



e – LABorate

MN Newsletter

March 2022



Message from Your President

~ Donna Spannaus-Martin, ASCLS-MN President

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For those who don't know me, my name is Donna Spannaus-Martin, and I am the ASCLS-MN President. I also serve as the ASCLS Region V representative on the Government Affairs Committee and the new Program Director of the University of Minnesota's Medical Laboratory Sciences Program. This fall will mark the 100th anniversary of the start of the University of Minnesota's Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, so I've been spending some time looking at where the profession has come over the last 100 years. As I've been reading articles from old journals about our profession, one of the things I have come across is the laboratory professions' creed, which was printed in the November, 1934 issue of "The Bulletin of the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Technicians," now known as ASCLS. The creed reads like this:

The Laboratory Technician's Creed

Appreciation of the heritage of the clinical laboratory.

Capacity to exercise infinite care.

Meritorious desire for responsibility.

Honesty of purpose.

Dependability.

These should be so deeply ingrained, so devoutly to be sought after, that they fail not to constitute a living creed.

~Frederick H. Lamb M.D.

I find it interesting that the creed starts with acknowledging that we should have an appreciation of the heritage of the clinical laboratory. I take that statement to mean we should also appreciate those who came before us, those who taught us and mentored us as we started in the profession. Minnesota has always stood out for our laboratory leadership. Did you know Minnesota has had fourteen ASCLS Presidents? I suspect that's more than any other state. Along with an appreciation of our heritage should come that desire for responsibility, to carry on our traditions and to shape our profession's future. That comes with involvement in our professional organization. As ASCLS-MN President, I look forward to working with you!

Upcoming Events

- **Clinical Laboratory Collaborative (CLC)**

March 30-31, 2022 at the Earle brown heritage center in Brooklyn Center, MN

The event includes 3 keynote speakers, 32 presentations, vendor booths, and social events. Registration includes attendance to the live event and access to select post event recordings.

- **Lab Week**

April 24-30, 2022

- **Joint Annual Meeting**

June 26-30, 2022 in Grand Rapids, MI

The 2022 JAM is the premier gathering of professionals to share their knowledge, research and best practices related to the field of laboratory science.

- **Legislative Symposium**

September 26-27, 2022 at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town in Alexandria, VA

Through this ASCLS tradition that originated in 1989, members of CLMA, ASCP, AGT, AMT, NSH, and PAMET-USA meet with their representatives and senators on Capitol Hill as a unified front on behalf of our profession. Each year these leading organizations urge their members and leaders to come to Washington to provide a visible and informed voice, and make our concerns known inside Congress. Topics that were proposed this year during Legislative days included The Laboratory workforce bill, PAMA (Protecting Access to Medicare Act, and Laboratory developed testing.

- **Region V Symposium**

September 29-30, 2022 at Mayo Health Event Center in Mankato, MN

*Event dates subject to change. Events may update to be held virtually.



Continuing Education Opportunity

Phlebotomy 2022: Performance, Public Health & People in a Post-COVID World

April 21-22, 2022 Via livestream

This two-day virtual conference will offer the opportunity to learn how to lead in extraordinarily difficult times, including dealing with burnout, retention, and resilience. Attendees also will learn the lab's role in health equity, and lessons learned through the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, attendees will learn about blood cultures; non-blood collections; dealing with difficult employees; key performance indicators; pediatric collections and comfort techniques; and blood collections at home. An interactive session will give participants the opportunity to submit difficult phlebotomy cases ahead of time. These will be addressed during the live program. Finally, there will be a question-and-answer session featuring a panel of phlebotomy supervisors, phlebotomy educators, and human resources staff.

To register visit <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/edu-conferences/phlebotomy-2022-performance-public-health-people-in-a-post-covid-world/>

Leadership Academy

ASCLS Region V has a wonderful opportunity that is available to any ASCLS member from Region V. The Leadership Academy provides guidance, education, and resources at a regional level to prepare ASCLS members for leadership roles in ASCLS and within the profession.

There is no charge to participate in the Region V Leadership Academy program for members from Region V, however travel and meeting registration costs should be considered when applying. The host state societies do assist their participants with expenses.

The Academy is a 12-month program running from October to October and covering topics including:

★ History of ASCLS ★ Leadership and communication styles ★ Goals and strategic planning ★ Organization skills and time management ★ Conflict management ★ Conducting successful meetings ★ Professional advocacy ★ Recruitment strategies

P.A.C.E™ continuing education credits will be awarded for each session completed. The Leadership Academy is an opportunity to pursue leadership, professionalism, management, and self-knowledge. For more information visit

<https://www.asclsmn.org/region-v-leadership-academy>



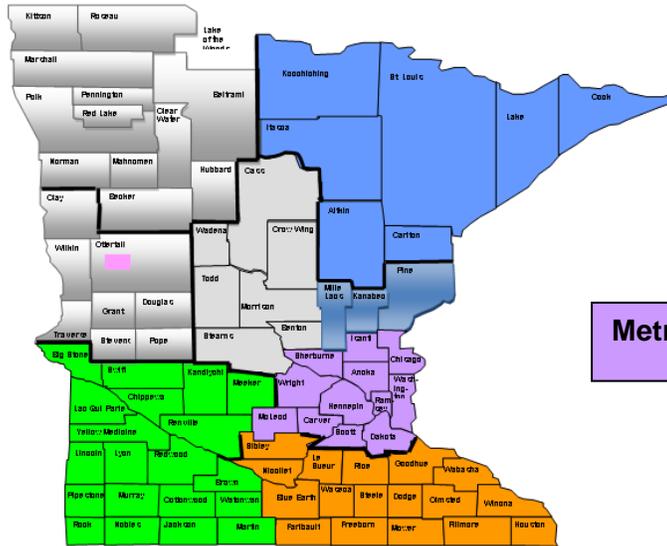
Membership Development

OPEN POSITIONS!

We are currently looking for Area Directors for the Southwest, Northeast, and Northwest/Central Areas.

North West Central Area

North East Area



Southwest Area

Metro Area

Southeast Area

Current membership: **265**
Emeritus – **10**
Ascending Professional – **44**
Developing Professional- **76**
Professional – **133**
Community/Honorary – **2**
13 joined in 2021 and 32 in 2020

For More Information Visit:

<https://www.asclsmn.org/>

<http://www.regionvascls.online/>

www.ascls.org

facebook.com/ascls.mn

A Word from the Editor

~ Dani Ashcroft, NW/Central Area Director

If you have any comments, suggestions, or would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, please email me at danielle.ashcroft@centracare.com