



LabOratory

American Society for Clinical Lab Science-Washington

Making the Most of Your ASCLS Membership



By Shawna Martin

As a longtime member of ASCLS I felt that I was familiar with the resources available to me through ASCLS, the face to face meetings held in our state and within our region, the ASCLS Annual Meeting and Legislative Symposium and the continuing education opportunities.

What I did not utilize when I first became a member was the Scientific Assemblies (SA), and the Membership community opportunities. These resources and networking opportunities are a great way to increase your participation in ASCLS by sharing knowledge with people who have the same interests as yourself.

As an ASCLS member you have access to the Scientific Assemblies via the Member portal, Membership Community. You may join Assemblies that coincide with your interests in the field. In addition to the internet aspect of the SA, the various SAs have meetings during the ASCLS annual meeting. These face to face meetings provide the

members with a chance to discuss important happenings in their field of interest.

Over the last two years, I participated in the SA as the co-chair of the Chemistry/Urinalysis SA. During my term as co-chair, I was responsible for working with ASCLS Leadership to provide expert input by our SA members regarding the Body of Knowledge produced by ASCLS to help direct the education of MT and MLT students. Our assembly reviewed the material submitted for accuracy and relevance to the needs of students and instructors. The Chemistry/UA SA also provided articles for the ASCLS publications.

Currently I am involved in the SA as the Vice-Chair for all SA at the National level. I work with the Chair, Ashlee Ketchum to provide guidance to the various SA chairs in reaching the goals laid out for the SAs.

My participation in the Scientific Assemblies has shown me that through the Membership Community we can share knowledge that is important to our future.

I urge you to take advantage of the Membership Community through the Scientific Assemblies. If you have any questions about utilizing the scientific assemblies, please feel free to contact me at my email address, shawnamartin32@comcast.net.



Q&A with WA Student Representative

Q: How did you decide to go into Laboratory Science?

A: Well, I initially thought I wanted to get into medical school so to do that I believed I'd have to become a doctor or a nurse. However, I found a lot of interest in the laboratory and enjoyed the internships during my undergraduate career. With the help of my college counselor, I found a field that molded medicine and the laboratory together- Medical Laboratory Science. Taking further internships heightened my interest to improve human health through the lab. When I entered into the program at Heritage University I knew this was where I was meant to be.



***Please
welcome our
new WA
Student
Representative,
Jasmine Pante!***

Q: How did you get involved in ASCLS?

A: I got involved in ASCLS starting as a student member while studying in Heritage University's MLS program. My program director Terese Abreu was highly involved in lab leadership and the current issues regarding the field which I wanted to be a part of in the future. After attending the NWMLS Fall 2016 symposium I was able to witness the enthusiasm and the strong foundation of the board.

I also obtained the Undergraduate ASCLS-WA Scholarship and was invited to the 2016 Spring Board Meeting which also was a valuable experience to see the field outside of the laboratory. I knew right then I wanted to be involved somehow especially with the shortage of our professionals and the effects of Medicare.

Q: What is your advice to students during their program and benefits of joining ASCLS?

A: My advice to students is to develop skills to organize and prioritize! Given the short amount of time to absorb all the technical information and to understand it along with other projects that have to be done, these 2 skills are essential. When you begin your career in the real world such skills will make you efficient and eventually a well seasoned Medical Laboratory Scientist.

The benefits of joining ASCLS are the relationships and sometimes friendships you gain from fellow professionals who have been in the field for years. Also you are able to access CE's and see other areas of the field important to our profession which include legislation and current issues in medicine.

Q: What are your future plans?

A: My future plans are to develop exceptional lab practices and skills at my current position in Yakima Regional Medical & Cardiac Center over the course of couple years. Meanwhile, I would like to continue being active in the ASCLS-WA board and I hope to be a positive asset. I am eager to meet more professionals in the field and learn from them.

In a couple years, I hope to get my masters in business in which I believe will assist me in achieving my goal as a Lab Manager.

ASCLS-WA Spring Seminar

Red Lion Hotel-Columbia Center in Kennewick, WA.



Educational sessions are scheduled for Thurs & Friday, April 27-28, 2017.

2017 Spring Seminar program, registration and any updates are available on the internet at:

www.asclswa.org/SpringSeminar.html

The **ASCLS-WA Board Mtg** and **House of Delegates Mtg** are scheduled for Thurs., evening, April 27, 2017 starting at 4:45pm.

Hotel conference room rates can be booked until April 10, 2017. Standard room is \$99.00/ night and premium room rate is \$109.00/ night, plus local and state taxes.

Company & Organization Sponsors for the 2017 Spring Seminar



ASCLS-WA, Beckman Coulter, Inc., CellaVision, Inland Northwest Blood Center, O'Neal & Browkaw Private Retirement Group, Otho Clinical Diagnostics, Roche Diagnostics, Siemens Healthineers, WA ST Department of Health – Public Health Laboratories, and WA ST Department of Health Laboratory Quality Assurance.

Student focused session Friday afternoon includes “Careers in Clinical Laboratory Science” and “Board of Certification Jeopardy Style.” Thanks to the coordinators: Alex Steiner (New Professional Representative), Jasmine Pante (Student Representative), and Jamie Schumaker (Student Advisor) for putting this session together.

Student Poster Session is a great way to add to your CE. After viewing the posted and completing a questionnaire, PACE credit is awarded. There is no charge to attend the poster session. Check the ASCLS-WA website for more information about poster topics.

If you are a student in one of the Washington Clinical Laboratory Science education programs listed below, you may register for ONE session at NO CHARGE. Student registration for additional session(s) is/ are \$25/session. This is a great opportunity and introduction to ASCLS-WA providing professional development education for certification maintenance programs.



ASCLS-WA Officers 2016-2017

President – Terese Abreu
President Elect – Shawna Martin
Past President – Leslie Nakagawa
Treasurer – Teresa Nguyen
Secretary – Nicole Curatolo
Seminar Board Liaison – Leonard Kargacin



Laboratory Professionals **GET RESULTS**

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week
APRIL 23-29, 2017 • #LABWEEK

Upcoming Conferences:

- Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference (CLEC), Boston, MA – Feb. 23-25, 2017
- Legislative Day, Alexandria, VA, March 20-21, 2017
- ASCLS, San Diego, CA, July 30-August 3, 2017
- Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium, Lynnwood Convention Center, October 18-21, 2017



ASCLS Patient Safety Committee

Resources at your fingertips...

http://ascls.org/images/patient_safety/resources_for_patient_safety.pdf

ASCLS Mission

The mission of ASCLS is to make a positive impact in health care through leadership that will assure excellence in the practice of laboratory medicine.

ASCLS Believes

1. **Quality laboratory service is essential to quality health care.**
2. **Competent, credentialed, laboratory professionals are the foundation to quality laboratory medicine.**
3. **Everyone deserves access to safe, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered healthcare, and**
4. **Advancing the laboratory profession advances health care.**

ASCLS Core Values

1. Ensuring safe, accurate, efficient, appropriate and cost effective laboratory services is a component of quality
2. Defining the characteristics of competent personnel within the profession and providing professional development opportunities so that practitioners can maintain competency are essential roles of a professional association
3. Enabling laboratory professionals to function at their highest level of competence will contribute to cost effective health care
4. Promoting diversity supports the delivery of quality laboratory service
5. Taking a leadership role in standard and policy setting is a core professional responsibility
6. Advocating for quality within the laboratory is essential to the assurance of quality health care delivery

Scholarships



- ASCLS-WA offers **two memorial scholarships** of \$250 each to attend the Spring Seminar and the NWMLS. These scholarships are offered as the
 - Don Kuhn Memorial Scholarship
 - Joyce Behrens Memorial Scholarship

Applicants must be a member of ASCLS-WA and must submit their application to the scholarship chair. If accepted, the recipient will submit their expenses to be reimbursed for the scholarship value up to \$250.

[Spring Seminar Scholarship Application](#)
[NWMLS Scholarship Application](#)

- ASCLS-WA offers **one student scholarship** of \$250. The application is available by clicking below:
[Student Scholarship Application](#)
- The **Carol Anderson Scholarship** is offered to ASCLS-WA members for educational purposes to include attendance at the ASCLS National Meeting, the ASCLS Leadership Academy, and State sponsored events. It is not available for university or college coursework.
[Carol Anderson Scholarship Application](#)

Scholarship applications are in Word format.



Please consider **VOLUNTEERING** to help on the following planning committees - **no experience required!!**

- 2017 Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium
- 2018 ASCLS-WA Spring Seminar

Planning Committee works prior to the conference to schedule sessions. **Moderator Chair** contacts attendee and assigns moderators for each session. **Sponsor Committee** helps contact vendors and organizations to help sponsor the conference.

On-site conference help needed at the registration table, and AV set up for sessions.

If interested, contact Seminar Board Liaison, Leonard Kargacin or Board Officers.
<http://asclswa.org/about.html>

“Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.” ~Author Unknown

Be a volunteer!



LabOratory is an ASCLS-WA newsletter.
Co-editors:
Jasmine Pante and Molly Morse