



## Learning Beyond the Walls of the Classroom: CLS Students Provide Vital Community Service

Catherine "Eden" Bray, Jenna Key, Natashia Reese  
Clinical Laboratory Science Students,  
University of Alabama at Birmingham

The Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) recently partnered with an innovative UAB-sponsored education and wellness facility located in the heart of downtown Birmingham. The goal of the facility (HealthSmart) is to improve the health of people who live and work in the city of Birmingham with services deeply rooted in primary and secondary disease prevention strategies. HealthSmart is an extremely important facility in Alabama where 31.6 percent of residents are considered obese and 22.1 percent of adults smoke. The CLS program partnered with this facility to allow students an opportunity to provide community health screenings (height, body composition, blood pressure, glucose, hemoglobin A1c, and lipid screenings) and, more importantly, to engage students and faculty in applied/experiential learning. This shift in the education paradigm required students and faculty to move out of the traditional style classroom to learn, helping the students make a shift to become more independent and responsible for their own learning. The greater the student's involvement, the greater the personal development (affective outcomes) and learning (cognitive and psychomotor outcomes).

All students in the program were provided with the opportunity to provide direct client laboratory testing (under supervision by faculty) while attaining experience of the total testing process, including initial contact with the patient in the waiting room, measurement of height, body composition, blood pressure, and interaction with the client regarding personal and/or family health history to determine further screening test(s) to be performed. Students interacted with two categories of clients and were required to make testing decisions based on information they gathered during the patient interview. After the students collected all needed information and data, they escorted the client to the facility nurse who provided advice to the client based on the information the student collected.



**Jenna Key**  
First Year  
Student

The partnership between UAB and HealthSmart provided a very unique experience allowing us to gain insight into parts of the testing

*Continued on Page 10*

## Democracy at Work

Charlie Francen, ASCLS Nominations  
Committee Chair

There was a car commercial in February that talked about the different options of each of their models and their "slogan." The customer in the commercial commented about so many choices and decisions. The final line was the salesman saying it was "Democracy at Work." I don't remember the car company in the commercial, but I loved the line!

This could also be the ASCLS Nominations Committee's slogan. The 2012/2013 Committee members are Marcia Armstrong, Linda Gorman, Donna Reinbold, Frank Scarano, Duncan Samo,

*Continued on Page 10*

### Today's Agenda

President's Message	2
Presentation of Candidates	3
Globalization	9

VOICE

VALUE

VISION



## President's Message

Linda A. Smith, PhD, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CMBB</sup>  
ASCLS President 2012-2013

### Spring has sprung.. the grass has riz...

**... I wonder where the boidies (birdies) is...** (with attributions and all due apologies to the many authors and versions of this ditty)

Hard to believe it is April. For those of us in Texas spring is over while some of you 'up North' are just beginning to get glimpses of green! For ASCLS members, Spring is the season of state and regional meetings with a lot of student activities, membership drives, and maybe even renewed licensure activity.

This is a time when we also look at leadership in our societies... Who will become the next president or board member? Do we have to ask an experienced member again or is there someone new to lead our state? Who among the students, new professionals, or new members shows potential? Who can mentor? Who needs mentoring? Who will lead? Who will follow?

There are many leadership lessons, leadership principles, or leadership quotes in the literature and on the web. There are multiple studies on leadership qualities and on how to become a better leader. Not long ago I came upon a web article by Alex Knapp of Forbes magazine entitled "Five Leadership Lessons from Jean-Luc Picard." It is a lighthearted yet to-the-point article about leadership as viewed through the specific experiences of the captain of the

Starship Enterprise. It addresses key principles that leaders at any level, and in any organization, need to practice. While all of us in leadership positions try to follow them, I have been guilty of violating all of these principles at one time or another... and I bet you have too. So for new and experienced leaders alike, a review of these principles of leadership is in order!

- **Speak to the people in the language they understand.**

*"In my experience communication is a matter of patience and imagination. I would like to believe that these are qualities that we have in sufficient measure."* Captain Picard  
Communication is THE KEY skill for a leader. All of us have been in a situation where we thought we had done a good job of explaining our views, a task, or why something was set up the way it was, only to realize days or weeks later that the message was never conveyed in a way that led to understanding. I know I sometimes forget that not everyone has the same view of ASCLS as I do and I have to make a special effort to share where I am coming from with my ideas. As a state president or committee chair you should routinely keep people in your organization informed not

only with the 'what' of things but also the 'why' so they can reflect and consciously buy into the idea or project.

- **When you are overwhelmed – ask for help.**

I suspect all of us are guilty of not asking for help. We get 24 hours for our day and need 48. We want to stay involved not only with jobs and family, but also with the organizations that mean something to us. Asking for help goes back to communication. Just let the people to whom you are responsible know you are late or need help. It is hard to admit we might have suddenly gotten in over our head, but as the state president or committee chair you must acknowledge this and take steps to fix it. There will always be someone watching your back and willing to lend a hand in ASCLS.

- **Always value ethical actions over expedient ones.**

How far do you go to support your own views versus what is best for the organization or profession? How can you speak honestly without offending? It is up to us as leaders to set the example. For individuals involved in licensure activities it is hard to understand views of our colleagues who oppose it based on the fact they will have to pay for

*Continued on Page 11*

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR 2013-2014 ASCLS NATIONAL OFFICES

### Office: President-Elect



#### Susanne (Susie) Norris Zanto

**City/State:** Helena, MT  
**Member:** Since 1991  
**Education:** B.S. Microbiology, Med Tech Option, Montana State University; Med Tech Internship, Deaconess Med Ctr; Masters of Public

Health, University of Montana

**Certification:** MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, NRCM (ASM)  
 Specialist in Microbiology, State of MT License CLS

**Employment:** Deputy Laboratory Director, Montana Public Health Laboratory, Helena, MT

#### Society Participation:

**STATE:** Circulation/Webmaster Chair, 2008-Present; ASCLS-MT Sprint Meeting Planning Committee Chair; 2013; Nomination Committee Vice Chair, 2012-2013

**REGIONAL:** Leadership Development Chair, 2007-2011; IMSS Planning Committee Program Chair, 2011; Scientific Assembly Chair, 2012-2013

**NATIONAL:** Patient Safety Committee Member and Vice Chair, 2007-2013; Leadership Development Committee Member, 2007-2011; Judicial Committee Member and Chair, 2009-2011; E&R Board of Trustees, 2011-2013; Committee Restructuring Task Force Member, 2012-2013

**Statement of Philosophy:** I have spent most of my career in public health and just as the clinical laboratory's role is changing, so is the role of public health laboratories. The tests we once exclusively performed (rubella, syphilis, gonorrhea, HIV) are now routinely performed in clinical laboratories, and public health laboratories are finding a different niche. However, in the midst of these changing roles, I see opportunities. One opportunity is to increase awareness and promote a national laboratory system – a blending of clinical and public health laboratories to advance the health of the individual patient and the community. Another opportunity is working collaboratively with the CDC Laboratory

Medicine Best Practices initiative for patient safety.

The strength of ASCLS lies in its leadership and the many members that dedicate their talents to position us to meet these challenges and opportunities. Our efforts in legislative advocacy, education and professional development are second to none. I have been privileged to have served ASCLS in many roles. These positions have provided me the opportunity to learn, to develop professionally, and to listen to your concerns. I believe that I have gained the necessary skills and have the passion to lead ASCLS, with your help, into the future.

### Office: Secretary-Treasurer



#### Cindy Johnson

**City/State:** St. Cloud, MN  
**Member:** Since 1989  
**Education:** B.S. Medical Technology, College of St. Scholastica, M.S., Clinical Laboratory Science, University of North Dakota  
**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Employment:** Director, Laboratory Operations, CentraCare Health System, St Cloud, MN

#### Society Participation:

**STATE:** MN Clinical Laboratory Collaborative member, speaker, 2008-2012; MN delegate to Legislative Symposium, 2008-2012

**REGIONAL:** Region V GAC representative, 2008-2012; Region V speaker, 2010, 2011

**NATIONAL:** GAC Vice-chair, Chair, 2008-present; Direct Access Testing Task Force, 2012

#### Statement of Philosophy:

From the first time I looked into a microscope during high school biology, I knew that the laboratory profession was the career I wanted. It has been a privilege for over thirty years to work with such dedicated laboratory professionals locally, regionally and nationally who have taught me many valuable lessons. Whether we are in our health care facilities or on Capitol Hill, it is vital that we share our vision and mission to enhance patient

*Continued on Page 4*

*Secretary-Treasurer**Cindy Johnson From Page 3*

safety and provide the best possible information in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and the promotion of wellness. Networking opportunities offered me through ASCLS, and the dedication of my colleagues has inspired me to expand my horizons in promotion of the profession. When I think of leaving a professional legacy, I want to know that I have continued to strive for excellence and was able to mentor colleagues as I was. As a leader in the laboratory for the past twenty years I have the skills required to assure that we maintain our visibility and financial viability. Being Secretary/Treasurer and an ASCLS board member would allow me to fulfill my passion of shaping the future of our professional organization.

**John W. Koenig**

**City/State:** High Ridge, MO  
**Member:** Since 1977  
**Education:** B.S. Chemistry, University of Missouri - Louisville  
**Certification:** C(ASCP)

**Employment:** Part-Time CLS, St Clare Medical Center, SSM Healthcare System, Fenton, MO

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** Chair, Vice-Chair, Membership Development Committee, Chair, GAC/PAC, 2008-present; 2012-present; Chair, Nominations Committee, 2012-present; Awards, 2011-2012; Past President, President, P-E, 2010-2012; Bylaws, 2007-2012

**REGIONAL:** GAC Chair, 2011-present; Region VI council member, 2009-2011

**NATIONAL:** GAC, 2011-present; Consumer response team, 2007-2011; Director, Region VI, 2007-2009

**Statement of Philosophy:**

There are many changes taking place today in healthcare and within our profession. ASCLS needs to be in the forefront, shaping these changes in our profession. As ASCLS Secretary/ Treasurer and member of the ASCLS Board of Directors, I hope to help shape the future of our society and profession. A strong professional organization will have a strong voice in the future of our profession and of the whole healthcare industry, and it must be financially viable. As Treasurer and member of the ASCLS Board, it would be my responsibility to be the financial watchdog for this

organization. It also depends on the strength of its membership to remain viable. The challenge for all of us will be to find new ways to recruit and retain this membership, by finding ways to communicate through all levels of our society. As professionals and as a professional organization, we must find new ways to build strong working relations with other organizations within our profession and to break down the barriers that have built up over the years. The only way to grow strong as a profession is to work together with a single Voice, Value and Vision towards the future.

**Region Director I****Maddie Josephs**

**City/State:** Rumford, RI  
**Member:** Since 1997  
**Education:** BS, Medical Technology, Salve Regina University; MS, Clinical Laboratory Science, University of Rhode Island

**Certification:** CLS, MT(ASCP)

**Employment:** Associate Professor Director, Clinical Laboratory Technician and Histotechnician Programs Community College of Rhode Island

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** ASCLS: CNE Annual Convention Program and Registration Chair, 2007-present; ASCLS:CNE Past President, 2011-present; ASCLS:CNE President, 2009-2011; ASCLS:CNE President-Elect, 2008-2009; Director ASCLS:CNE BOD, 2006-2008; Secretary ASCLS:CNE BOD, 2002-2006

**REGIONAL:** Region I Council Member, 2008-present; Region I Seminar Registration Chair, 2010-present

**NATIONAL:** Delegate to House of Delegates, 2009-2012; Legislative Symposium Attendee, 2012

**Statement of Philosophy:** After serving my constituent society for several years on a board level, and becoming more involved in regional activities, I have come to appreciate the important work of ASCLS. I feel that my experience within ASCLS Central New



*Region Director I,  
Maddie Josephs Continued From Page 4*

England and Region I would allow me to better serve our membership by advancing the causes that are so vital to our members. I would consider it a privilege to work collaboratively with the members of Region I to address the concerns and issues that are important to them and to our society. Also, as an educator, I am dedicated to fostering students and new professionals. I believe that these individuals are essential to moving our society and profession forward.

It would be an honor to continue my service to our society by representing ASCLS Region I as Director.

needs to be. An organization is only as strong as its membership. Membership brings a responsibility to serve and to take part in society activities. I have been a member of ASCLS for most of my professional career. During that time, I have served in a variety of positions in three states. This has given me the opportunity to grow professionally and to develop leadership skills that have translated into other areas of my life. As Region VII Director, I would like to use those leadership skills to strengthen the connections within our Region and provide a conduit for communication between the board and the members of the Region.

**Region Director VII**



**Karen S. Chandler**

**City/State:** McAllen/Texas  
**Member:** Since 1975  
**Education:** B.S., Medical Technology, Purdue University; M.A., Allied Health Education, Central Michigan University  
**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Employment:** Associate Professor, University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, TX

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** Past President, 2011-2012; President, 2010-2011; President Elect, 2009-2010; Board of Directors, 2007-2009

**REGIONAL:** Member Region VII Council, 2009-2011; Region VII Director, 2012-2013

**NATIONAL:** Chair Chemistry/Urinalysis Scientific Assembly, 2007-2009; Member of CEAC, 2006-2009; Vice Chair CEAC, 2009-2010; Chair CEAC, 2010-2011; Chair AMSC, 2011-2012

**Statement of Philosophy:** I believe that it is my duty as a Medical Laboratory Scientist to serve the profession. An important way to do this is through active participation in our professional organization. It is important to help shape the future of the profession through participation in this society. If we are not involved in shaping the future, then others may do it for us and that future may not be where the profession

**Region Director VIII**



**Stephanie Mihane**

**City/State:** Aurora, CO  
**Member:** Since 1980  
**Education:** B.S. Medical Technology, University of Iowa  
**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Employment:** Point of Care Coordinator, Colorado Region, Kaiser Permanente

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** President, President Elect, 2007-2011; Clinical Laboratory Collaborative Conference Co-Chair, Social Chair, Program Committee Member, 2007-2013; Member of Position Description Committee, Student and New Professional Committee, NMLW, Bylaws, 2007-2013; Clinical Laboratorian Editor, 2008-2013

**REGIONAL:** Region VIII Council Member, 2007-2011; IMSS Coordinating Committee Member, 2009-present; IMSS Planning Committee Social Chair, 2010-2011; IMSS Exhibits Chair, 2011-present

**NATIONAL:** Leadership Academy Member, 2007-2008; Credentials Committee Member, 2010-2012; Awards Committee Member, 2010-present; Leadership Academy Task Force & Committee Member, 2010-present

**Statement of Philosophy:** ASCLS has been pivotal in my growth as an individual and a professional. As a MLS, I have found my career and passion to guide

*Continued on Page 6*

*Region Director VIII**Stephanie Mihane From Page 5*

my life. The goal of life-long learning and a need to make a difference to the profession have lead me to be a graduate of the first Leadership Academy, hold positions on the ASCLS-CO BOD for six years and a CACMLE board member for eight years, the laboratory member of the Kaiser Permanente "Promote Health Careers" and a member of the IMSS Coordinating Committee and Exhibit Chair. After 35 plus years, I have found my niche as a Point of Care Coordinator; a visible and integral member of the health care team. Through education, passion, and a plan, I hope to influence the perception of the laboratory and its staff. I coordinate with all aspects of the health care organization from revenue cycle, purchasing, IT, nursing, education and providers by providing the face and voice of the laboratory profession. As a Region VIII Director, I wish to represent the profession and grow as a leader through the experience. We are the guardians of safe patient care by insuring accurate quality results necessary for the "right" diagnosis every time.

**Joni Gilstrap****City/State:** Billings, MT**Member:** Since 1991**Education:** B.S. Medical Technology, Northwest Missouri State University**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**Employment:** Consulting Medical Technologist,

Billings Clinic, Billings, MT

**Society Participation:****STATE:** President Elect, President, Past President, 2008-2010; Secretary, 2010-2011; Awards & Scholarship, 2012-present**REGIONAL:** Leadership & Development Committee Chair, 2011-present; Council Member, 2008-2010**NATIONAL:** Leadership & Development Committee Member, 2011-present**Statement of Philosophy:** Because of my involvement with ASCLS over the years, I have discovered how much our organization has given me through

mentoring, education, leadership, networking and communication on issues affecting the clinical laboratory profession. It is the enthusiasm and commitment to ASCLS by members that demonstrates our mission. My goal is to continue this communication and leadership within our Region, embracing technology to promote our profession and to share the many benefits of our organization with our new professionals and colleagues.

**Office: Nominations Committee****Vicki S. Freeman****City/State:** League City, TX**Member:** Since 1976**Education:** Ph.D. Univ of Nebraska at Lincoln, MA University of Nebraska at Lincoln, BS/BA University of Texas at Austin**Certification:** MLS(SC)**Employment:** Professor and Department Chair, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston TX**Society Participation:****STATE:** Webmaster, 2000-2006; Board Member, 1998-2005**REGIONAL:** Regional Webmaster, 2000-2006**NATIONAL:** Member of DCLS Committee, 2009-2011; President-Elect Alpha Mu Tau, 2009-2010; President of Alpha Mu Tau, 2010-2011; Co-Chair of DCLS Committee, 2011-2013**Statement of Philosophy:** My goal as a member of the

Nominations Committee is to find the best qualified individuals for each office. I have been a member of ASCLS for over 25 years and have interacted with many individuals within the organization. I am pleased to be part of the nominating committee to find individuals to lead our organization.

*Nominations Committee From Page 6*



**Bill Hunt**

**City/State:** Lansdowne, PA  
**Member:** Since 1982  
**Education:** BS Medical Technology Temple University, MBA, Drexel University  
**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

**Employment:** Administrative Director Laboratory Services, Univ of Penn Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** Board of Directors Delaware Valley Chapter, 2007-present; Board of Directors, President Elect, President, Past President ASCLS-PA, 2007-present; Chair ASCLS-PA State Meeting, 2012  
**REGIONAL:** Member Regional Council, 2010-present  
**NATIONAL:** Chair CEAC Committee, 2007-2008; Chair Annual Meeting Chair, 2008-2009; ASCLS representative to the Joint Commission, 2009-present; Board of Directors NAACLS, 2011-present

**Statement of Philosophy:** If given the opportunity to serve on the Nominations Committee, I believe it is extraordinarily important to present a well qualified slate of candidates at the National Meeting. As a member since 1982 (when I joined as a student) our industry and society have faced many challenges all of which have shaped our profession. An organization is only as strong as its active members.

In these unsettling times we must find well qualified candidates who can guide our organization into the future. Members of the committee must have contacts throughout the organization and encourage members to move to new positions. I have had the opportunity to serve our organization at the chapter, state and national level and will continue to diligently work on finding the best qualified candidates.



**Sally Pestana**

**City/State:** Honolulu, HI  
**Member:** Since 1984  
**Education:** B.S., Nutrition; B.S., Medical Technology, University of North Dakota  
**Certification:** MT (ASCP)

**Employment:** Professor of Health Sciences, Kapiolani Community College, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI

**Society Participation:**

**STATE:** At Large Board Member, 2009-2010; Annual Meeting and Exhibits Committee, 2009-present; President-elect, 2011; President, 2012  
**REGIONAL:** Region X Member of ASCLS Nominations and Elections Committee, 2005-2009  
**NATIONAL:** Education and Research Fund Trustee, 2011-present

**Statement of Philosophy:** The ASCLS Nominations Committee has done an exemplary job of fulfilling its responsibilities since the recent reorganization of the committee structure. The work of the Nominations Committee is the foundation to all that ASCLS is and does. Having strong candidates for ASCLS elected offices is the key to a vital growing organization that serves the needs of its members.

It would be an honor and pleasure for me to serve the ASCLS membership as a member of this committee. I pledge to contribute to the committee based on my knowledge of the organization over the past three decades. I ask for your vote, and if elected will work hard to honor that vote.

## Judicial Committee



### Holly Weinberg

**City/State:** Eagle, ID  
**Member:** Since 2000  
**Education:** B.S., Biology/Chemistry; B.S., Medical Technology, Whitworth University  
**Certification:** MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, SH(ASCP)

**Employment:** System Technical Coordinator; Hematology/Hemostasis/Flow Cytometry, St. Luke's Health System, Boise, ID

#### Society Participation:

**STATE:** Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, 2001-2002; Secretary, 2002-2003; President-elect, 2003-2004, 2010-2011; Past President, 2005-2006, 2012-2013; President, 2004-2005, 2010-2011; Spring Conference Registration, 2000, 2006; Chair, Leadership Development, 2005, 2006; Chair, Bylaws, 2007, 2008, 2012; Chair, Spring Conference Program, 2010-2012; P.A.C.E.® Coordinator, 2008-present

**REGIONAL:** Region VIII Member, 2003-2005, 2010-2012; Secretary, 2009-2011; Membership Development Chair, 2012-present

**NATIONAL:** Bylaws Committee, 2006-2011; Chair, Bylaws Committee, 2011-2012; Member, Committee Restructure Task Force, 2012

**Statement of Philosophy:** I have been actively involved in ASCLS since 2000 because I feel strongly about giving something back to a profession that has served me so well through the years. This is an amazing profession and ASCLS is the premier laboratory organization representing all of its members equally. I have served in many different capacities at the state, regional and national levels which has given me the opportunity to learn about the Society and understand the workings of ASCLS. I have had amazing mentors guiding me through the process and helping me gain a firm foundation in understanding the building blocks of the Society. Serving on and chairing the Bylaws Committee was integral to my understanding of our organization. I believe in looking at all sides of an issue and getting the input of all concerned parties before rendering a judgment in any situation. If elected to this position, I would be diligent in researching issues and working with my fellow Judicial Committee members to reach an equitable decision

that is consistent with the Voice, Value and Vision of ASCLS. I am honored to be considered for this position and look forward to the opportunity to serve.



### Phlebotomy Train-the-Trainer Seminar

An intensive 3-day seminar for phlebotomy supervisors and trainers by the industry's most respected authority.

July 10-12  
November 6-8

Each seminar held at the world famous **Brown Hotel** in Louisville, Kentucky

Register now!

Center for Phlebotomy Education  
[www.phlebotomy.com/Train-the-Trainer.html](http://www.phlebotomy.com/Train-the-Trainer.html)  
 866-657-9857

# 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

July 30-August 3 | Royal Sonesta Hotel | Houston, TX

Register online

Download the program

Go to [www.ascls.org/AnnualMeeting](http://www.ascls.org/AnnualMeeting)

*Ya'll come to Houston!*



## Globalization: Medical Laboratory Science Student Exchange Between Hawaii and Japan

Dick Y. Teshima, MPH, MT(ASCP), University of Hawaii at Manoa,  
John A. Burns School of Medicine, Department of Medical Technology  
Yasuo Tsuchiya, D.Med.Sc., Niigata University of Health and Welfare, Department of Medical Technology  
Takao Asai, ME, Niigata University of Health and Welfare, Department of Medical Technology  
Kikuo Ikegami, BA, Niigata University of Health and Welfare, Department of Medical Technology

Hawaii is the hub of international traffic, where there is convergence of incredible cultural diversity from all parts of the world. To capitalize on this unique opportunity, through the initiative of the Niigata University of Health and Welfare (NUHW), the University of Hawaii (UH) began student exchanges between the Medical Technology programs across the ocean.

UH, John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), Medical Technology Department offers a 2+2 baccalaureate program. Conferring the degree since 1946, it is a NAACLS accredited program in Medical Laboratory Science.

Founded in 1996, NUHW is a private University in northwestern Japan, with several international affiliates. The baccalaureate Medical Technology program is offered through the Department of Clinical Engineering and Medical Technology. In addition to the Medical Technology curriculum familiar to U.S. schools, students at NUHW also study electrical engineering, biomedical engineering, mechanical engineering, and material engineering. Graduates are trained in hospitals in the Prefecture to acquire practical skills as Medical Technologists. Japanese health professions are

highly regulated. A minimum of 3 years of college education is required to qualify for the government issued Medical Technology license. Educational programs are located in vocational colleges (technical associate diploma) and universities



(bachelor's degree). At present, there are 76 training institutions of Medical Technology: 47 in 4-year baccalaureate colleges, 5 in 3-year junior colleges, 24 in 3-year vocational colleges.

Similar to U.S., most of the licensed technologists in Japan work in hospitals. Graduates also find employment in drug companies, clinical laboratory service centers, health screening centers, and university laboratories.

### **The Exchange Program**

After a series of e-communications between the programs, delegates from NUHW visited UH, including a visit with the JABSOM Vice Dean. With the assistance of administrative and legal support from each University, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed in July, 2011.

The first group (6 students, 2 faculty) from Japan visited Hawaii in March of 2012, and the second group (12 students, 2 faculty) in September. Each was a one-week event. The group stayed at a Waikiki hotel, and commuted on the city bus.

Mornings were spent in an intensive English program (10-20 hours)

offered by the UH Outreach College that included classroom sessions, campus tour, and American culture workshop. In the afternoons, the group participated in an orientation session and Medical Technology classes (instrumentation, parasitology, blood bank). NUHW students worked with UH students in these classes held essentially in the usual mode. For the second group, one of the classes was held at the Kapiolani Community College MLT campus, an affiliate program. A Hula class was arranged one evening by

*Continued on Page 11*

*Learning From Page 1*

process we usually only learned about in the classroom. As a first year student, being able to go beyond the lab and participate in an actual healthcare environment has provided me with a level of confidence in my ability to perform professionally. This experience allowed us to engage in first-hand interactions with clients on a higher level because our information was critical in the advisement the client received at a later time. The information, insight and experience I've gained while at HealthSmart allowed me to better understand the role various clinical healthcare professionals play in the diagnosis and treatment process. It is a reminder there is a person (patient) behind the specimens we analyze, and that person is going to be directly impacted by the results we provide. This unique opportunity has not only given me experience to provide direct client care, but has also reminded me of why I chose this field to begin with, which is to help people live healthier lives.



**Natasha Reese**  
**Second Year Student**

I have to admit I had preconceived notions of what this volunteer ex-

perience would be like in the heart of downtown Birmingham. After volunteering, my entire perception was changed. While I initially thought most of the clients we would be interacting with were people who neglected their health and were perhaps even undereducated, what I realized was most of them were professionals and students whose busy schedules didn't allow for regular doctor's office visits. In addition, I

also realized that although the tests performed during the evaluation at HealthSmart seem simple, they actually provided very important information to clients regarding hypertension, diabetic status, risk for the development of heart disease, as well as family history factors that could increase the risk for these diseases. For some clients, this facility is the only means of being assessed for risk for the development of chronic conditions. In fact, I performed testing on patients who otherwise seemed very healthy and fit but were informed of extreme risk factors for diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol, all of which would have otherwise gone undetected. I found HealthSmart to be an amazing volunteer experience and a valuable resource for future students. Volunteering at HealthSmart allowed me to put a face to the tests we perform every day re-emphasizing the importance of the work we do as professionals. It also added another level of pride to what I already have for this profession.



**Catherine "Eden" Bray**  
**Second Year Student**

HealthSmart is a remarkable free resource available to the

community to educate people on health and chronic diseases. Some of the most common disorders in the world are easy to catch early and prevent with the right information. Often times, these diseases go unnoticed by the general population because they don't have the time or money to go to the doctor, or simply do not realize the everyday risk factors and the steps they can take to reduce them. HealthSmart is the

perfect solution for people because appointments are not necessary, the offered services are completely free, and they accept all clients regardless of age, sex, race, or social status. I thoroughly enjoyed my participation with HealthSmart because of the hands-on experience and direct client contact. I was forced to apply learning I attained in the classroom to clients who entered the facility who asked questions I needed to answer. It will be very hard for me to forget what I learned during this experience because it was so applied in nature.

*Democracy From Page 1*

and myself. Our Board Liaison is Cathy Otto. Our goal was to present a full slate of candidates for the 2013 national delegates to vote into office/committee in Houston. Three of the eight ASCLS offices/committee positions have choices for our delegates to make.

Now it is up to the delegates to study the candidates by reading the information in this issue of ASCLS Today, and getting acquainted with them at the following presentations in Houston:

- Pre-House Board of Directors Meeting
- Issues Update
- Meet the Candidates (ASCLS Booth)

This year delegates will be voting for:

- President Elect (one only)
- Secretary/Treasurer (one only)
- Judicial Committee Member (one only)
- Region Directors I, VII, VIII 3-year term (one only each Region)
- Nomination Committee 1-year term (vote for one)
- Nominations Committee 3-year term (vote for one)

Democracy at work in Houston!

*President's Message From Page 2*

a license. How do you articulate the professional standards of continuing education and certification? Our mission statement talks of making a positive impact and assuring excellence in the practice of laboratory medicine. Our belief statements and core values address quality, competence, and our professional responsibilities for health care delivery.

• **Challenge your team to help them grow.**

If you are the leader getting ready to fill a key position who do you look for – an experienced member whom you know can do a great job and will not require much help...or a 'newbie' who will pepper you with questions and may need a lot of hand holding by you or someone else in the organization? All of us want to plant the seed that will grow new leaders. In fact, we have an obligation to do so for the health and growth of our organization. But a leader knows that making the decision to provide a newcomer with a challenge for professional and personal growth will require just a bit more of his/her own time and effort. But in the process we too grow.

• **Don't play it safe - seize opportunities in front of you.**

You want to be a leader? Consider everything that comes your way... from glamorous, in the spotlight positions to the behind the scenes grunt work. A leader knows the organization and its members on many levels and has been involved in many different activities. With that background knowledge there comes the confidence to swallow hard and say yes to something out of our comfort zone. We learn to weigh decisions

– alone and with others. There is self-assurance to seize an opportunity - not recklessly - but with the hope of gaining advantages for our profession and our professional society. You become the leader by being a follower first. You learn thru experience. You make mistakes and take responsibility. And you move on and up and become the leadership example for others.

**And as Captain Picard would say.... *MAKE IT SO!***

*Globalization From Page 9*

a Medical Technology faculty, at the historical Bishop Museum for the second group. The program concluded with a wrap-up session and a completion ceremony. During the closing ceremony, students presented a PowerPoint show about NUHW, with well-rehearsed English narrations.

**Feedback**

NUHW students were asked to keep a journal through the week. Many students commented that English conversation was not easy, but they managed to communicate with instructors and students, and were able to participate in the lab experiments. Since many were still in their first year, while they were familiar with some of the procedures (electrophoresis, pipetting), other subjects were new to them (blood typing, parasitology).

One evening during the week, students were introduced to traditional Hula dancing. Although physically challenging, they enjoyed learning the new art-form that was filled with ancient ethnic values.

Some students said they wish to

participate in other international exchanges. A few also mentioned they would be interested in seeking career opportunities abroad. In Japan, English is used more often in medicine, so students felt it necessary to learn the professional terminology in English. They exchanged email addresses with UH students so they can keep in touch and hone their language skills.

**Global Perspectives**

In general, Medical Technology education and training in Japan appear to be very similar to what we provide in the U.S. NUHW is somewhat unique in that students also study clinical engineering. This makes them marketable in related health industries in Japan.

UH values the close relationship with Asia and Pacific neighbors. This newly established collaboration in Medical Technology with NUHW brings a uniquely international experience as students and faculty learn about our common profession in the two countries. NUHW plans to send small groups to UH on an annual basis. We plan to reciprocate by sending groups of UH students to Niigata in the future.

**Acknowledgement**

Many thanks to faculty and staff of UH Medical Technology Department, Norma Ebisu, Dr. Ji Sook Ha, Sheri Gon, Kathy Morton, Ray Yamaguchi, and Marsha Kato, for accommodating the Japanese students in their classes, conducting campus tours, offering Hula lessons, and coordinating their activities. Thanks to Dr. Katrina Ghazanfar and staff at the Kapiolani Community College MLT program for accommodating them one afternoon. The one-week intensive English program was offered through the UH Outreach College.



# ASCLS TODAY

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
at McLean, VA  
and  
additional  
mailing offices

## Moving?

Send the attached label and your new address six weeks in advance to ensure uninterrupted membership services.

### Keep in Touch with the ASCLS NATIONAL OFFICE

1862 International Dr., Ste. 200  
McLean, VA 22102  
Phone: 571-748-3770  
Fax: 571-354-7570  
Email: [ascls@ascls.org](mailto:ascls@ascls.org)  
website: [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org)

**Elissa Passiment**  
*Executive Vice President*  
[elissap@ascls.org](mailto:elissap@ascls.org)

**Joan Polancic**  
*Education Office*  
[joanp@ascls.org](mailto:joanp@ascls.org)

**Don Lavanty**  
*Legislative Affairs*

**Sherry Miner**  
*P.A.C.E.® Membership  
Services Coordinator*  
[Sherrym@ascls.org](mailto:Sherrym@ascls.org)

## ASCLS Today

**ASCLS Today**  
(ISSN 1073-466X) is published monthly except combined in Jun/Jul and Nov/Dec by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
1862 International Dr., Ste. 200  
McLean, VA 22102

Periodical postage paid at  
McLean, VA and additional  
mailing offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to ASCLS Today, 1862 International Dr., Ste. 200 McLean, VA 22102

ASCLS Today is distributed as a regular service to ASCLS members only; \$8 of society membership dues are allocated to an annual subscription.

*Cheryl Caskey, Editor*