

ASCLS Student Forum

VOICE, VALUE, VISION

Student Forum Update

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Hey Students,

The Student Forum Officers just wanted to give you all an update on our progress for the year. It's important that you all know what we're working towards as a forum within ASCLS, and how you all can stay involved. So far this year we've worked on many fundraising projects, communicated through *ASCLS Today* and our e-newsletters, and planned for the Legislative Symposium and the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA!

The New Year brought an end to not only 2015, but the Yankee Candle Fundraiser ended too. We reached our goal and raised just over **\$1,000** for the Student Forum. That means travel grants and more fundraising opportunities for YOU! Thank you to everyone that contributed time, money, or resources to make this happen. We are currently accepting applications for the two Legislative symposium travel grants until February 12th (for more information <http://ascls.org/student-forum-travel-scholarship>). Stay tuned for information on travel grants to the Annual Meeting this summer.

Currently the Student Forum officers are writing a series of three articles for *ASCLS Today* that focus on expanding the public's knowledge of the laboratory sciences and ASCLS. I encourage all of you to get involved with ASCLS, reach out to students in your community, and actively go out and let your friends and family know the importance of the laboratory sciences in healthcare. It starts with us, we are the future of this profession!

The Legislative symposium is just a little over a month away! The Symposium is to take place March 14-15, 2016 at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town in Virginia. Early registration ends February 15th (<http://ascls.org/ascls-meetings/legislative-symposium>). The annual meeting registration will kick off in the Spring, but you can start turning in those Student Forum Officer nomination forms now. For more information check out the ASCLS webpage and our next e-newsletter will have the latest information and updates.

We're halfway through the fiscal year, and as we eagerly approach constituent society meetings, Leg Day, and last but certainly not least the Annual ASCLS Meeting in Philadelphia the student forum officers and region representatives hope to see you all very soon somewhere around these amazing 50 states. With warm hearts and well wishes.

Sincerely,

Chair, Jazmen Myers, MLS (ASCP)^{CM}

Vice Chair, Vathani Logendran

Secretary, Elizabeth Stepp LeFors, MLS (ASCP)^{CM}



WHY SHOULD I STAY A MEMBER OF ASCLS?

Greetings MLS Students and Recent Grads,

My name is Elizabeth LeFors, and I am the current ASCLS National Student Forum Secretary and the Student Forum Representative for ASCLS Colorado (ASCLS-CO). As a recent graduate myself, I wanted to share my first-hand experiences with the benefits of membership with the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Sciences as both as student member and a first year professional.

I found out about ASCLS from my program director at UCCS during my clinical rotations year. I joined then to apply for the scholarships opportunities, but had very little subsequent involvement. Later in my rotations, I needed volunteer and continuing education hours. I turned back to ASCLS to fulfill these needs by attending the HOSA and CLCC conferences. It was as these conferences that I discovered what ASCLS really could offer.

The obvious benefit to membership is the amazing P.A.C.E. approved continuing education. From conferences, webcasts, cd's and online courses to brewery tours, the available opportunities are countless. With ASCP requiring 36 CEUs within your first three years to maintain certification, this aspect is extremely convenient while remaining entertaining. The premier continuing education event in clinical laboratory sciences is the ASCLS Annual meeting and Exposition. This five day conference offers cutting-edge scientific and technical workshops and symposiums in addition to the industry's largest exhibition presenting the latest trends and technologies in laboratory testing. ASCLS members receive a substantial discount for fees on registration most conferences, to include the Annual Meeting and Clinical Laboratory Exposition. Students have the opportunity attend for free (like I did this summer) via the Beckman-Coulter Student Travel grant

In addition to registration discounts, ASCLS members can take advantage of a range of free discount services targeted especially for clinical laboratory professionals on anything from car, health, and life insurance to car and hotel reservations. I have found our Office Depot/Max discount program to be especially beneficial. Also, after graduation my first priority was passing my boards. It was an extremely stressful time! As an ASCLS member, I was able to purchase the Board of Certification study book and other review material at a discounted price from the ASCLS store.

As a recent graduate, one of the most important benefits to membership in ASCLS is the networking opportunities. I have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful, brilliant, encouraging, and inspiring people. During the Annual Meeting this past July, I met so many amazing students and professionals from across the nation that I am proud to call my friends and colleagues now. Never before have I been a part of such an uplifting and encouraging group. Everyone just wants the best for you and will do anything to help you succeed. Although I personally had a job lined up with my clinical site after graduation, I have seen so many other students use their ASCLS contacts to obtain great jobs.

The society publications, Clinical Laboratory Science and ASCLS Today , keep members informed on association activities and the latest in research, education and government actions affecting the profession. It also gives members the opportunity to write about topics that they feel passionate towards and affect our profession.

If you have any questions about your membership and renewing to the First Year Professional membership category, I am only an email away (e.stepplefors@gmail.com). Also, if you are seeking to become more active in ASCLS at the state, regional, or even the national level please let me know and I would be happy to help guide you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth LeFors

ASCLS- CO Student Forum Representative

ASCLS National Student Forum Secretary

Help ASCLS Go Viral!

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science is looking for creative videos to post on YouTube in order to promote the ASCLS!

Things to consider:

- These videos will be used by the ASCLS National Membership Committee to serve as a recruitment tool for the organization.
- The winning video will focus on promoting the ASCLS in a creative way. If the ASCLS is not mentioned in your video, it will not be considered for prize.
- All videos will be available to watch on ascls.org after April 1st.
- The winning video submission will receive a \$200 cash prize to go towards a pizza party!
- The designated leader of the winning video will win a free student registration to the 2016 ASCLS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA.
- Submissions are due by March 1st, 2016! Video submissions, as well as any questions, can be directed to laceyanncampbell@gmail.com

CASE STUDY CHALLENGE

An 18-year-old college student that lives in the dorms wears contacts, and rarely takes them out except to replace them. She noticed her eyesight on her left eye had deteriorated considerably, and decided to go to the doctor. A culture of her



cornea was taken. Cysts that were 15-20 μm , double walled and gave a honeycomb-like appearance were found, as shown below.

www.cdc.gov

1. What type of organism was found and where is it normally found?
2. What are the methods in which this organism is usually diagnosed?
3. What are the ways in which this organism infects humans?

Last e-newsletter's case study answers: 1. B-Pleural fluid , 2. Transudate, and 3. A-Possible hemothorax

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL?

“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality” as said by Warren Bennis. Are you a leader at heart? Do you have the desire to be more involved in the CLS community while providing experiences for fellow CLS students? As students, we are granted the honor to be the voice and the future of ASCLS. We strongly urge any CLS students that are interested in involvement to apply to be part of the ASCLS Student Forum and the amazing community of ASCLS.

The ASCLS Student Forum is a national organization that is in place “to coordinate the involvement and interest of students in the field of clinical laboratory science, to provide students with a voice in their professional society, and to educate students in the concepts of professionalism as expressed by ASCLS in its philosophies, policies and procedures”, as stated in the ASCLS Student Forum Manual. There are many benefits to being in the ASCLS Student Forum. Throughout the term of service, the ASCLS Student Forum performs many tasks including fundraising for student scholarships and travel grants, maintaining CLS-related social media, and planning for the annual meeting in the summer. All Student Forum officers attend the ASCLS National Meeting in July/August, and host informative yet enjoyable sessions and events for their fellow CLS students. The three positions on the ASCLS forum are Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

The Student Forum Chair serves as the voice of the Student Forum and is a voting member of the ASCLS Board of Directors. The Forum Chair is responsible for: recommending national committee student representatives during term of office, assuming overall responsibility for all activities undertaken by the Student Forum, disseminating information to the Student Forum Leadership, corresponding with the Student Forum Board Liaison, and reviewing and revising the Student Forum Manual. The Chair assumes all responsibilities of a member of the ASCLS Board including submitting reports to each Board of Directors meeting and writing articles for ASCLS Today. In addition, the Chair presides over the student meetings at the ASCLS Annual Meeting, and serves on the Board of Directors as the First Year Professional Director and Vice-Chair of the New Professionals Committee upon completion of the one year term as Student Forum Chair.

The Student Forum Vice-Chair needs to become familiar with the duties of the office of the Student Forum Chair, the operations of the Student Forum, and the ASCLS Board of Directors. The Vice Chair aids the Student Forum Chair as requested and is responsible for: all committees and task forces appointed by the Chair, assuming the duties of the Student Forum Chair in their absence, and assisting in the review and revision of the Student Forum Manual. If the Student Forum Chair cannot fulfill his/her duties, the vice chair will resume the position as Student Forum Chair with the approval of the ASCLS President.

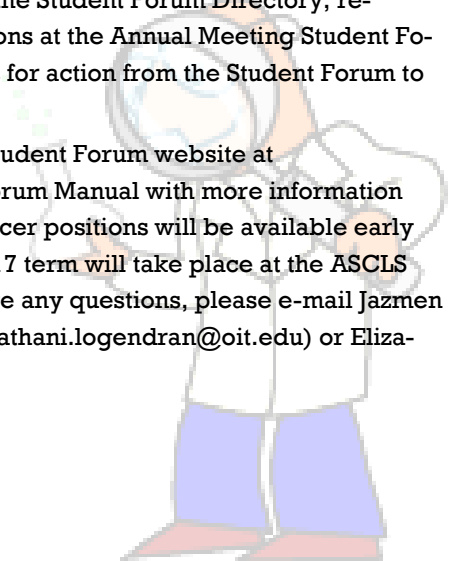
The Student Forum Secretary is responsible for: the maintenance and updating of the Student Forum Directory, recording minutes of the Student Forum conference calls, of the meetings and elections at the Annual Meeting Student Forum sessions, and disseminating all information, problems, concerns and requests for action from the Student Forum to the Student Forum Chair.

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please visit the ASCLS Student Forum website at <http://www.ascls.org/student-center-ascls>. On the website, there is the Student Forum Manual with more information about the ASCLS Student Forum. Applications for the 2016-2017 Student Forum officer positions will be available early next year. The Student Forum Orientation and SF Election process for the 2016-2017 term will take place at the ASCLS National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA from July 31st – August 4th of 2016. If you have any questions, please e-mail Jazmen Myers (Chair-jazmen.bria.myers@gmail.com), Vathani Logendran (Vice Chair - vathani.logendran@oit.edu) or Elizabeth LeFors (Secretary - libba429@gmail.com).

We look forward to your applications!

Vathani Logendran

ASCLS Student Forum Vice Chair



ASCLS STUDENT FORUM OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

College Year: (check one)

Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate student

Educational Program/Clinical Site: _____

Expected graduation date: _____

ASCLS Membership #: _____

Position Descriptions

Student Forum Chair:

The Student Forum Chair serves as the voice of the Student Forum and a voting member of the ASCLS Board of Directors. The Forum Chair is responsible for: recommending national committee student representatives during term of office, assuming overall responsibility for all activities undertaken by the Student Forum, disseminating information to the Student Forum Leadership, corresponding with the Student Forum Board Liaison, and reviewing and revising the Student Forum Manual. The Chair assumes all responsibilities of a member of the ASCLS Board including submitting reports to each Board of Directors meeting and writing articles for *ASCLS Today*. In addition, the Chair presides over the student meetings at the ASCLS Annual Meeting, and serves on the Board of Directors as the First Year Professional Director and Vice-Chair of the New Professionals Committee upon completion of the one year term as Student Forum Chair.

Student Forum Vice-Chair:

The Student Forum Vice-Chair needs to become familiar with the duties of the office of the Student Forum Chair, the operations of the Student Forum, and the ASCLS Board of Directors. The Vice Chair aids the Student Forum Chair as requested and is responsible for: all committees and task forces appointed by the Chair, assuming the duties of the Student Forum Chair in their absence, and assisting in the review and revision of the Student Forum Manual. If the Student Forum Chair cannot fulfill his/her duties, the vice chair will resume the position as Student Forum Chair with the approval of the ASCLS President.

Student Forum Secretary:

The Student Forum Secretary is responsible for: the maintenance and updating of the Student Forum Directory, recording minutes of the Student Forum conference calls, of the meetings and elections at the Annual Meeting Student Forum sessions, and disseminating all information, problems, concerns and requests for action from the Student Forum to the Student Forum Chair.

Eligibility for Office

A candidate must be a Student member of ASCLS for at least four (4) months prior to an election to office and must have been enrolled in a program/major in the clinical laboratory sciences (MLS or MLT) within that academic year. If a student's membership status changes from that of Student to First Year Professional during the term of office, an officer may remain in office for the duration of the term of office. Experience in a college/university/hospital-based program club or at the state society level is preferred.

Position for which you are applying:

(Check one)

- Chair*** Vice-Chair Secretary

*****If you are running for Student Forum Chair ONLY:** You have to be available to travel/attend ALL of these functions: the fall Board of Directors' conference call, the Board of Directors' meeting and ASCLS Legislative Symposium in Washington D.C. (approximately 4 days in mid-March), and the ASCLS Annual Meeting (approximately 6 days at the end of July). You will also need to be able to make the same time commitments the following year as the First Year Professional Director. Your travel expenses will be subsidized as a voting Board of Directors member.

Use the following space to explain why you are applying for this office:

Questions

- 1. In what professional, educational, or community service activities have you participated? Please indicate what, if any, leadership positions you held in these activities.**

- 2. If you were to become an ASCLS Student Forum officer, what would you like to accomplish on behalf of all MLS/MLT students?**

Please submit your completed application as an email attachment to jazmen.bria.myers@gmail.com, vathani.logendran@gmail.com and/or e.stepplefors@gmail.com by Friday, July 15th with a professional picture of yourself to include on your poster.

Applications may also be turned in at the ASCLS Annual. **They must be submitted to the Student Forum Chair by the end of the Student Forum Orientation.**



Attention Student Members!

**Pass your BOC Exam and receive
one year FREE membership to
ASCLS!**

Let us celebrate your hard work! You've earned those well-deserved initials, now join the ranks of other professionals by proudly displaying your membership in the organization that works for you.

When you pass the BOC exam you will receive an email from ASCLS entitling you to your First Year Professional Membership in the premier organization for laboratory professionals as well as 6 CE credits for FREE.

If you have already renewed for the current year at the time you pass the exam, you will be given 2 ADDITIONAL FREE CE credits .

REGION SPOTLIGHTS

REGION I: CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND, CONNETICUT, MAINE, NEW YORK & VERMONT

Hello from Region I!

My name is Kelcey Harper and I am honored to be the Region I Student Representative, as well as the Student Forum Chair for ASCLS-Central New England! I am a resident of Massachusetts and currently a senior at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. I am proud to be a part of such an incredible organization and have the opportunity to educate and promote the field of medical laboratory science. This organization has opened doors for me that I would have never imagined before joining. I encourage you to get involved as a student and build connections with your fellow laboratorians—Attend the National Meeting in Philadelphia or your local constituent society's annual convention! When I was a freshman in college, I knew I wanted to be in the medical field, but had no idea how to get there. After changing majors 3 times, I found my passion for the lab. From my first hematology class, I knew that this was the right path for me—I just wish I had

found it sooner! As a student representative, my main goal has been to educate the community on the importance of the lab and what we do to ensure that our patients get the best care possible! Many members of the community are not even aware that medical laboratory scientists exist—or how one can become a laboratorian. Therefore, I have taken the time to present at various high schools in my state in order to promote the profession from the ground up. I wish I had been aware of the lab when I was in high school, so I took the responsibility of talking to high school students about the opportunities in the medical laboratory and how incredible it is that 70% of the decisions a physician makes is based on our laboratory testing. We are the backbone of patient diagnoses! Currently, Central New England is in the process of planning our Annual Convention. Each year, we have a day specifically dedicated to students, including a mock BOC exam! I encourage you all to attend—it will provide a new perspective

into the lab and you will come out of it with even more knowledge than when you first stepped through the ASCLS doors.



Kelcey Harper
Region I Student Representative
ASCLS-Central New England
Student Forum President
University of Massachusetts
Lowell

REGION SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED

REGION II: VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, PENNSYLVANIA & NEW JERSEY

Hello beautiful lab people!

My name is Rebecca Matthews, and I am proud to be representing Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey as the Region II Student Representative. Our region has gone through a few years that were low in membership and activities, but I am happy to say that we are getting back on our feet!

To give you a little background on me, I am a Virginia native, right outside of Richmond, and I just happened to stumble into Clinical Laboratory Sciences while I was scanning my college website for a major other than Biology. I fell in love as soon as I saw the words Hematology and Clinical Chemistry! I entered into the CLS program at Virginia Commonwealth University as a Junior. I knew immediately that I not only wanted to be a part of this amazing profession, but that I wanted to be part of the force that carried it forward. So, I ran for president of my class at VCU, and I won! I'd like to say

that it was because everyone liked me so much, but I may or may not have been the only one on the ballot. Regardless, I had a blast planning class events and learning more about what this wonderful profession is all about. My program director saw the work I was doing for the class, and asked if I would like to become involved with ASCLS by becoming the state representative for Virginia. I was so excited, and I gladly accepted!

I had the amazing opportunity to go to the National meeting in Atlanta, GA and my passion for the profession grew exponentially. When I got home, I called all of the program directors in our state, and ended up going to speak to 7 of our state programs about all of the benefits of ASCLS. It was a great step for our state to really begin building a strong student foundation. It was then that our Region II director, Nadine Fydryszewski, offered me the position of Region II Representative. And here we are! Let's take a look at some of these

states more closely, shall we?

Virginia

Virginia left the national meeting back in August with the award of 1st place for the largest increase in non-student membership! Coming off of that positive note, we have really tried to get the members involved and reach out to the student population. Natalie Case, our State President, pulled together a meeting for those who were interested in accepting leadership rolls within our state organization. The turnout wasn't huge but we were able to throw around a lot of great ideas, such as fundraising to reinstate the student scholarship, getting members involved in the planning of the state meeting, and other events such as winery tours that could serve as CE credit.

As I mentioned before, I took a week while we were on a school break to go and visit 7 of the MLS and MLT programs within our state.

REGION SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED

REGION II: VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, PENNSYLVANIA & NEW JERSEY

I was able to gather contacts at those schools and even met one individual who was just as excited to get involved with ASCLS as I was. This young lady was more than happy to step up when I was offered the Region II Representative position and now Mrs. Amira Mendoza is serving as our State Representative! Together we are in the process of planning our first ever Student Quiz Bowl! This will be our first year doing so, but we are optimistic that many students will get involved! We are also having a t-shirt design contest and fundraiser in hopes of raising enough money to reinstate the Virginia ASCLS Student Scholarship.

Other than that, Virginia is planning their state meeting for June. Last year was the first time we had a state meeting in several years. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Natalie Case and numerous others, Virginia is definitely putting itself back on the map as a voice for ASCLS!

Pennsylvania

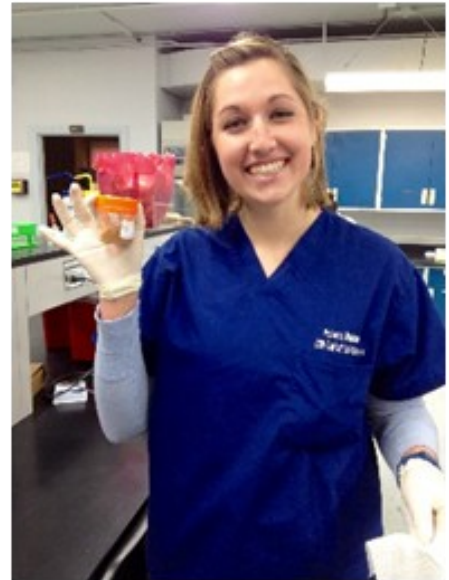
The leadership team in Pennsylvania is rigorously working to plan the 2016 National Meeting! It is sure to be an amazing event, and if at all possible, you

should definitely try to make it! If you have ever wondered what the beautiful land of Philadelphia is like, here's your chance. If you're a history buff, or perhaps just a fan of the movie *National Treasure*, then take some time to go and see the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall where they signed the Declaration of Independence. Spend some time strolling around Fairmount Park, the largest urban, landscaped park in the world. If architecture is your pleasure there's plenty of original buildings, including the first bank of the United States!

If art and culture are what you seek, go ahead and explore the Franklin Institute, the Pennsylvania Museum of Art, or the Avenue of Arts at the heart of the city with countless restaurants and theatres. There's so much to explore, but, more importantly, so many amazing people to meet! Build your network and meet people who are just as passionate about this profession as you are. Hope to see you in Philadelphia, July 31st – August 4th!

Region II has picked up a lot of momentum from 2015 and we are all very optimistic that 2016

will be an even more exciting year for us all!



Rebecca Matthews,
Region II Student Representative

REGION SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED

REGION II: VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, DELAWARE, PENNSYLVANIA & NEW JERSEY



Amira Mendoza

Student Representative for Virginia



Mary Ann McLane

Deleware President



Dr. Nadine Fydryszewski PhD, MLS, (ASCP)^{CM}

Region II Director



The VCU CLS clinical rotation team
at the University of Virginia

REGION SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED

REGION III: ALABAMA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, MISSISSIPPI, NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE & PUERTO RICO

I am Jason Frazier, and I am the representative of Region III, the student representative for Alabama, and the student representative for the Patient Safety Committee. I graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry. I then moved to Birmingham, AL to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham where I'm working towards a Masters degree in Clinical Laboratory Science. I am currently in my clinical, and also final, semester at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, GA, and I'm in my Chemistry rotation. In the future, my goal is to work towards a PhD degree and do meaningful research in the field. Recently, Alabama held a student quiz bowl in December and it was very successful! We had 7 teams from 3 schools attend, had presentations by an Army Health recruiter and a recruiter from a local hospital.

Alabama is also preparing to host Region III's triennial meeting which will be held November 2-4, 2016 at

the University of Alabama at Birmingham. We are planning on having two segments to the meeting. A segment focused on continuing education and informative sessions and a segment focused on students with a region-wide quiz bowl and student oriented sessions. We're also planning two major social events, one for all participants and one for students. We are looking forward to hosting a wonderful conference, and we extend invitations to anyone who wants to attend! There will be more information to come, and online registration will be available.

Georgia recently held its board meeting last year along with a continuing education opportunity in the form of a brewery tour. I attended that meeting and it was great to see such an organized and excited group of people! They have also provided assistance in with website management to other state presidents looking to create one for their respective states. They are also in the process of planning their state

meeting and more information is to come!

Tennessee is set to host its Tennessee Annual Lab Conference at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Franklin, TN from March, 31-April 1. There will be a variety of continuing education opportunities, a management track, and plenty of networking opportunities. There is more information to come about speakers, events, registration, and more. We look forward to seeing a good showing of lab professionals from TN coming out and having a great time!



Jason Frazier

Region III Student Representative

Alabama Student Forum Rep

Patient Safety Committee Student Rep

REGION SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED

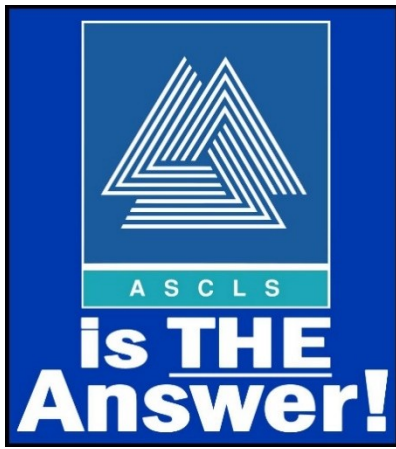
REGION III: ALABAMA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, MISSISSIPPI, NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE & PUERTO RICO



Dr. Janelle Chiasera, B.S.,
M.S., M.A., Ph.D
Region III Director



GA Board of Directors meeting



Let ASCLS make your life easier! Take advantage of this unique opportunity NOW!

ATTENTION LAB MANAGERS!

Are you looking for a way to make taking care of your facilities' professional and continuing education needs easier? Purchase Professional 1 memberships as an employee benefit for your institution. All you need is a group of 10 or more employees from your facility to get started!

For more info, go to: www.ascls.org/membershippackages

What are the benefits of an ASCLS Membership Package?

- ◆ **FREE Early Bird registration(s)** to an ASCLS national meeting.
- ◆ **Professional 1 memberships for all included staff**
- ◆ Electronic access to the journal and newsletter.
- ◆ Access to many ASCLS continuing education offerings and programs for **FREE** or deep discounts.

Upcoming ASCLS National Meetings

Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference (CLEC)

February 25-27, 2016 Minneapolis, MN

ASCLS/CLMA/ASCP/AMT Legislative Symposium

March 14-15, 2016, Washington, DC

ASCLS Annual Meeting

July 31- August 4, 2016 Philadelphia, PA

Advanced Management Institute (AMI)

August 1-August 2, 2016 Philadelphia, PA

ATTENTION EDUCATORS!

We have created membership packages that you, your students, and clinical affiliates can take advantage of with all of the same benefits listed above! (Students will have Student Memberships)

For Hospital based programs: Take advantage of this offer and extend the rates to your clinical instructors and your academic affiliates' liaison.

For University/College based Programs: Thank your clinical affiliates with this access to free

Don't miss out on these great opportunities!! Get the full details on how to take advantage of these exciting offers at:

www.ascls.org/membershippackages