



# THE CULTURE

## New Professionals and New Members Forum E-Newsletter

### Another Great Year Ahead for the NPNMF

By: Karen Larson, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, NPNMF Chair  
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It is hard to believe that this is already my third year in the New Professionals and New Members Forum! It has been a privilege to watch our group grow, change, and develop. When I first joined four years ago, we were still known as the New Professionals Committee - a smaller group that only represented new professionals. We have continued to develop and expand our reach under the guidance of many talented leaders and advisors. Our forum now proudly serves both new professionals in the first five years of their medical laboratory career and new members in the first five years of their membership in ASCLS. I am honored to serve as the NPNMF Chair this year and feel lucky we have such a committed team of NPNMF leaders at the national, regional, and state levels!

This year we are putting a special focus on communication. One of the best things about ASCLS

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*Keep Calm and Put your Lab Coat On*

is that it is a grassroots organization - everyone can participate and everyone can have their voice heard. We not only want to improve the way we keep you updated about what is happening, we also want to offer you more ways to share your thoughts and opinions with us. I am excited to share the many ways we will stay connected with you this year. Here's to another great year in the NPNMF!

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## Four Days in Philly

By: Kelley Weber, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
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This August, I had the privilege of attending the 2016 ASCLS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. I was able to do this thanks to a generous grant from ASCLS's New Professionals and New Members Forum (NPNMF). This grant is available to ASCLS members who have been part of the organization for less than five years or who have been working in the field for less than five years. This grant was established in hopes of encouraging newer members to get further involved in the organization, and I myself enjoyed the opportunity to observe how ASCLS functions at the national level.

Attending an annual meeting is an experience I encourage for all ASCLS members and laboratory professionals. This was my first experience at an annual meeting, so it was a tremendous learning opportunity for me. This event provides an unmatched opportunity for networking – bringing together laboratory professionals from all over the country to discuss the state of our profession.

Continuing education lectures featured expert speakers from all walks of lab  
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Kelley Weber at the ASCLS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia

## Committee Spotlights from New Professionals

### *Leadership Development Committee*

“The Leadership Development Committee has creative ideas this term in how to recruit with leadership potential and retain laboratory professionals. We're going to work diligently to ensure our profession has the leadership needed to help encourage new professionals such as myself. I hope to gain a better understanding of what ASCLS is as well as what the organization's core values are and what they stand for. I'm also looking forward to gaining some great leadership techniques and learning more about my first position on a committee in ASCLS.”

-**Michael Iodice**, iodicemichael@gmail.com  
 Leadership Development Committee New Professional

### *Product Development Committee*

“As a New Professional on the Product Development Committee for ASCLS, I hope to gain insight into the process of product and test development for clinical laboratory testing. I get to see the products once they reach the lab, but I want to learn more about the process before it reaches us (laboratory professionals). I'm confident that I will receive valuable guidance and experience through membership on the Product Development Committee this year.”

-**Michelle Campbell**, campbell118266@yahoo.com  
 Product Development Committee New Professional

## Rising Through the Ranks

By: Ian Wallace, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, ASCLS-CO President  
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It seems crazy to me that just four years ago, I was first learning about what ASCLS is and I have now accepted the position of President for my state. Over the years, I have learned a lot about the many aspects of our organization as well as how to grow and utilize the opportunities available to us just by being a member. It is through these opportunities that I have been able to see the successes of not only myself, but my peers as well.

First and foremost, do not be afraid to say hello. I know this is easier said than done, but I cannot express enough how grateful I am for taking that first step to introduce myself to other attendees at any ASCLS event. The people I have met at these events have exposed me to new job opportunities, have been resources for essentially any question I may have surrounding my career, and have supported me in any struggle I have faced in both my personal and professional life. The members of this organization want to see each and every one of us succeed in every aspect of our lives and it has been an incredible thing to not only witness, but to be part of.

Secondly, branch out. This alone has opened my eyes to not only show me how much I can accomplish when I take on a task, but how I can affect the future of my career. ASCLS offers so many ways to get involved. I urge each and every one of you to take the chance and sit on, or better yet, participate in a committee that interests you or even attend a board meeting and speak your mind as to what concerns you as a member. Your voice could revolutionize the society so never forget that. By jumping into committees, I have helped local communities via the HOPE Project as part of the Promotion of the Profession Committee, have spoken to representatives in Washington D.C. about



governmental regulations that could impact our jobs with the help of the Government Affairs and Political Action Committees, and have fundraised and been published through the New Professionals and New Members Forum. The ASCLS Leadership Academy also taught me invaluable skills that helped my personal skills grow monumentally and set me on the course that I am on now. It amazes me that without the resources that ASCLS provides, I do not think any of these events would have been possible. What you put into this organization is given back to you tenfold.

Lastly, always make sure to have fun! That's all I have to say for this. While there can be a lot of work involved with being members of ASCLS, we always strive to have great times. That alone makes this organization incredibly worthwhile and one that I am extremely proud to be a part of.

By using these "tips," I hope that you too can stay the course and help bring about a new voice and vision for the future of ASCLS. We can only thrive with your membership and participation and I thank you in advance for all you do by simply calling yourself a member of this amazing group of medical laboratory professionals.

## Another Great Year... (Continued)

### Online Member Community:

We are thrilled to use our new ASCLS Online Member Community to bring you discussion topics, blog posts, resources, and updates on what's happening. Log on at <http://connect.ascls.org> and choose "Communities." After finding "New Professionals and New Members Forum," click "Join." Whenever someone writes something new, you'll receive an automatic e-mail with a link to the discussion. This website is smart-phone friendly so you can use it on the go. We have nearly 3,400 members already and we'd love to have you too!

### Chair's Monthly Highlights:

This year I'll be communicating with each of you on a monthly basis with brief updates about what we're doing. We hope you'll feel even more connected this way. I encourage each of you to share your feedback with us throughout the year! Let us know how we can serve you better! You'll find my monthly highlights on our webpage, <http://ascls.org/new-professional-new-member-forum>, and our Online Member Community.

### Social Media:

For those of you on Facebook, we have some exciting new posts we'll be sharing with you on a regular basis! Every week you'll find new content on continuing education opportunities, ways to advance your career, and posts about book suggestions, interesting scientific articles, blogs, and more. You can join our Facebook group by searching, "ASCLS NPNMF Group." We have nearly 300 members and hope you will join in for the fun. Stay tuned for more ways to keep in touch on social media - we're exploring LinkedIn.

### E-Newsletters:

Yay! You're already here! We'll bring you useful information and share our voices. In this issue you'll even get to know our many NPNMF leaders as they introduce themselves. We have a fabulous line-up of authors ready to contribute, so be sure to catch all four issues this year.

## BREAK ROOM

Clinical Laboratory Scientist... because without me, your doctor is just guessing.

someecards  
LIGHT HEARTY

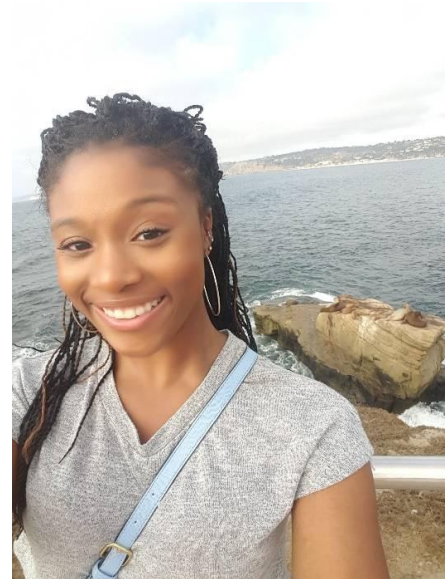


Make these fun cookies for your lab! Check out the recipe at: <http://www.southernfatty.com/cell-cookies/>

## Board of Directors Update

Hey New Professionals and New Members,

As the New Professional and New Member Director I am the Board Liaison for the NPNMF, therefore I communicate the Forum's needs, questions, comments, and concerns to the Board of Directors on our behalf. In this role, I also have the awesome responsibility of sitting on the Annual Meeting Steering Committee (AMSC). This year we held the AMSC Meeting in sunny San Diego, California. This is appropriate, because the 2017 Annual Meeting will take place there from Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 (save the date!). The 2017 Annual Meeting is to be held in the beautiful Downtown Gas Lamp Quarter at the Omni San Diego Hotel. The role of the Annual Meeting Steering Committee is to plan the year's upcoming Annual Meeting in an action packed weekend full of lots of brainstorming, decision making, food, and a little fun. My role, as NPNM Director was to communicate the needs and desires of both the Student Forum and the New Professionals and New Members Forum. This year's AMSC Chair, Melanie Giusti, was a joy to work with alongside the rest of the committee, and we accomplished so much in a very short period



Jazmen Myers at La Jolla Cove in San Diego

of time. With the help of our new Executive Vice President, Jim Flanigan, we learned about new interesting and dynamic ways to structure sessions that would be both engaging and even interactive for conference goers. As a newbie to the Annual Meeting Steering Committee, I can most definitely say this was a collective labor of love, and I hope the fruits of our labor will be enjoyed by not only you all, but the entire organization and other guests in attendance. I can't wait for you all to see the new program layout, and I am even more excited to see all your smiling faces next summer in sunshiny San Diego.

In other news with the Board of Directors, we held our annual Board Orientation conference call this month. The purpose of this call is to orient new Board Members (the Student Forum Chair and newly appointed Region Directors) to the Board, and give them pertinent information such as our policies, procedures, and other forms they will use in their subsequent years on the BOD. We have our Fall Board Meeting coming up in November. On this call we will discuss all the board reports received representing every state, region, and committee operating within ASCLS. The next time we all will meet face to face is the Interim Board Meeting in Alexandria, VA which coincides with the Annual Legislative Symposium aka Leg Day. Leg Day is an annual ASCLS organized meeting taking place in Alexandria, VA and Washington D.C. from March 20<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> (save the date!). This is such an important meeting and if you want your voice to be heard by your congress(wo)men and senators, this is the event to attend. We discuss current legislature and policy affecting medical laboratory professionals in detail, and then we go out state by state and lobby on the hill on behalf of our profession. I cannot think of a more exciting or better way to get involved and make a real difference in our profession. If you can attend, I strongly encourage you all to do so next year.

As a board member and leader for the forum, I am so humbled and proud to serve the amazing new professionals and members of this society. It is my hope that alongside Karen and the rest of our amazing forum that we will accomplish great things to benefit you all and ASCLS as a whole.

Best Wishes,  
Jazmen Myers, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
*ASCLS New Professional and New Member Director*  
*ASCLS Annual Meeting Steering Committee*  
jazmen.bria.myers@gmail.com

### Four Days in Philly... (Continued)

life. George Fritsma, MS, author of the popular coagulation blog “The Fritsma Factor” was on hand to discuss the latest on Trauma-Induced Coagulopathy and the Massive Transfusion Protocol. I also particularly enjoyed the lectures of Marcus McKinney, D.Minn, and Gerald Redwine, PhD. Both speakers’ topics discussed the unique challenges of bringing effective patient care to under-served populations; Dr. McKinney spoke of his work in community health care in Connecticut, while Dr. Redwine discussed his research with Type II Diabetes and the African American population in the southern United States. These are discussions laboratorians and health care providers need to keep having in order to be sure that we are providing the right kind of care to all of our patients. I am grateful that ASCLS is conscious of the importance of these issues.

It was not all business in Philadelphia; there was fun to be had. Each evening brought festivities such as dinner parties at various restaurants around town, pub crawls to sample the local scene, and the President’s Reception on Wednesday night to help raise funds for scholarships and the ASCLS PAC. I even had some down time to explore the sights and sounds of the city. Attractions like the Philadelphia Museum of Art (don’t forget to get your picture taken with Rocky), the Liberty Bell, and Independence Hall are not to be missed.

Thank you to the NPNMF for giving me the opportunity to participate in the meeting. I highly encourage all interested new professionals and new members to apply for next year.

See you in San Diego!  
July 30<sup>th</sup> -August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017

### ASCLS NPNMF 2016-2017 Leadership Roster

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
<b>Chair</b>	Karen Larson	klarso42@fairview.org
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Kelcey Harper	kelcey.harper9@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Tiffany Montalvo	tiffany.montalvo@sdsta.edu
<b>Board Liaison</b>	Jazmen Myers	jazmen.bria.myers@gmail.com
<b>Advisor</b>	Gilma Roncancio-Weemer	gilma.roncancio-weemer@hshs.org
<b>Staff Liaison</b>	Andrea Hickey	andrea@ascls.org
<b>Past-Chair</b>	Gretchen Brocksmith	gkbrocksmith@gmail.com
<b>Region I</b>	Nathan Howell	howell.nathan.s@gmail.com
<b>Region II</b>	Alexa Pierce-Matlack	alexapm@udel.edu
<b>Region II</b>	Rebecca Matthews	rebeccamatthews2012@gmail.com
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<b>Region VII</b>	Cherika Robertson	cnrobertson@uams.edu
<b>Region VII</b>	James Gardner	gardnejp@yahoo.com
<b>Region VIII</b>	Elizabeth LeFors	e.stepplefors@gmail.com
<b>Region IX</b>	Vathani Logendran	vathani.logendran@gmail.com
<b>Region X</b>	Amanda Reiner	areiner8182@gmail.com



## ASCLS NPNMF 2016 - 2017 Leadership Biographies

### **Karen Larson** ASCLS NPNMF Chair

My name is Karen Larson and I am honored to serve as your NPNMF Chair. I first joined ASCLS during my clinical rotation in 2012, serving as the Student Forum Chair for Minnesota and Region V. I became more involved in ASCLS because I wanted to grow as a leader and connect with professionals who share my passion for laboratory medicine. By being involved, I have gained many ASCLS mentors and friends whose guidance and support is invaluable. I am now a Laboratory Supervisor for Fairview Clinics in Burnsville and Bloomington, Minnesota. I can't wait to see where this year takes us as we work together to achieve our shared goals!



### **Kelcey Harper** ASCLS NPNMF Vice-Chair

Hi everyone! I grew up in Massachusetts and graduated from the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2016 with a BS degree in Medical Laboratory Science. After graduation, I began working as a generalist at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston, MA. From 2015-2016, I served as both Student Forum Chair for ASCLS-Central New England and Region I Student Forum Representative. I also served as the Student Forum Liaison to the Diversity Advocacy Council. As Student Forum Chair, I helped plan a successful student day at the ASCLS-CNE Annual Meeting in Providence, RI. Currently, I'm the First Year Professional Director for Central New England. I am excited to be a part of the NPNMF and cannot wait to see what we can accomplish together this year! I enjoy skiing & playing guitar. I'm an avid Boston sports fan and enjoy cheering on my UMass Lowell River Hawks Hockey team!



### **Tiffany Montalvo** ASCLS NPNMF Secretary

My name is Tiffany Montalvo and I am currently the NPNMF Secretary. I graduated in 2015 from South Dakota State University and am living in Clear Lake, SD. I now work for South Dakota State University as a laboratory support specialist for the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program. I assist in the preparation and facilitation of the labs for the students, as well as tutoring them on all subjects. I have a strong passion for learning and interacting with people, and my hope is to combine those two passions as I continue with ASCLS. I am confident that this year will be another great one for the NPNMF and I am so excited to be a part of it!



**Jazmen Myers**  
**New Professional and New Member Director**

Hi y'all! I am Jazmen Myers, the 2016-17 New Professional and New Member Director. I graduated from Texas State University's Clinical Laboratory Science program in August of 2015. I currently work as a third shift microbiologist in Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas' Microbiology and Special Procedures Laboratory; I absolutely love what I do! In my spare time I enjoy serving and attending church, spending time with my loved ones, cooking, traveling, working-out, and learning new things. I am so excited to serve the NPNMF this year, and I'm so excited to see what we can accomplish!



**Gilma Roncancio-Weemer**  
**Advisor**

My name is Gilma Roncancio-Weemer and I'm the program director for a hospital based clinical laboratory science program at HSHS St. John's Hospital Springfield, IL. I am the appointed Advisor to the NPNMF and as such I provide the Forum officers with guidance and mentoring, educating them about ASCLS protocols and operating procedure. I have served ASCLS in many leadership positions from the local to national level. When I was the ASCLS Secretary/Treasurer I served as the Board liaison to the task force that recommended the restructure resulting in the formation of the NPNMF. I have been fortunate to be involved with the Forum since its inception and so proud of the ongoing Forum accomplishments. If you're a new member or new professional, you're in great hands so let the Forum leaders know what ASCLS can do for you!



**Gretchen Brocksmith**  
**NPNMF Past-Chair**

Hey!! I am Gretchen Brocksmith. I am the NPNMF Past-Chair. I currently work at Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans in the Hematology Lab. I absolutely love my job!! One of my favorite aspects about ASCLS is going to the Legislative Symposium where we get to voice our ideas about the laboratory profession. My hobbies include running, weight lifting, and cooking.



**Nathan Howell: Region I Communication Coordinator**

My name is Nathan Howell and I am the Region I Communication Coordinator. I recently graduated from the Clinical Laboratory Science program at Stony Brook University. I am currently working in the Chemistry department of the Automated laboratory for Northwell Health's Core laboratory. I have been involved with ASCLS at the state level since my junior year in 2014 as a Student Representative, and have just transitioned to our New Professional Representative. When not working, I enjoy gaming, watching hockey, woodworking, exercising, and practicing and competing in triathlons.



**Alexa Pierce-Matlack:** Region II Co-Communication Coordinator

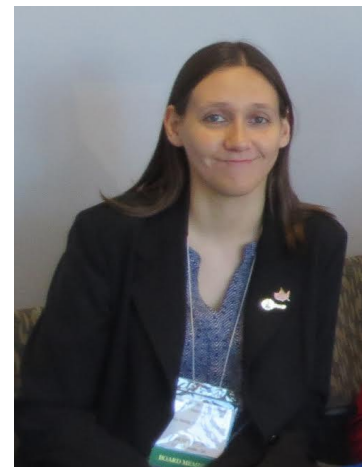
My name is Alexa Pierce-Matlack and I am the Region II Co-Communication Coordinator. I graduated from the University of Delaware in 2015 with a BS in Medical Laboratory Sciences. I work third shift in the Microbiology lab at Christiana Care Health System in Newark, Delaware. I served as the ASCLS-DE student representative from 2013-2015 and I also served as the president for the student run club for our MLS program at UD from 2013-2015. Through the Honors Program and Dr. McLane, I had the opportunity to attend the Legislative Symposium in 2014. It was a wonderful first step into this entire organization and I was able to learn many new things about politics and government policy with regards to the healthcare field. Outside of work, I am involved in both Girl Scouts of America as a Gold Award review committee member and as a volunteer for the Daughters of the American Revolution. I also love watching and playing sports, crafts, and traveling. I'm currently in the process of getting scuba certified!

**Rebecca Matthews:** Region II Co-Communication Coordinator

Hello fellow lab people! My name is Rebecca Matthews and I will be serving this year as your Region II New Professionals Co-Communication coordinator. I have been actively involved in ASCLS throughout my 2 years as a student, and I am excited to transition into the new professional world with my ASCLS family. I hail from Richmond, Virginia, born and raised. After graduating in May, I am settling into my first full-time position as a generalist with Southside Regional Medical Center in Petersburg where I will be working night shift. I believe having a voice within our profession is a key component to providing the best patient care possible, and I realize that even more now that I am a new professional. I am excited for us to develop our voices together and serve as an advocate for laboratory medicine!

**Ally Storla:** Region III Communication Coordinator

I am Ally Storla and I graduated from the Medical College of Georgia's Clinical Laboratory Science program in December of 2013 and I was hired by WellStar Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, Georgia in January 2014. I have been working for almost 2 years as a generalist. When I was a student, I won the first annual Media Lab's scholarship offered to Medical Laboratory Science students in Georgia to attend the 2014 National ASCLS Meeting in Chicago. From that moment on I was hooked! I have been very active in ASCLS Georgia and I've become active on the Regional level serving as the Region III Communication Coordinator as well as on the National level serving as the New Professional Rep for the National Political Action Committee or (PAC). I am currently enrolled in the 10<sup>th</sup> Leadership Academy Class. Last year with the help of many wonderful people in ASCLS, we launched the first annual virtual Lab Week Run and we hope to have another very successful fundraiser run again this year.

**Kelsey Jones:** Region IV Communication Coordinator

My name is Kelsey Jones. I was born and raised in Mid-West Michigan in a very small town where I was very active in sports and outdoor activities. After high school I moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan to attend Eastern Michigan University for my CLS degree and also played for the school's volleyball team. I have always had a love for science and ever since a job shadowing experience in high school, I've wanted to become a Medical Laboratory Scientist! I just graduated in April, 2016 and I am happy to be starting my career at the University of Michigan Health System in the Hematology Laboratory, and looking forward to continue learning through work and ASCLS.

**Bridget Parsons:** Region V Communication Coordinator

My name is Bridget Parsons and I am the Region V Communication Coordinator. I graduated from South Dakota State University in 2015 and I now work in St. Cloud, Minnesota as a Generalist at the St. Cloud Hospital. My passion for ASCLS began at my first state meeting in South Dakota, where I was elected the Student Representative. From there, I have experience as the Region V Student Representative, Central Minnesota Junior Representative, and Central Minnesota Senior Representative. Last year, I was honored to be awarded the National Student Leadership award, and I continue to strive to live up to this. ASCLS has allowed me to meet so many extraordinary people, who have become my friends and mentors and I am so appreciative for the opportunities it has allowed me to be a part of.

**Stephanie Godfrey:** Region VI Communication Coordinator.

My name is Stephanie Godfrey. I am the Region VI Communication Coordinator. I was born and grew up in Kansas. I am the Pres-Elect for ASCLS-Missouri. I have been a lab scientist for 3 years with a focus in blood banking. I currently work at Community Blood Center in Kansas City, MO. I became a member of ASCLS in 2011 as a student and I am in my first 3 years of practicing lab medicine in the field. Some fun facts about me are that I enjoy genealogy, walking/hiking, working out puzzles (e.g. Sudoku, Escape rooms) and spending time with family and friends. I look forward to getting to know everyone this year.

**Cherika Robertson:** Region VII Co-Communication Coordinator

I'm the Co-Communication Coordinator for Region VII. I live outside of Little Rock, AR and work as a Laboratory Scientist at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. I have over eight years of experience in the lab, with an extensive background in blood bank and cytogenetics. I recently moved from the clinical side of the lab to the academic side, working with students during their academic, hands-on labs and serving as faculty instructor of hematology. I also serve as a board member for the Arkansas chapter of ASCLS. When I'm not working, I enjoy being outdoors: hiking, fishing, kayaking, and camping. I'm married to my husband of 10 years and we have one son, Harper, who is 3 years old.

**James Gardner:** Region VII Co-Communication Coordinator

My name is James Gardner and I am the Region VII Co-Communication Coordinator. I am from Monroe, LA and currently working the night shift at Glenwood Regional Medical Center in West Monroe. This is my second year working with the NPNMF and also serving on the Government Affairs Committee (GAC) as the New Professional Representative. In my spare time, I enjoy traveling the country, being outdoors, and playing soccer on the off chance.

**Elizabeth LeFors:** Region VIII Communication Coordinator

I'm Elizabeth LeFors and I am currently the Region VIII NPNM Communication Coordinator. I am also the NPNM Representative, co-webmaster and fundraising chair for Colorado. I earned a B.S. in Microbiology from Mississippi State University and my MLS from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. I joined ASCLS in 2014 before starting my clinical rotations. In the spring of 2015 I was elected as Colorado's Student Forum Representative. I was then elected as the National Student Forum Secretary at my first annual meeting in Atlanta in 2015. I currently work at Memorial Central Hospital in Colorado Springs as a night shift generalist. Aside from working and ASCLS, I stay active in my community through P.E.O, D.A.R, Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity, the Pikes Peak Flute Choir, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic Orchestra, and the 71st Group 62nd Battalion FRG. I also enjoy gaming, cosplaying, reading, writing, singing, and baking.

**Vathani Logendran:** Region IX Communication Coordinator

Hi everyone! I'm Vathani Logendran, I'm from Oregon and I'm the Region IX Communication Coordinator. I graduated from Oregon State University with a B.S. in Biology and an option in Marine Biology in 2012. I completed two amazing years of AmeriCorps, which allowed me to travel the country and do incredible team-based service projects. I graduated with my B.S. in Medical Lab Sciences from Oregon Institute of Technology in 2015, and currently work as an evening shift generalist at Mercy Medical Center in Roseburg, OR. I love being involved in ASCLS, and I truly cherish the opportunities, experiences, and friendships this organization continually brings. I'm excited to be a part of the NPNMF! At my first annual meeting, I was elected the Vice Chair for the National Student Forum. I'm currently the Assistant Editor for The Centrifuge, which is the ASCLS-OR Newsletter. I'm also the New Professional for ASCLS-OR. I enjoy traveling, hiking, photography, trying new food, and playing the violin. My biggest dream is to travel to all seven continents!

**Amanda Reiner:** Region X Communication Coordinator

My name is Amanda Reiner, and I am the region X communications coordinator. I graduated from the University of California Santa Cruz with a bachelor's degree in Molecular Biology. My journey in the clinical lab began when I started working in a Molecular diagnostics lab in Honolulu, Hawaii. My passion for working in the lab is immense, and I love being on the forefront of all the new exciting science that is emerging. I was introduced to ASCLS through my manager, which at the time was the Hawaii ASCLS president. After involvement with some small local ASCLS events, she invited me to attend the 2016 legislative symposiums. It was then that I became greatly moved by all the work that ASCLS is doing for the clinical laboratory community. Moving forward, I hope to make a difference in the clinical laboratory community through my involvement in ASCLS, and feel very grateful to be a part of the new professionals and new members community!



## Purpose and Charges of the ASCLS NPNMF 2016-2017

The **purpose** of the ASCLS NPNMF is to engage and inform individuals new to the profession and ASCLS about the various opportunities that membership affords. Forum driven activities will support the needs and interests of Forum members.

**Charge 1:** Establish a key network of those members interested in participating in efforts of the NPNMF and communicate with them on a monthly basis.

**Charge 2:** Educate members of the NPNMF on ASCLS and opportunities within ASCLS so all involved gain a better understanding of the inner workings of ASCLS.

**Charge 3:** Identify the needs of those new to the profession and/or ASCLS to determine how ASCLS can help meet those needs as an organization.

If you have an announcement, article or essay you would like to contribute to *The Culture*, please feel free to submit it for publication! Please send ideas and submissions with the subject line, "NPNMF E-Newsletter Submission" to Vathani Logendran at [vathani.logendran@gmail.com](mailto:vathani.logendran@gmail.com)

Visit our website at <http://www.ascls.org/new-professional-new-member-forum>

### What's the buzz?

This year, the ASCLS NPNMF has started some fun, helpful, and informative columns on our Facebook page! Check out the summaries for more information on these new columns below!

1. **Maintenance Monday:** Continuing education related posts so you can stay up to date on your CE Credits!
2. **Fast Track Friday:** Posts on the importance of professionalism in this field. The side effect from the shortage in our field is a lot of younger individuals are moving up the ladder very quickly in their hospitals.
3. **Spotlight Saturday:** Interesting books/multimedia related posts as well as showcasing individuals in ASCLS. This column will be posted as often as we have content.

Join and check out our NPNMF Facebook page for these posts and more! Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NPNMF/>

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**Co-Editors:** Kelcey Harper and Vathani Logendran

**Assistant Editor:** Gretchen Brocksmith