

Bayou Tech

Louisiana Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
An Affiliate of American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science



Edited By: Evan Ashley & Mallory McCarty

A Word from the President: Stephanie Blackburn MHS, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}

Hello LSCLS members,

It has been a busy spring! I am sure many of you started April celebrating with fellow co-workers as you acknowledged Medical Laboratory Professionals Week. What a great opportunity to spread the word about our profession!



We had the opportunity to end the month with our Annual Louisiana/Mississippi Bi-State Meeting in Shreveport. I would like to send out a huge THANK YOU to Cheryl Caskey and the entire meeting committee members. They were nothing short of amazing and everyone worked tirelessly to make sure our meeting was a success. Registration went smoothly, the multitude of exhibitors was fantastic, the program committee brought in intriguing speakers, and the social was a huge hit with everyone. The Bi-State meeting is not just a place to meet with fellow colleagues, but it gives us an opportunity to recognize members for their achievements in our laboratory profession. Congratulations to all of the award winners, scholarship recipients, and Student Bowl champions.

At the end of April, LSCLS also held our spring board meeting. We had excellent attendance with members from all over the state. During the meeting, elections were held for new board positions and delegates to the ASCLS Annual Meeting. Louisiana will have seven delegates representing our state at the annual meeting.

It has been a pleasure serving as your LSCLS President these past two years. I look forward to continue getting to know our new members and visiting with you at future meetings. I hope to see many of you at the ASCLS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA, July 28 – August 1. Michele Werner will do an amazing job as she takes over as the next President for LSCLS. I am confident she will do great things for our organization!

Stephanie

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-Stephanie Blackburn

In This Issue

- Word from the President
- Spring Meeting Summary
- Awards
- Student Forum Update

Scoping the Future
2015 LA MS Bi-State Meeting
Cheryl Caskey, Meeting Chair

The 2015 Bi-State meeting was held in Shreveport, LA April 13-16 at the Convention Center. The MLS and MLT Student Bowls started the meeting; there were 25 MLS teams with from both Alabama and Florida teams participating this year. Fifty games were played. The winner was the University of Southern Mississippi and the runner up was LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans.

Ten teams competed in the MLT Bowl. Copenh Lincoln Community College was the winner and Hinds Community College was the runner up.

The vendor support for the meeting was outstanding with 33 booths and 68 vendor representatives. Attendees had the opportunity to get P.A.C.E.® credit by visiting every booth and getting the answer to a question submitted by the booth. Participation was very good and the vendors were happy with the exhibit traffic, the venue, and attendee participation.

Roche sponsored the keynote speaker, Jennifer Zinn, whose presentation, Corporate Courage, examined courage in business and challenged attendees to make both business and personal decisions based on what is right and correct.

Dwight Bowlin presented the closing keynote, Looking Back to "C" Forward, which looked back at where we have come from to the present. He talked about healthcare reform and the fact that now is the time for the laboratory to "lead the way" and "speak up." He kept it light and sent attendees home with "food for thought."

Program highlights included ASCLS Executive Vice President Elissa Passiment talking about the challenges of effectively managing in the current environment while attempting to be agile enough for whatever we face in the future; "What Academic Administrators are Thinking" presented by Janelle Chiasera provided educators with information about how administrators strategically build and grow their academic units; "Preparing for Your Day in Court: Alcohol and Drug Testing Ramifications" contrasted civil and criminal courts and clinical and forensic laboratories; and "Stroke... It Can Happen to Anyone," a case study about a young colleague with Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia who suffered a stroke at age 34.

There were sessions in all disciplines, a session providing instructions on how to recognize and respond to an active hostile event at work, student review sessions, and student and member papers.

There was fun and food, too. The students had a luncheon and elected their new officers, awards were presented at the Awards Luncheon, and new this year was the Luncheon for Managers and Educators—the managers joined the educators for the first time and learned about leading change. Another new social event this year was the Past Presidents' Reception to allow these individuals to have wine and cheese and visit with each other. The social was good food, good friends, and a good time rolling back to the 80's; everyone had a chance to relax, socialize, be entertained, as well as dance.

Governance included the MSCLS and LSCLS Business meetings where issues of interest to the state and ASCLS were discussed, delegates to the Annual Meeting elected, and new officers installed.

Attendance was very good with almost 500 total participants. There were over 200 students and 68 vendor representatives, and 38 speakers. The committee appreciated the attendance and participation and having the opportunity to develop the meeting for colleagues, students, and vendors.

2015 Spring Meeting Awards



Member of the Year
Joette Taylor



Educator of the Year
Laine Reeder



Presidential Service Award
Mary Mitchell



Omicron Sigma National
(Left to Right)

Cheryl Caskey

Elizabeth Ezeb

Gretchen Brocksmith

Karrie Hovis

Not Shown: Lynda Britton & Cathy Robinson

Student of the Year
Elizabeth Ezeb

Keys to the Future
Gretchen Brocksmith
Patti Bouillon

Omicron Sigma Regional
Michele Werner
James Gardener
Stephanie Blackburn

Omicron Sigma State
Maegan Fryday
Jessica Lasiter
Evan Ashley
Joette Taylor
Bonnie Jo Tylor
Mary Muslow
Patsy Jarreau

Student Bowl First Place Team:
USM # 2

Captain: Paul Wolford
Wade Saucier
Sally Chang
T'Kyia Moss
Kyle Creel

Student Bowl Second Place Team:
LSUNO #1

Captain: Ben Anderson
Geoff Chapman
Queen Le
Joyce Burt
Angela Dela Rocha
Alternate: Luke Caruso

40 Years:
Frances Poe
30 Years:
Peggy Bauman
Margaret Devillier
Patsy Jarreau
20 Years:
Mary Ford
Larry Broussard

Student Forum Update

As the ASCLS Annual Meeting approaches there is much work that needs to be done as the ASCLS National Student Forum Chair and ASCLS Region VII Student Representative. One of the first things that has to be done is approving National Student Forum Travel Grants for students to apply for. This is a long process that involves the ASCLS National Student Forum, all the ASCLS Region Student Representatives, and the ASCLS Board of Directors. We have to get any grant that we set up approved by the Board of the Directors. Thankfully this year it was a seamless process getting the grants approved. The National Student Forum has done so well at fundraising the past year that we were able to approve 3 National Student Forum Travel Grants that will give each recipient \$800 to cover some expenses for the Annual Meeting.

Although, we got the grants approved the real work was about to start. Starting in June we will have conference calls every week leading up to the Annual Meeting. During these conference calls we will be discussing fundraisers, quiz bowl with the New Professionals, student sessions, and the National Student Forum Elections. As the National Student Forum Chair my job is to bring ideas to these calls and express any concern the Board of Directors may have. Having to plan all these events with input from a multitude of people takes time to perfect. This is why these conference calls have to be every week, so we can give you the best experience in Atlanta. Everyone involved with these conference calls deserve so much credit for taking the time out of their busy schedules to help make this meeting a success. We all love this profession and hope you all leave the Annual Meeting with the same enthusiasm that we have. We hope you all have a safe summer and we look forward to meeting you in Atlanta.

Elizabeth Ezeb

ASCLS National Student Forum Chair

James Gardner

ASCLS Region VII Student Representative

Editor's Note

I just wanted to say thanks to all of those who took time out of their schedules to submit articles and pictures. Help us pass this newsletter along by forwarding it to all of your coworkers or by posting it somewhere in your lab. This is just a reminder that we are now accepting ads to go into the newsletter. If anyone has any article that they would like to be put in the next edition of the Bayou Tech send the article to either lasiter@ulm.edu or evan.c.ashley@gmail.com. Also any suggestions of things you would like seen in the newsletter can also be sent to the previous email addresses.

Thanks,

Evan Ashley, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}