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The Pipette Line

A Publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science - Georgia



Letter from the President

Hello Everyone!! I hope you are having a great 2010. ASCLS-GA is growing strong and we are looking forward to a very busy and productive year. We are planning a One Day Education Conference on March 26th in Savannah, Georgia. There will be 7 hours of PACE accredited continuing education offered at this event. Professionals and students are invited to attend. We will also have an awards ceremony along with our annual business meeting. On September 22nd – 24th, ASCLS-GA will be hosting the ASCLS Region III Triennial Meeting, also in Savannah, GA. There will be many hours of PACE accredited C.E. available and time to network with professionals from the Southeastern United States.

It is time for you to get involved with ASCLS-GA. We hope to see you at our meetings and bring your co-workers and trainees with you. There are many benefits of being a member of ASCLS. Through our national office, you can obtain many hours of continuing education. There are scholarships available to members along with our high-quality peer-reviewed journal *Clinical Laboratory Science* and the *ASCLS News*. ASCLS also is involved at the legislative level. ASCLS along with ASCP and CLMA host a Legislative Symposium in March where our members talk to their congressmen and senators about issues that impact the clinical laboratory. ASCLS has liaisons to Congress, federal, and state agencies which monitor and influence laws affecting our profession. ASCLS provides invaluable resources to you as a member, such as the Scientific Assemblies, forums, and an online bookstore. YOUR membership MATTERS to ASCLS and ASCLS-GA. So, get involved, come to meetings, volunteer, and join a committee. WE NEED YOU!!

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The Pipette Line
Editor: Nicole McCoy

The Pipette Line is a quarterly publication of the **American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Georgia** for its members. Note: Copies of complete board minutes and committee reports are available to members on request from Charlotte Bates, ASCLS-GA Secretary.

Student Officers 2009-2010

Student Forum Chair:

Sasha Isaacs
Armstrong Atlantic State
University

Student Vice Chair:

Katie Pinson
Medical College of Georgia

Student Secretary:

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DeKalb Technical College

Student Corner

**The Future of the
Laboratory
By: Katie Pinson**

Did you know that Clinical Laboratory Scientists/Medical Technologists were not recognized as professionals until the 1990s? Did you know that Medical Technologists have been practicing since the early 1900s? Until a few days ago, neither did I.

The one thing that was really impressed in my heart this week was how important it is to be proud of our profession. Being a medical technologist is awesome. Although we are not, as some would say on the front lines, we act as a bridge between the doctor's assumptions and the patient's diagnosis. It was mentioned that seventy percent of patient diagnostics come about because of laboratory tests. Although we are not necessarily in the patient exam room, we save lives. The opening keynote speaker, Mr. Glen McDaniel, read to us this email he received from a medical technologist in Canada, who was working a double shift one evening. Her shift began at 3:00pm and ended at 7:00am the next morning. At about 4:30pm a massive trauma came to their hospital, where she and another medical technologist were working. Two ferryboats had collided and there were many people with severe injuries. She worked all evening without breaks, she issued at least 50 units of blood and ran countless CBCs and chemistry panels, but she kept on going. A few weeks later there was a write up in the newspaper from a family who thanked the doctors and nurses for saving their little girl's life, and her leg. As you can guess, no mention of a medical technologist. However, this did not bother the women, she knew she had made a difference, in the countless labs she and her partner ran, she made a difference.

The experience I had at the ASCLS-Georgia 2009 convention will be one that I never forget. I learned about our roots, and why we can be proud to be medical technologists, but I also realize how important it is for me to get involved and stay involved. If we do not make sure we have a say so in government legislation, laboratory safety, working conditions, etc.; we cannot provide the best care to the patient (specimens) that come through our lab. As the world continues to change and technology advances, laboratory medicine will also make changes. If I do not speak up, then the changes I see may not be beneficial. I (my generation) am the future of the laboratory. I realize now that we cannot wait for the hypothetical "they" to do something, I, we, you have to do something.



AWARDS

Sponsored By: ASCLS-Georgia
Presented at the Annual Conference March 12th 2009

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR Jill Dennis

GLORIA F. GILBERT AWARD RECIPIENT Bonnie Norrick



OMICRON SIGMA AWARD RECIPIENTS (LEFT TO RIGHT) Lester Pretlow, Barbara Kraj, Virginia Roberts, Patti Linkous, Amber Tuten, Kevin McNeil Not pictured: Robin Aiken, Darcell Thaxton



**KEYS TO THE FUTURE RECIPIENTS
(LEFT TO RIGHT)
Charlotte Bates, Chad Guilliams, Nicole
McCoy**

**CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROFESSION
(LEFT TO RIGHT)
Elizabeth Kenimer Leibach, Michelle
Butina**



ASCLS-GA 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

The ASCLS-GA Annual Meeting was held March 12-13, 2009 at Dekalb Technical College Conference Center in Clarkston, Georgia. Over 40 students attended along with Educators, hospital managers and employees.

The topic of the meeting “The Future Laboratory: A New Direction” was evident from the beginning with the keynote address by Mr. Glen McDaniel who spoke on the impact laboratorians have on patients every day, to the final speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Leibach, who discussed the development of the Doctorate in Clinical Laboratory Science.

An enjoyable time was had by the students and some of their instructors as they competed against each other in a game of Trivial Pursuit. Congrats to the MCG Team! Monies were raised by the First Annual Silent Auction in hopes to establish a scholarship to be used by future students wanting to attend the annual meeting.



ASCLS ANNUAL MEETING CHICAGO 2009

The ASCLS Annual meeting was held in Chicago, IL July 21st – 25th. ASCLS-GA's representatives to the House of Delegates were Barbara Russell, Kevin McNeil, Jill Dennis, Sasha Isaacs, Chad Williams, and Elizabeth Leibach. At the House of Delegates ASCLS passed the Healthcare Reform Resolution. More information on this can be found at <http://www.ascls.org/position/index.asp>

At the House of Delegates, ASCLS also approved Practice Levels and Educational Needs for Clinical Laboratory Personnel. Practice Levels I –VIII were approved and encompassed Practitioners from the Phlebotomist to the Doctorally prepared Clinical Laboratory Scientist. For additional information visit <http://www.ascls.org/position/LevelsofPractice.asp>



Kevin McNeil, ASCLS-GA's nomination for Young Professional of the Year



Michelle Butina, ASCLS Leadership Academy



Elizabeth Leibach, ASCLS-GA's nomination for Member of the Year

Upcoming Events

2010 Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference

February 25-27; Biloxi/Gulfport, MS

2010 Legislative Symposium

March 15-16; Washington DC

2010 ASCLS-GA One-Day Education Conference

March 26; Savannah, GA (see Pages 8-10)

2010 ASCLS-GA Annual Business Meeting

March 26; Savannah, GA

2010 ASCLS Annual Meeting

July 27-31; Anaheim, CA

2010 ASCLS Region III Triennial Meeting

September 22-24; Savannah, GA



Website:

<http://www.asclsgeorgia.org>

For questions and comments, or if you would like to contribute to future issues, please contact Barbara Russell at brussell@mcg.edu



ASCLS - Georgia One-day Education Conference In Savannah, GA



Friday - March 26th, 2010
Quality Inn Midtown Business Center
8:00am until 5:30pm

This conference is organized by ASCLS of Georgia. Speakers will provide case studies to enhance lab professionals, educators, and student's knowledge in hematology, chemistry, blood bank, lab management, microbiology, & mycology.
P.A.C.E. credit available



Hotel Information:
Quality Inn Midtown
7100 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31406
(912) 352-7100

Directions from Jacksonville:

- Take I-95 North to exit 94
- Hwy 204 toward Savannah to Hotel
- Right at Abercorn to Hotel

Directions from Atlanta/ Savannah Airport

- I-16 to I-516 Exit 164 A
- Turns into DeRenne Avenue
- Right at Abercorn to Hotel

Price of Conference:

\$35.00 - Professionals

\$25.00 - Students

For more information: Contact Chad Guilliams at Chad.Guilliams@armstrong.edu

**ASCLS - Georgia
One-day Education Conference
In Savannah, GA**

Friday - March 26th, 2010

Schedule of Sessions

<u>Times</u>	<u>Sessions</u>
8:00 to 8:30	Arrival. Coffee available
8:30 to 9:00	Welcome & Award Presentations
9:00 to 10:00	Dynamic Chemistry
10:00 to 11:00	Microbiology is Fundamental
11:00 to 12:00	Hematology for All
12:00 to 1:30	Break for Professionals & Students
<i>Student Elections & Lunch Professional Roundtables & Lunch</i>	
1:30 to 2:30	Blood Banking Concepts
2:30 to 3:30	Management of Laboratory Operations
3:30 to 4:30	Cases in Clinical Laboratory Science
4:30 to 5:30	Annual Business Meeting
5:30	Closing/ Dismissal

**ASCLS - Georgia
One-day Education Conference
In Savannah, GA**

Registration Form

Full Name _____

Current Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email _____

Please select one of the following:

_____ **Professional** **\$35.00 (\$40.00 at the door)**

_____ **Student** **\$25.00 (\$30.00 at the door)**

Checks or money orders should be made out to the ASCLS-GA and mailed to:

**ASCLS-Georgia
Lester Pretlow, Treasurer
1059 Hampstead Place
Augusta, GA 30907**

Early registration ends March 12th, 2010.