

STUDENT FORUM

E-newsletter

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WHAT IS THE STUDENT FORUM?

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science is a national association representing over 9,000 professionals and students in various medical laboratory fields. It provides advocacy, education, and personal and professional development for its members. ASCLS's mission is to make a positive impact in healthcare through leadership that will assure excellence in the practice of laboratory medicine.

The ASCLS student forum coordinates the involvement and interest of students in the field and the society. We provide students with a voice to express their ideas, opinions and concerns. We educate students in the concepts of professionalism and provide them with information and support throughout their college career.

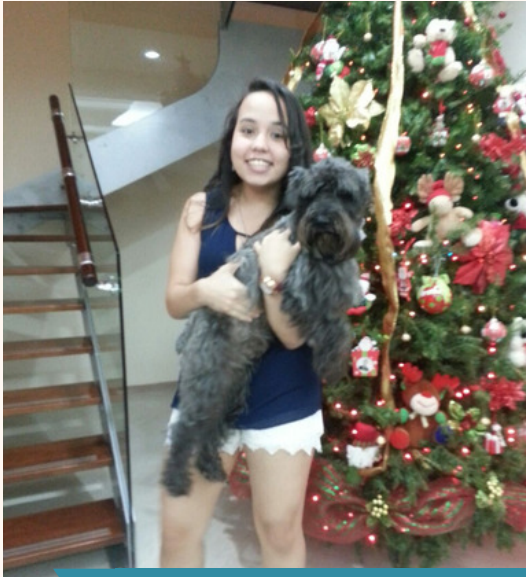
ASCLS student members not only have the privilege of participating in the Student Forum, but also have the opportunity to take a look at the role they will be playing in the healthcare field, network with fellow students and laboratory professionals, and get information about prospective job opportunities.

The student forum is composed of the Student Forum officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary), Regional student reps, State student reps, and every ASCLS student member. Together we strive to give students a safe space to express their concerns and interests. We are here to help you to find your place not only in the society, but also in the profession.

Please do not hesitate in contacting us with questions, comments and/or concerns. We will be happy to help!

Meet Your Student Officers

CHAIR



Maria Rodriguez

I am honored to be serving as your 2017-2018 Student Forum Chair, and to have served you as your Student Forum secretary and Region VIII student representative for 2016-2017. I am originally from Venezuela, but I have been in the States for the past 5 years. I graduated the past May from Montana State University with a Bachelor of science in Microbiology and a leadership certification. I just started my clinicals rotations at Bozeman Deaconess and I could not be happier to finally be at the lab. Outside of the lab, I love getting involved in my community, reading journals, cooking and singing. I became a member of ASCLS back in 2015, when I decided that it was time for me to work on my networking and leadership skills. Being part of the Forum last year, gave the opportunity not only to experience all the opportunities that ASCLS has for us, but also to meet amazing individuals and understand all the political and legal issues that affect our profession and how we can make a difference. This year, I hope I can provide students the best resources of this field and help them get involved outside of their classroom.

Contact Maria: studentforumchair@gmail.com

VICE-CHAIR

My name is Erin Barger and I am delighted to be serving as your 2017-2018 Student Forum Vice Chair and Region IV representative. I am currently in my last year of MLS studies at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. I was given the opportunity to attend the 2017 ASCLS Legislative Symposium in our nation's capital where I was introduced to all the issues facing our organization and our profession, and I wanted to be involved.....

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Contact Erin: studentforumvicechair@gmail.com



Erin Barger

SECRETARY



Shantol Mitchel

I am currently a senior MLS Student at Armstrong State University in Savannah, Ga. I was born and raised in the State of Georgia; however, I have recently relocated to Jacksonville, FL to complete my clinical rotations at The Mayo Clinic. In addition, I am the ASCLS-Ga Student Forum Chair. My love for science began at a young age. I have always been inquisitive about the chemical and biological basis of human life. Science amazed me. It answered questions I had about the world around me. Because of this I chose to pursue a career in MLS and have had the opportunity to participate in numerous research projects across the sciences. It is with great pleasure that I am able to serve on the board this year. My primary goal for this year is to unite the regions of ASCLS and provide an avenue for improved communication between our members. Within ASCLS is a wealth of knowledge and resources for professionals as well as students and it is my hope that this year's board can help you develop the skills and connections to build a thriving career in CLS.

Contact Shantol: StudentForumSecretary@gmail.com

Meet Your Region Reps

VICE-CHAIR/REGION IV



Erin Barger

My name is Erin Barger and I am delighted to be serving as your 2017-2018 Student Forum Vice Chair and Region IV representative. I am currently in my last year of MLS studies at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. I was given the opportunity to attend the 2017 ASCLS Legislative Symposium in our nation's capital where I was introduced to all the issues facing our organization and our profession, and I wanted to be involved. After attending the ASCLS-Ohio State Meeting, I was determined to attend the Annual Meeting in San Diego and to be as involved as possible. Now, here I am! I see this as an opportunity to help bridge the gap between students and professionals. I think students are a massive force within ASCLS and I want you to see that you can make a difference in your chosen profession NOW; that ASCLS can help you out through scholarships and many opportunities. Please reach out to us if you have questions about the organization, where you fit in, and how you can get involved, and what opportunities are available.

Contact Erin: studentforumvicechair@gmail.com

State representatives:

Indiana: Ming Yang

Kentucky: Mark Campbell

Michigan: Darby Naheedy

Ohio: Vacant

REGION V

Hello, my name is Emily Nagel, and I am a senior in the MLS program at South Dakota State University. I hold the spot for the Region 5 student representative and I am the president of SDSU's MLS club. I call Medford MN home, but currently live in Marshall MN (and this is where I will be doing my spring semester clinicals.) I am very excited to hold this position and I am hoping to put forward some great things for the students that I work with, and look forward to hearing/ implementing all of the students ideas. In my little bit of free time I enjoy volunteering at the local humane society and reading anything I can get my hands on.

Contact Emily: emily.nagel@jacks.sdstate.edu

State representatives:

Wisconsin: Alexandra Nussbaum Minnesota: Taylor Hanson

South Dakota: Lauren Goos

North Dakota: Ali Hassan



Emily Nagel

Meet Your Region Reps

REGION VI



Wendy Wang

Hi Friends! I am the Student Representative for both Region VI and the wonderful state of Kansas. I one day aspire to be a crazy cat lady, but I suppose working in medical science is the next best thing. I wanted to join ASCLS to get more involved in the professional environment. I don't think enough people know about this amazing and important profession, so I wanted to be a part of sharing it with others. Also as an obligate introvert masquerading as an extrovert, it would let me meet and network with other people like me. Right now, I'm currently finishing up my time at the University of Kansas Medical Center. I've already sat for the ASCP Molecular Biotechnologist certification exam and will be taking the MLS one soon. I'm so excited to say that I also have a job lined up for me working at Children's Mercy in Kansas City. I'm going to be in the Clinical Pharmacology lab researching how subtle genetic differences between people affect how they metabolize pharmaceuticals. I'm also looking for a PRN hospital position as well, so I can stay close to the clinical side. My lab passions are Microbiology and Blood Bank. Beyond the windowless walls of the laboratory, I like to occasionally come into contact with sunlight. I spend a lot of time trying to walk my cats, rock climbing, eat copious amounts of food, and practicing my photography skills.

Contact Wendy: wwang5@kumc.edu

State representatives:

Illinois: Jessica Sheffield

Kansas: Wendy Wang

Missouri: Caleb Brown

Nebraska: Vacant

Iowa: Vacant

REGION VII

I could best describe myself as dedicated, hard-working and out-going. Even from the young age of fourteen I found myself with the desire to work. With a work-permit and dedication, I took that first job at a daycare and turned it into six years of service and over two thousand volunteer hours through buddy programs and homeless shelters. I exited high school in the top five of my class with twenty college hours and immediately started working towards acceptance into Louisiana State's University at Alexandria's program for Medical Laboratory Science. As I began researching the field and digging into laboratory life at school, it struck me that it would become much more than a career. Medical Laboratory Science has and will continue to become a passion. I was honored with the opportunity to further my leadership and organization skills as president of Louisiana State University at Alexandria's chapter of Gamma Lambda Tau organization for Medical Laboratory Scientist. I look forward to any prospect to gain further knowledge of Medical Laboratory Science and exploring the groups and organizations for future professionals, such as yourselves.

Contact Kyleigh: KEllis004@lsua.edu



Kyleigh Ellis

State representatives:

Arkansas: Hanah Carmer

Louisiana: Tara Gengarelly

Texas: Sylvia Guevara

Oklahoma:

New Mexico:

Meet Your Region Reps

REGION IX



Timothy Olden

Hello everyone, my name is Timothy Olden, and I am excited to be the Region IX Student Representative. I was lucky enough to stumble across the Medical Laboratory Science field. Ever since I was a kid I had always dreamed of having a job where I got to wear my white lab coat and look creatures under a microscope. At the same time my father who is a Family Physician instilled the importance of working in healthcare and giving back to the community. I originally went to Washington State University knowing I wanted to do something in biology related. Somehow along the road I ended up getting myself stuck in Biochemistry and in my senior year realized I wasn't doing something I was passionate about. I ended up moving back home and decided to try out a phlebotomy program at a local community college. It was during that program my mentor showed me the Medical Laboratory Science field and was immediately hooked. I was excited to finally find a profession that lets me wear my white lab coat while being a part of patient care. I was fortunate enough to live close to Heritage University in Toppenish, Washington that had such a program and quickly enrolled. It has been a long road for me, but I am thrilled to start my clinical rotation this coming January and be part of a profession that I am passionate about. Ultimately, I hope to stay within the community I grew up in and work within the Microbiology department of a hospital. I am also excited to work with ASCLS and the opportunities it presents of working with other students and professionals in our field. I think it is important to look at our profession as a community and the ways we can help each other improve for the betterment of patient care.

Contact Tim: OldenT@heritage.edu

State representatives:

Alaska: Courtney Bennetts

Oregon: Rachel Eberhard

Washington: Holly Silver

Do not miss our next issue to meet

Region I: Ryan Barry

Region II: John Frederick

Region VIII: Sam Buck

Region X: Ivan Sanchez

Join an ASCLS Committee

Students are encouraged to serve on ASCLS committees to increase their knowledge about the society's diverse activities!

As a Student serving on ASCLS Committees you shall:

1. Represent the Student Forum by communicating the needs and concerns of students in regard to the activity of the respective committee; and, contributing student input to the committee when requested by the ASCLS Committee Chair.
2. Keep the Student Forum informed of their activity and input while serving on the committee.
3. Attend the respective ASCLS Committee meetings when possible to increase participation and input from the Student Forum and to broaden student understanding of committee activities.
4. Send copies of all correspondence to Student Forum Officers, the Student Forum Advisor and the Chair of the ASCLS Committee on which they are serving.
5. Maintain a current file of all activities and correspondence.

Awards: Coordinates all activities on publication, description, nomination, selection and presentation of Societal awards.

Bylaws: Receives the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation and prepares said Amendments for consideration. Also, Committee examines, considers, and approves appropriate proposed changes to the constitutional codes of constituent societies.

Government Affairs: Assists ASCLS in achieving objectives of influencing the formulation of appropriate public (governmental) policy on health care issues vital to the profession and the public.

Leadership development: Cultivates members to encourage those individuals who have indicated a talent and interest in serving in a leadership position.

Membership: Responsible for recruiting new members into ASCLS. Responsible for the retention of members and reactivation of lapsed members.

Product development: Coordinates the development and maintenance of current publications/products, as well as facilitate the creation of new publications/products

Patient Safety: Serves to promote member understanding of the laboratory professional's role in patient safety and provides tools, resources and educational materials to improve safety for all patients served

Promotion of the profession: This Committee serves to provide the face for the profession in areas of activity that include public relations, image management, and marketing. It provides resources to improve the image of the Society and the profession.

Political Action Committee (PAC): Works with the Government Affairs Committee to monitor legislation at the local, state and federal level dealing with clinical laboratory issues. Raises funds to support lobbying efforts. Members chosen from each ASCLS Region and approved by the ASCLS BOD.

For more information contact:
Maria Rodriguez
ASCLS Student Forum Chair
Studentforumchair@gmail.com

Taking Your BOC Exam Soon?

Attention ASCLS

Student Members

Did You Know????

*You will receive
50% off one year of
your new ASCLS
membership or
renewal when you
pass your BOC
certification exam*



When you pass the BOC certification exam you will automatically receive an email from ASCLS entitling you to this discount.

This offer is good for any Professional membership category which includes First Year Professional, Professional 1 or Professional 2.

If you don't receive an email within 3 weeks of passing, please contact ascls@ascls.org

Follow us on Social Media



One of the Student Forum goals is to keep an open line of communication with our student members. We want to take advantage of social media to communicate information about events, activities and travel grants. Also, we will be posting fun facts about our profession and upstanding opportunities to help you go above and beyond

Join Our Online Community!

Bad news for the cave men of the world: smoke signals and yelling doesn't quite cut it anymore. Our large platform of student scientists across the United States calls for a little something extra.



ASCLS Student
Forum & Recent
Graduates



ASCLS - Student Forum
[@Ascls_students](#)

Ever week features one of your Region Representatives with region updates, noteworthy articles and funny quips to bring a little laughter to your laboratory!

Help us reach our goal

Each year, the ASCLS-student forum raises funds to support travel grants for our student members to attend the ASCLS Annual Meeting and Legislative Symposium. At these meetings, our students have the opportunity to meet other students and working professionals and to learn what other laboratories are doing across the nation. The connections our students make at these meetings are invaluable.

Fundraising and the development of travel grants are an important part of what we do in the ASCLS-Student Forum. We firmly believe that giving our students the chance to attend these meetings gives them unique, out-of-classroom opportunities to grow as professionals.

GoodShop

Sign up on our campaign page and then visit goodshop.com every time you shop online. You'll get great deals! A donation will be made to our campaign, each time you buy something at one of GoodShop's participating stores.

<https://www.goodsearch.com/causes/ascls-student-forum>

ASCLS Decals

For a \$10 donation, you will receive an ASCLS member 3" decal. Starting in January our state and region reps will be able to receive your donations in person.



The decals will be also available online for a \$20 donation.

Are you more creative than this poster?

Design the next ASCLS T-Shirt!



ASCLS is looking for its next T-shirt design, and the chosen creator will get a free T-shirt! It can be funny, or it can be serious, it just has to relate to MLS and/or ASCLS. The final design will be on "The shirt" at the national convention and will be purchased by members from all over the country (and the world!) To submit a design or to ask any questions, see the information below.

Please send a PDF of your design to: studentforumchair@gmail.com

Due date for submissions: January 15th, 2018

Congratulations to our Travel Grant Winners

2017 BECKMAN COULTER TRAVEL GRANT



From left to right: Jenessa Olson, Quy-Hien Riley Dang, Sheridan Limmer, Past-President Suzanne Campbell, Erin Barger and Eric Bruton

Thanks to the generosity of Beckman Coulter \$5000 was available for five students to attend the ASCLS 2017 Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab expo.

2017 STUDENT FORUM TRAVEL GRANT

The ASCLS Student Forum made available \$2000 for two students to attend the ASCLS 2017 Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab expo.



From left to right: Nassouh Mourabet, Haylee Erickson and Past-President Suzanne Campbell

2017 DIVERSITY ADVOCACY COUNCIL TRAVEL GRANT



Miriam Price

Thanks to the generosity of the ASCLS DAC \$500 was available for one undergraduate to attend the ASCLS 2017 Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab expo.

ASCLS-Legislative Symposium

2017 LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM UPDATES

by Erin Barger

I felt like I had a real voice for change. Attending this year's ASCLS Legislative Symposium, I not only received a glimpse into the how-to's of congressional lobbying, but was also presented with the real-world issues that face our career field today. These issues go beyond the newest healthcare bill, and in some cases beyond current administrations. These are the issues that affect not only our profession specifically, but have overarching implications for healthcare in the US.

The first such issues addressed was PAMA, (Protecting Access to Medicare Act) and was the most immediate threat to our field. Initially, PAMA was a cost-saving measure whereby CMS could take data from "applicable labs" and assess the CLFS (Clinical Lab Fee Schedule). The overall problem is that the CLFS is based on incomplete data taken from only a few labs across the country, although all Medicare/Medicaid recipient labs will be affected. ASCLS went to The Hill to ask Congress to push back data collection and reporting deadlines until next year to give us time to revise the definition of "applicable laboratory" to help clear confusion and to delay enforcement of the guidelines until 2019. Additionally, CLFS hasn't been reviewed since its inception in 1986, whereas other healthcare fields have been, such as the Ambulance and Radiology Fee Schedule.

Another issue ASCLS was asking Congress to consider was the severe workforce shortage the CLS/MLS field faces. Bureau of Labor statistics expects there will be a 16% growth in our field over the next 10 years. Nationally, colleges would need to graduate 12,000 students per year to cover that growth; unfortunately, current trends only see about 5,000 graduates per year. Additionally, the age of the laboratory workforce is steadily increasing, averaging 43.7 years, and aging 78% faster than the entire US labor market. We asked Congress to consider this through the Veteran's Health Administration to begin to address this concern. As it stands, the VA Hospital in Cincinnati, OH has already expanded their VALOR Internship program from nurses to include Medical Lab Science students at the University of Cincinnati.

The third issue ASCLS addressed centered around the regulation of Laboratory Developed Tests (LDTs). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a proposal in 2014 for a three-tier system, risk-based framework for LDT oversight. And in January 2017, the FDA released a discussion paper and announced it would be withholding final guidance until the public had a chance for discussion and Congress had a chance to find a legislative solution. ASCLS had numerous responses for the discussion paper, and those can be found outlined on the ASCLS website in the "Leave Behinds" section of the Legislative Symposium.



As a student, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of being involved early in your career in conversations like these. ASCLS is quite literally shaping the future of the medical laboratory field, and everyone, from student to professor to professional, needs to be involved.

ASCLS-Legislative Symposium Travel Grant



STUDENT FORUM LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION

To be considered for this grant, please complete the application form and return by email no later than January 31, 2018. Selected grantees will receive \$750 to assist with travel expenses to the 2018 Legislative Symposium, March 19-20, 2018 at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town in Alexandria, VA (<http://www.ascls.org/education-meetings/legislative-symposium>). The grantees will be notified by February 9, 2018.

To be considered for the grant, applicants must:

1. Be a current ASCLS Student member as of January 31st deadline.
2. Not be the Student Forum Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary.
3. Preference is given to those who have not attended an ASCLS Legislative Symposium before.

To receive the grant, grantees must:

1. Attend all educational events, including Congressional visits, at the Legislative Symposium.
2. Submit a 250-500 word summary of your experiences with pictures within 2 weeks of the end of the Legislative Symposium for the Student Forum E-Newsletter.

It is expected that recipients will maintain their ASCLS Membership and provide active service at the local, state, or national level after receipt of the grant!

*\$375 will be given to applicant prior to the meeting and \$375 will be given at the meeting. |

ASCLS-Legislative Symposium Travel Grant

Student Forum Legislative Symposium Travel Grant Application Form

Name: _____

Preferred mailing address, city, state, zip:

Preferred phone (day or cell number): _____

Email: _____

ASCLS member number: _____ Member since: _____

Preference is given to those who have a record of active professional/student organization involvement, work involvement, and/or interest in professional activities. Briefly explain your current position/activities within your program, state, region, or the national society (use as much space as needed).

Have you attended Legislative Symposium before?

Yes No

If yes, when?

Please attach a single 500-word essay addressing the following questions:

- Why do you want to attend the 2018 Legislative Symposium?
- What do you hope to learn and/or experience from the meeting?
- Why is ASCLS and this meeting important to you?

List any other travel assistance you expect to receive (e.g. – from your state or region society, previous education program, or employer):

Send the completed application by January 31, 2018 to:

Maria Rodriguez

ASCLS Student Forum Chair

Studentforumchair@gmail.com