAS, BSMT First Year Director	
Director-At-Large Ricardo Russo, PhD First Year Director	Director-At-Large Carol Caballero, BS, MT(ASCP)H Second Year Director	
First Year Professional Director Katie DeMenna	Student Director Paul Hanna (New Director will be elected in Oct 2010)	

Student Forum Advisor

Carol Caballero, BS, MT(ASCP)H

Nominations

Josue Quillamor, BS, MT (*Chair*)
Susan Kusic, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB

Finance

Susan Kusic, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB
(*co-Chair*)
Lucia Wang, MAS, BSMT (*co-Chair*)
Josue Quillamor, BS, MT
Jodie Prestholdt, BS, MT(ASCP),
CT(ASCP)

Bylaws

MaryAnn Murillo, MT(ASCP) (*Chair*)
Elaine Keohane, Ph.D., MLS(ASCP)H
(*Mentor*)

Scholarship

Martha Smith, MPA, MT(ASCP)
(*Chair*)

Awards

Josue Quillamor, BS, MT (*Chair*)

Scientific Assembly

• **Immunohematology**
Janet Walker, MPA, MT(ASCP)

• **Hematology/Coagulation**
Keith Bellinger, PBT(ASCP)

• **Microbiology/Immunology**
Ricardo Russo, PhD (*Chair*)
Nadine Fydryszewski, PhD, MLS

• **Biochemistry**
Anthony Suarez, MLT(ASCP)

Committees

Membership**Membership List & Liaison to National**

Martha Smith, MPA, MT(ASCP)

Membership Recruitment

Susan Kusic, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB

Membership Retention

Nadine Fydryszewski, PhD, MLS

Publications

James R Adams, MSHS, MLS (*Chair*)
Katie DeMenna
Jodie Prestholdt, BS, MT(ASCP),
CT(ASCP)

Social Networking Coordinator

Angelica Llarena, MT(ASCP)

Webmaster

Erik Prestholdt

Fund Development

Josue Quillamor, BS, MT (*Chair*)
Susan Kusic, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB
(*Mentor*)

Employment Exchange

Jodie Prestholdt, BS, MT(ASCP),
CT(ASCP)

Licensure Task Force

Edwin Ezechibweze (*Chair*)
Janet Walker, MPA, MT(ASCP)

**Media and Public Relations
(OPEN POSITION)****Education & Seminar Task Force****Fall Seminar 2010:**

Angelica Llarena, MT(ASCP) (*co-Chair*)
Joann Rittersbach MT(ASCP) (*co-Chair*)

Spring Seminar 2011:

Nancy J. Thomas, MAS, MT
(ASCP) (*General Chair*)
James R. Adams, MSHS, MLS
(*Program Chair*)

Program Brochure

Lucia Wang, MAS, BSMT (*Chair*)
Katie DeMenna

Registration

MaryAnn Murillo, MT(ASCP)
Marietta M. Tomlin, MT(ASCP)
Martha Smith, MPA, MT(ASCP)
(*Mentor*)

Exhibits

Fritz Bernardo
Elizabeth Nadramia
Susan Kusic, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB
(*Mentor*)

Education Scientific Assembly

Linda Sherman-Atkins MS, MT
(ASCP)SH

P.A.C.E. Coordinator

Linda Sherman-Atkins MS, MT
(ASCP)SH
Nancy J. Thomas, MAS, MT
(ASCP) (*Mentor*)

Contact information can be found at www.ascls-nj.org.

Goal	Objectives	Action Steps	Point Person(s)	Timeline
Establish ASCLS/ASCLS-NJ as the premier organization for clinical laboratory professionals	Increase membership in ASCLS-NJ by 20% (min.) in FY10-11	Establish at least one major new member recruitment event for FY10-11 Establish a campaign to reach out to the NJ student population, send "Congrats on Grad." to recent grads (each program responsible for this) Giveaways for new members Provide local CE with membership recruitment. Offer Lunch and Learn Speakers to hospital as incentive for membership	Membership Co-Chairs: Recruitment Nadine, Katie D., Susan M.	Fall '10 Spring '11
	Develop future leaders for the organization	Leadership seminars have been held once a year in early June Some committees have mentors, encourage more.	President to coordinate	Ongoing Ongoing
Provide excellent healthcare to citizens of NJ through quality laboratory testing provided by qualified clinical laboratory personnel	Advocate for quality laboratory services in the national and state legislative arena.	Maintain the website for Laboratory Science. This site requires updating and adding current information. Remain active on the legislative front as part of the Legislative Symposium (Leg. Day). Planning to send one more delegate. (Total of 3)	NJ-ESA	Ongoing March '11
	Task force will investigate feasibility of state licensure	Review Past efforts of ASCLS-NJ. Research current interest in licensure.	Edwin Janet	Fall 10- Spring 11
	Laboratory personnel shortage will be coordinated by the NJ-ESA.	Reassess clinical laboratory personnel shortage in New Jersey. Prepare another survey to assess the shortage in our profession sometime in summer or early fall.	Elaine Keohane, Carol Caballero, Steve Larkin	In progress
Increase student awareness and enrollment into the clinical laboratory science profession	Introduce the youth of the NJ to the clinical laboratory science profession	Encourage current students to visit their colleges to promote profession.	Deborah Josko	Ongoing
		Continue with a speakers list to present CLS science topics and CLS PR to primary and secondary school students Update the list of institutions willing to provide tours to student groups Send letter/flyer to high schools (biology teachers, biology chairs, guidance counselors, and college counselors) to increase student classes	Deborah Josko / Nancy Thomas Katie D.	Spring '11
Maintain a qualified, clinical laboratory science workforce in NJ	Provide continuing education for clinical laboratory professionals	Organize symposia activities at least twice a year: Fall Seminar Spring Seminar Student Forums	Fall Seminar Committee Nancy Thomas, James Adams Student Advisors	October 20, 2010 April 14, 2011 October 15, 2010

Please join ASCLS-NJ in congratulating the class of 2010 from the following programs:

Atlantic Health School of Medical Laboratory Science

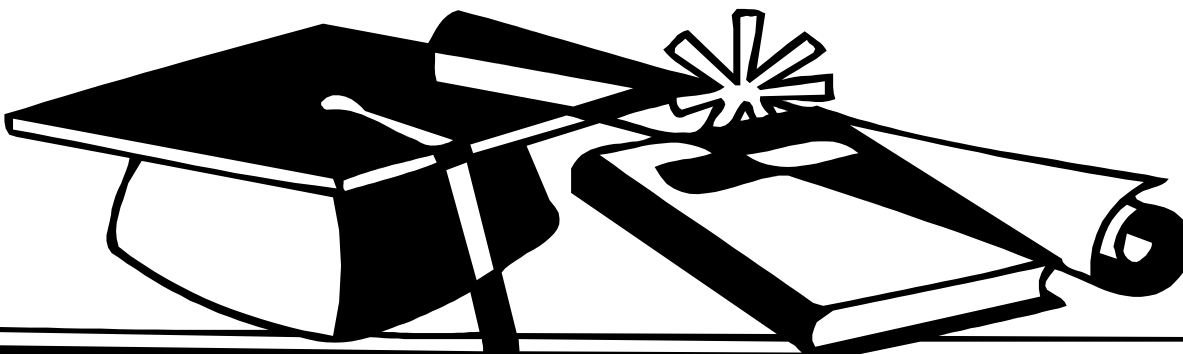
Olivia Abanonu
Brittany Anderson
Katie DeMenna
Esther Fabeyo
Ashlee McCarty
Jeromie Mendoza
Denish Piya

Florence M. Cook School of Medical Laboratory Science

Christina Chapman
Arsenia Gaddis
Siddiqua Hosein
Alberta Obeng
Christopher Obolo
Karen Villahermosa
Kristine Joy Villanueva

UMDNJ – School of Health Related Professions

Melissa Acosta	May Hezzini	Tiago Rodriguez
Jamie Banks	Lucia Jean-Baptiste	Sundas Shafi
Keren Bitton	Adrienne Kamara	Clement Wafula
Merihan Botros	Gagandip Kaur	
Vanessa Dufresne	Nora Malaak	
Lillian Espinoza	Elizabeth Nadramia	
Edwin Ezechibueze	Victor Odeluga	
Svetlana Goeta	Isa Danielle Ortillo	
Justin Hanenberg	Shivani Patel	
Paul Hanna	Paulina Plaskon	
Peter Hanna	Nesha Rampersad	



DATES TO REMEMBER

ASCLS-NJ 2010-2011 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Board meetings will be held at New Jersey Blood Services. **ALL** are welcome to attend.

Address: 167 New Street New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

Time: 6:30pm

Directions:

From Route 18 N:

Route 18 N to New Street Exit. Once off ramp go through three (3) traffic lights. The Donor Center is on right just before the 4th light on New Street & Joyce Kilmer Ave.

From Route 18 S:

Route 18 S to Burnett Street exit just pass the Hyatt. At stop, turn left onto Neilson to light. Turn right onto New Street. Go through two (2) more lights. The Donor center is on right just before the 3rd light on New St. & Joyce Kilmer Ave.

From Garden State Parkway:

Exit 127 going North or 129 going South to the NJ Turnpike. Take NJ Turnpike South to Exit 9.

Follow directions from Route 18 N above.

Parking is available in the NJBS lot on Joyce Kilmer Avenue.

September 15, 2010

October 20, 2010 (Fall Seminar in Scotch Plains, NJ)

November 3, 2010

December 1, 2010

January 5, 2011

February 2, 2011

March 2, 2011

April 14, 2011 (Spring Seminar in Woodbridge, NJ)

June 2011 (Leadership Conference – Date and location TBD)

Upcoming Events:

October 15, 2010

ASCLS-NJ Student Forum & Election
Region II Conference Call (Date and time TBD)

November 2010

February 17-21, 2011

CLEC – Ft. Lauderdale, FL

March 21-22, 2011

Legislative Symposium

July 26-30, 2011

ASCLS Annual Meeting – Atlanta, GA



Lighting the Way for Lab Professionals in NJ

ASCLS-NJ

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VISIT US ON THE
WEB

www.ascls-nj.org

For comments,
questions or article
submissions for
The Analyzer, please
contact

James R Adams, MSHS, MLS
at
asclsnj_pub_com@yahoo.com

Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) is to promote the profession of clinical laboratory science, provide beneficial services to those who practice it, and enable its members to provide quality services for all consumers. The society is committed to the continuous quest for excellence in all its activities and:

- Promotes high standards of practice in the workplace;
- Advocates professional autonomy;
- Ensures professional competence;
- Supports worthy educational efforts at all levels;
- Encourages laboratories in their pursuit of expanded roles and responsibilities;
- Enhances the public's understanding and respect for the profession and its practitioner.

ASCLS-NJ

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