

e-Laborate

Newsletter Highlights

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: CREATING ASCLS MEMBER VISIBILITY AT THE CLINICAL LABORATORY COLLABORATIVE (CLC)



Galina Dronova, MS, MLS(ASCP)
ASCLS-MN President
Clinical Laboratory Development
Specialist, M Health Fairview

If you've ever attended the Clinical Laboratory Collaborative (CLC), you may notice familiar faces disappear during lunch hour. Where do they go? There's a high chance they are attending a professional organization lunch as listed on the CLC program. For ASCLS, this consists of a Membership Meeting led by the President where board members highlight all the activities of the organization for the year, provide a budget update, and discuss national advocacy issues that may affect our profession. Importantly, we recognize key contributors to the society through various awards (such as Keys to the Future, Years of Service, and Member of the Year).

This year, our Newsletter Editor Deb Rodahl, revitalized the format and published four Newsletters (including this one). We also launched an [ASCLS-MN LinkedIn](#) page where we post all upcoming events and share other important professional updates. In 2023-2024, our Constituent Society significantly increased its activity in the North East Region through in person CE events and new Board members like Kelsi Steffen (incoming President) and Mary Rauvola (Membership Chair) leading the charge for representing our Northern MLS communities. It is a timely additional for us as next year's Clinical Laboratory Collaborative will be held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center on May 1-2, 2025. The above accomplishments barely scratch the surface of the great work our dedicated team has done throughout the year and the full Membership Meeting PowerPoint is available in the Minnesota Constituent Society ASCLS Connect Community Library.

Up-coming Events:

Sociable Cider Works 5/26/24
see page 5 for details

ASCLS Annual Meeting (JAM)
July 8-12, 2024

Legislative Symposium:
September 30-October 1, 2024

Region V Fall Symposium:
October 10-11, 2024

Visit the ASCLS MN Facebook page
for event information

<https://www.facebook.com/ascls.mn/>



Now on LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ascls-mn/>



If you're planning to attend a CLC meeting in the future, make sure to check out the ASCLS Lunch on the schedule. Grab your food and bring it to the meeting room listed. Here, you will meet new people and hear about how the society is working for YOU. You will find ways to get inspired (or re-inspired) about the profession you are a part of and maybe even find an opportunity that you find enjoyable to participate in!

See you all at our next event and thank you for the opportunity to lead our State Society this year.

*Galina Dronova, MLS (ASCP)
ASCLS-MN 2023-24 President*



Clinical Laboratory Collaborative Highlights

The annual Clinical Laboratory Collaborative (CLC) Meeting is a highlight for Minnesota laboratorians. This year's meeting was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Bloomington and had 254 registrations and 35 vendors for the exhibit hall. The two-day meeting was packed with inspirational keynotes and valuable continuing education to keep everyone up to date with what is new and noteworthy in laboratory medicine.

The annual silent auction to raise money for student scholarships made over \$1,000.

The exhibit hall was filled with vendors and attendees as an added benefit for attendees to see and hear about products and services that are available. We are so grateful to our vendors for their support.



ASCLS-MN Approved Bylaws Changes

A thorough review of the ASCLS-MN Bylaws was prompted by concerns about unfilled positions on our Board of Directors, which made it difficult for the board meetings to have the quorum needed to conduct official business and pass motions.

The proposal to reduce the number of areas in Minnesota from five to three was approved at the annual business meeting held at the CLC. A map of the approved areas is included on the last page of this newsletter. The ASCLS-MN Board now consists of the officers plus six area directors, all of whom will be voting members. In addition to the changes affecting the Board of Directors, the quorum for business meeting(s) of ASCLS-MN was approved to change from 35 to 25 members.

Thank-you to Kathy Hansen for her efforts to review and collate the proposed changes for approval!



ASCLS-MN 2024 Elections and Board of Directors

Board Position	Name
President	Kelsi Steffen
President Elect	Crystal Paul
Past President	Galina Dronova
Secretary	Tori Nemitz
Treasurer	Tami Alpaugh
North Area Senior Director	Danielle Ashcroft
North Area Junior Director	Paul Sneed
SW Area Senior Director	OPEN
SW Area Junior Director	OPEN
SE Area Senior Director	Austin Korczak
SE Area Junior Director	Nestor Yanez Gutierrez
Ascending Professional	OPEN (Appointed)
Developing Professional	OPEN (Appointed)



ASCLS-MN 2024 Awards

Omicron Sigma



ASCLS-MN
The American Society for Clinical
Laboratory Science Minnesota

State

- Kathy Hansen,
- Deb Rodahl,
- Jean Bauer
- Charlotte Romain
- Tami Alpaugh
- Austin Korczak
- Tori Nemitz
- Kelsi Steffen
- Mary Rauvola
- Justin Johnson
- Jenna Amundson

Region V

- Sue Iddings
- Austin Korczak

National

- Ali Nussbaum
- Jean Bauer
- Deb Rodahl

Keys to the Future

- Justin Johnson
- Kelsi Steffen



Register by May 1 and Save!



July 8-12, 2024

Pittsburgh, PA | Virtual

ASCLS-MN Member of the Year - Mary Rauvola

In her 35 years in the profession, she has committed her growth to one organization at Essentia Health. She grew from a role of phlebotomist to Vice President of the Lab where she has served in the role for the past two decades. Here, her impact extends far beyond the exceptional leadership role in the laboratory. She tirelessly advocates for the recognition of the laboratory's critical role, successfully securing increased pay and benefits for laboratory staff. She prioritizes the professional development of her team, leads by examples, and creates opportunities to promote the laboratory field to students.

In her involvement with the ASCLS, Mary has been an active and engaged member by serving on the CLC planning committee, Area Director, and Membership chair throughout the years. Her contribution was recognized through the Keys to the Future award in 1999. Mary's proactive efforts to promote ASCLS led to a successful Scientific Assembly event that was held in Duluth in 2023, providing both continuing education opportunities and giving a glimpse into Essentia Health's laboratory via tour. I am thrilled to continue working with her in the coming years as she brings her creativity and energy to the Minnesota Constituent Society as the Membership Chair. I am certain that in this role, she will provide much inspiration to our newest members to continue their journey of growth in the profession.

Kathy Hansen Recognized for 60 Years of Membership in ASCLS

60 years -really??

I was honored to be recognized at the 2024 CLC for achieving 60 years of membership in ASCLS. Until I arrived at the meeting, I had not realized that this year marked that anniversary. I have been asked to write a bit about my years in the lab and in ASCLS.

I graduated from a medical technology program at Macalester College (which was discontinued several years after I graduated). My clinical experience was at Miller Hospital in St. Paul (later part of United Hospital). The Blood Bank supervisor there, Audrey Allen, was an active member of what was then called the American Society for Medical Technology (ASMT) and encouraged students to join. Audrey was later the first Region V Director on the ASMT Board of Directors.

After graduation, I took a job in the Chemistry lab at University of Minnesota Hospital. In those days, most of our tests were manual methods, with "automation" being single channel autoanalyzers. Chemistry staff rotated between day and evening shifts. Night shifts were covered by students nearing the end of their 12-month rotations. Because I lived just blocks from the hospital, I was often "called back" during night shifts when things got too busy for the student working alone.

Amazing!

I saw many changes over the years as more types of testing (Radioimmunoassay, followed by immunoassays, much more automation, and molecular testing) were adopted. My job title changed to senior medical technologist, principal medical technologist, laboratory manager, and eventually director for the laboratories at the east and west bank labs at MHealth Fairview. After retirement from full-time work, I spent 13 more years as a part-time “internal consultant” to the MHealth Fairview labs.

I credit the leadership roles and opportunities offered by ASCLS in helping me to achieve success in work roles as well.

I started in ASCLS-MN as chair of student recruitment, a board member, state president, and much later co-chair of Minnesota’s attempt to pass licensure for laboratory personnel. At the national level: Government Affairs Committee member and chair, Region V Director, ASCLS President, ASCLS representative to NCA (National Accrediting Agency) and later President of NCA, ASCLS representative to the Joint Commission, ASCLS representative to the ASCP Board of Certification where I spent 10 years, two of them as Chair of the BOC. There’s more, but these are the highlights.

At this year’s CLC, several people asked me why I continue to attend the meetings. Much of the reason is the opportunity to reconnect with friends made over the years, and I still enjoy keeping up with the science.

For those who wonder “what’s in it for me” in being a member, I would point to the networking opportunities and friendships’ made – both local and national, the leadership opportunities, as well as continuing education and advocacy for the profession. You will definitely profit from the investment of your time and resources.

Kathy Hansen



SUNDAY AT 3 PM – 5 PM

ASCLS Social Hour

Sociable Cider Werks

Event Timing:

Sunday, May 26, 3-5 PM

Event Address:

Sociable Cider Werks

1500 Fillmore St NE

Minneapolis, MN 55413

Socialize and network with your MLS peers

FREE, informal social

All are welcome - NA drinks available!

Eat food, grab a drink, and celebrate the work that you do

Must be 21+ years of age or older to attend. Valid ID will be required.!



3 PM TO 5 PM

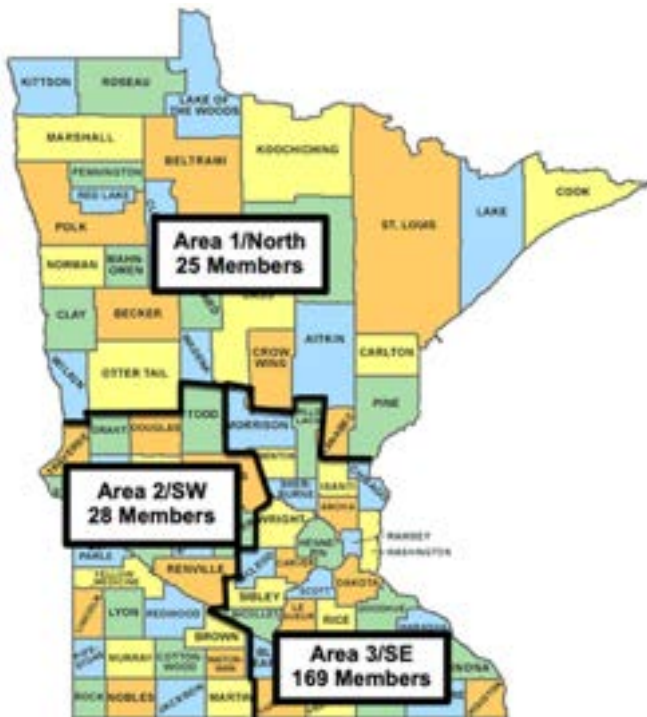
5/26/2024

*You deserve
to be happy*

EDITOR'S NOTE

Membership Renewal Time!

ASCLS Renewal
<https://ascls.org/benefits/>



A Word from the Editor:

Deb Rodahl (drodahl@outlook.com)

If you have any comments, suggestions, or would like to contribute an article to the newsletter, please feel free to reach out!

For More Information Visit:

<https://www.asclsmn.org>

<http://www.regionvascls.online>

www.ascls.org

facebook.com/ascls.mn

ASCLS MINNESOTA MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE - MINNESOTA (ASCLS-MN) IS TO PROMOTE THE PROFESSION OF CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE IN MINNESOTA AND PROVIDE BENEFICIAL SERVICES TO THOSE WHO PRACTICE IT.

THE SOCIETY IS COMMITTED TO:

PROMOTING HIGH STANDARDS IN CLINICAL LABORATORY PRACTICE, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH.

ELEVATING THE PROFESSIONAL STATUS OF THOSE PRACTICING CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE THROUGH PUBLIC ADVOCACY.

PROMOTING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION AND NETWORKING BETWEEN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS, PHYSICIANS, AND ALL OTHERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED IN THE INTEREST OF INDIVIDUAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

PROVIDING AND SUPPORTING CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRACTITIONERS AT ALL LEVELS.

ASCLS MINNESOTA VISION STATEMENT

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE - MINNESOTA (ASCLS-MN), THE STATE'S CONSTITUENT SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (ASCLS), AS THE PREMIERE ORGANIZATION FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PRACTITIONERS.