



The Connection

ASCLS-ND

The Connection
January 2007

Professional Subwoofer – Hear It, See It, Feel It

By: Lezlee Koch, ASCLS Region V Director



I know this has probably happened to you... While standing outside enjoying an unusually gorgeous day for November, a decked out older car drove by on my street. Its windows were up but I could hear the loud, low, rhythmic bass tones coming from the car. As it got closer, I could visually see these same low bass tones in the waivering of the car's

windows. As it got closer I could feel an "odd quivering feeling" in my chest. At that amazing moment in time I was not only "hearing sound", but also "seeing it" and "feeling it"!

ASCLS is our very own professional subwoofer. Every day ASCLS grassroots members are heard, seen and felt not only in our states but within the nation through every professional action and collaborative effort we take. The more ASCLS members we have, the louder the bass (our voice) that is heard. The more professional actions and effort put forth increases not only the volume but also the visibility of our professional value (see it) not just for ASCLS but for the clinical laboratory science professionals it represents.

The ability of our professional subwoofer is witnessed every time a local, state, regional or national meeting is held. The professional networking at these meetings "turns up the volume" and allows ASCLS and its professionals to be heard, seen and felt by all in attendance.



A wonderful example of this phenomenon was a "Laboratory Revival" 3-day fall meeting in Sioux Falls SD. Greater than 300 ASCLS members, non-members and vendor representatives from a 5-state region came together and turned up the volume for our profession. ASCLS continues to turn up our professional subwoofer through actions being taken and in accomplishing goals for our professionals. Just a few of the "bass vibrations" include:

- NCA/BOR continued discussions
- Leadership academy development
- Establishment of a new Patient Safety Task Force
- Student and Young Professional mentoring program

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Region V Report continued from page 1....

- Member Service and Member Recruitment Committees efforts to implement an organizational marketing plan including member and non-member on-line surveys to assure that ASCLS meets the needs and interests of clinical laboratory professionals in the nation
- Professional Doctorate Task Force continues working on finalizing a pilot program and finishing curriculum recommendations
- Committee on Professional Affairs – focusing efforts “to provide the face” of the clinical laboratory professional to the public and other health professionals
- Scope of Practice Task Force – currently completing a pilot survey on the proposed model
- Government Affairs continues to monitor Competitive Bidding and has completed many actions in relation to opposition and development of possible alternatives in collaboration with the laboratory industry
- Young Professional Committee continues with strategic actions to assure that ASCLS serves the needs and interests of our young professionals (published “ASCLS for Beginners Guide”; implemented an e-newsletter for young professionals)

IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.... if 10,000 individual ASCLS members turned up their very own professional subwoofer to a level that even as an individual their message could be heard, seen and felt by all co-workers, the community and the region. Now imagine that these same 10,000 professionals cranked it up at the very same moment in time! We would undoubtedly have ASCLS voice, value and vision that would “rock the nation” and every clinical laboratory professional in it! The time is now.... Turn up your ASCLS professional subwoofer by identifying yourself as an ASCLS member in your workplace and goals and accomplishments that ASCLS is achieving for one you encounter, and be involved in ASCLS at the local, levels. Do you know who the other ASCLS members are in your community? If not, immediately ask your society’s leader with them to make ASCLS and our professional effort visible in your workplace and community.



your community, share the our professionals with every-state, regional and national in your workplace and your ship who they are and work visible in your workplace and

Turn up your bass! Turn up your volume! Turn up your professional subwoofer to promote our professionals, ASCLS and ASCLS Region V!

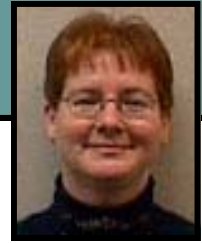
visibility! Be an unstoppable

The Coordinating Council for the Clinical Laboratory Workforce (CCCLW) has established a workgroup to explore ways to improve the prestige and image of the profession, the professional and the services they provide. One task is to catalog existing efforts so as not to “reinvent the wheel”. Members of the Council have been searching the web sites of hospitals and universities for their efforts and are asking all of the laboratory organizations to share any public relations efforts that they have. ASCLS has been asked to check with our constituent societies to find out if any of you have any information, publicity, etc either published or on your web sites that promotes the profession and is meant to increase the visibility of laboratorians. If any of you have such material, or know of a health care institution that does, please let us know and send examples, links, etc. to Elissa Passiment at elis-sap@ascls.org or fax to 301-657-2909. Thank you so much for your help with this!

Elissa Passiment, ASCLS
6701 Democracy Blvd, #300
Bethesda, MD 20817

President's Message

By: Stacy Askvig, ASCLS-ND President



WHAT CAN I DO FOR ASCLS-ND AND THE LABORATORY PROFESSION?

After the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season, we should be back to our everyday routine. Now is the time to ask ourselves: What can I do for ASCLS-ND and the laboratory profession?

We are holding a one day education and organization meeting in Jamestown April 25, 2007. Do you have a speaker that would be willing to present? If so, please contact Kathy Jones at kathy.jones@meritcare.com. Would you be willing to serve in a leadership role for ASCLS-ND or know someone who would be a great asset? Please contact Robin Kuhne at robin.kuhne@meritcare.com.

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week is April 22-28, 2007. What activities do you have planned? Please share your ideas with other members. We are planning to have a blackboard available on our website, so members can share ideas and ask each other questions.

Fargo will be hosting the Region V Meeting from October 1-3, 2007. Co-Chairs, Robin Kuhne at robin.kuhne@meritcare.com and Marie Dickey at marie.dickey@meritcare.com would appreciate any speaker suggestions, volunteer moderators, or ideas that you can contribute.

Use these opportunities to share and help each other promote and improve our profession. We need to do it ourselves, because nobody will do it for us.



Brain Teaser...

The words below are all anagrams of other words, a word spelled with the exact same letters as another word. What are the answers?

bruise

listen

warned

veined

please

trance

See page 10 for the answers


Check it out!!!

NEW FORUM LINK ON OUR WEBSITE!!

I'm excited to announce that our Website Manager has added a new Forum link on the ASCLS-ND website. This link was established so visitors to the site can easily interact with fellow technologists. There is a General section for posting miscellaneous information. In the Chapter Meeting Information section visitors can view announcements for upcoming Convention Planning Committee Meetings and dates of future State, Region V and National Conventions. Board Meeting and Business Meeting minutes will also be posted. There is also a Technology Discussion Board where technologists can exchange information on the latest technology or assay-troubleshooting problems, what you like about it, what doesn't work, interesting case studies, etc. You can post a message as a guest or go through a very easy registering process. I hope everyone will check out this exciting new link. I think it is a great tool for us all to connect with each other. If you have any questions or suggestions for fine tuning the Forum link please e-mail me at medtecdawn2@msn.com and I will forward them to the Website Manager.

Thank you,

Dawn Michelson-President-Elect



Promoting our Profession

Hey everyone! I hope that everyone's year has started out to be a great one! I am the current 1st Year Professional Director. Besides representing ASCLS-ND at Legislative Days we currently don't really have a description of what the 1st Year Professional Directors duties are. So, if any of you have any ideas please email them to me (see below) and we can discuss the ideas at our next business meeting.

I am currently working with Alice Hawley and our current Student Representative, Kimberly Meyer, on putting together and sending out packets of information about medical laboratory professions to high schools in North Dakota and possibly western Minnesota (such as the East Grand Forks and Moorhead areas). These packets will include a letter to the counselor/science department regarding what the packet contains, a CD-ROM, and a brochure for recruiting students into laboratory science professions. In the letter we will offer to send an ASCLS-ND representative (or anyone interested) to their school to talk about/demonstrate what we do in our professions. If anyone is interested in going to high schools in their area please send me an email to kari.kempel@meritcare.com.

I am looking forward to representing ASCLS-ND at Legislative Days in March!

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Kempel

1st Year Professional Director

LABORATORY

PROFESSIONALS

Quality Care from Quality Professionals

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week | 2007

In this 32nd year, it is important to reflect on the important history of National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW). NMLPW originated in 1975, as NMLW, under the auspices of the American Society for Medical Technology, now called the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS). In subsequent years, other organizations have served as cosponsors and campaign supporters. In the fall of 2005, National Medical Laboratory Week was changed to National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week to emphasize the person whose expertise is needed in the performance of laboratory testing.

There are approximately 300,000 practitioners of clinical laboratory science in the United States. Since the development of this career group in the 1920s, the clinical laboratory science professional has played an increasingly vital role in the diagnosis and prevention of disease. Today, the clinical laboratorian is a key member of a health care team.

As team members of one of the largest industries in the United States, the dedicated efforts of laboratory professionals often go unnoticed by the general public, as well as by the very institutions employing their services. With the public now demanding the assurance of quality health care and professional accountability, organizations representing practitioners of this critical science have a responsibility to ensure that the public is well informed about clinical laboratory competency.

Beyond meeting this public need, the celebration of NMLPW will help increase recognition for the profession as it improves the individual practitioner's sense of self-worth. Further, as the various professional groups within laboratory practice work together on this project, the sense of unity and purpose necessary to further the goals of all laboratorians are reinforced.

UPCOMING ASCLS-ND EVENTS

Spring

Join us for a SPRING FLING! The ASCLS-ND Spring Meeting is on Wednesday April 25th, 2007 in Jamestown at the Quality Inn and Suites. See our website at www.asclsnd.org for further information.

REGION V MEETING

Harvesting the Knowledge!

The Region V ASCLS meeting is October 1-3, 2007 in Fargo at the Ramada. Please mark your calendars now for this event!!



Membership Development

By: Dawn Michelson, President-Elect



help
is on
getting
renews
Medical

Hi all! Now that the New Year is here, it's time to assess what needs to be done to ASCLS-ND grow and improve so it can serve you better. As President-Elect, my focus membership recruitment and retention. I feel the first thing that needs to be done is the students and younger technologists involved. After 20 years in the profession, it my passion for what I do seeing how excited they are to learn and do new things.

Technology as a profession might be in trouble in the future unless the "seasoned" technologists start to mentor those just starting their careers. What can you do?? Lots!! Encourage them to join ASCLS where they will have P.A.C.E. approved educational opportunities and reduced registration fees for conventions where they will have a chance to network with students and technologists from all over the tri-state area. All members are welcome to come to the yearly Business Meeting held at the State Convention-it's a great way for them to see the inner workings of the organization. Student members are eligible to apply for a Student Delegate position where they will attend State Board Meetings, have voting privileges and will be a member of the Delegation to the National Convention. There is also a \$500 student scholarship that is awarded yearly. By doing this we will ensure that ASCLS and ASCLS-ND will remain a strong VOICE for, promote the VALUE of, and provide a clear VISION for the laboratorian now and in the future. If I can be of any assistance to you please e-mail me at medtecdawn2@msn.com. Be proud of the work you do-it will rub off on others!

Thank you,

Dawn Michelson-President-Elect

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Dawn Michelson

Expenses:

Office Supplies...41.38
Scholarships...1,500.00
Gifts...232.61
Website maintenance...128.40
Airfare ASCLS National Meeting 2006...1,764.81
Registration ASCLS National Meeting...1,720.00
Hotel/Dining ASCLS National Meeting...3,052.93
Taxi ASCLS National Meeting...165.70

Total Expenses: 8,605.83

Income:

State Dues...45.00
Interest...2.40
...I have not received the check from the 2006 Spring Convention in Fargo, but it will be approximately 14,000.00

Total Income: 47.40

Balances as of 8/23/06

Checking...1,606.58 (0.5%)
Money Market...7,217.15 (3.94%)
12M CD...4,724.07 (4.75% matures 5/16/07)
12M CD...7,969.47 (4.0% matures 12/7/06)

Fall Board Meeting Minutes

Present-Stacy Askvig, Dawn Michelson, Kathy Jones, Terri Hintz, Shannon Jongeward, Robin Kuhne, Marie Dickey

Stacy called the meeting to order

Dawn handed out the Treasurer Report submitted to Shannon for The Connection 8-2006

Convention Update-The Spring Meeting will be 4-25-06 in Jamestown. The Board meeting will be in the evening 4-24-06 and the Business Meeting will be at lunchtime 4-25-06. Please encourage students to attend these meetings-it's a great way for them to actually see how ASCLS-ND works. The Region V Meeting will be held in Fargo at the Ramada Inn 10-1-07 to 10-3-07. If anyone wants to volunteer his or her help for the Spring Meeting contact Kathy Jones, for the Region V Meeting contact Robin Kuhne. Some of the planning for the Region V meeting will be done via conference call to save travel time and expenses. There will be a general Region V planning meeting before the end of October so think about what area you could help out in!

Goals for the year-Stacy handed out her list of goals she wanted to accomplish this year. They included Advocating our profession in the community, asking for input from our members, providing continuing education, newsletter, keeping members informed, keeping the President's Manual updated, promote interaction between members through the website.

Website- Dawn will contact the website manager about starting a message board where members can post news, feedback about instrumentation and general concerns. Maybe there can also be a link for technical questions and a link to the e-mail of the person who has expertise in that area.

Leadership-Kathy will contact the National Leadership Committee Chair, Deb Rodahl and will also coordinate with the FYP and the Student Representative.

Student Representative-The Student Representative should be contacting students now. Maybe send out a letter welcoming them to the CLS profession, telling them what ASCLS does for them, listing the scholarships that are available, etc. Maybe this information should be given out to juniors when they are applying for their internship.

FYP-The First Year Professional will go to Legislative Days in 3-07

Government Liaison-What is the role of the Government Liaison? There should be a job description written up so people who are asked to fill the position will know the duties involved. Should it be kept an appointed position-possibly for a two-year term?

Fall meeting minutes continued from page 7...

Nominations-Please send in your nominations to Robin early!

Newsletter-Anyone that has an interesting case study please submit it to Shannon-this includes students too! Shannon will post job descriptions for the open positions on the Board.

ASCLS Accounts-It was decided to take the names of Kathy Jones and Melissa Kraft off the accounts and put Stacy Askvig and Sue Hollister on.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Michelson

ASCLS PACE COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Cindy Koffman, ASCLS National PACE committee and
Sherry Miner, ASCLS National office.

When the ASCLS PACE committee met at the 2006 ASCLS annual meeting, the hot topic was the introduction of scanners to record attendance at each session. This was the first step towards working to make the PACE process paperless. There were a few glitches when individuals' badges lost their memory but over all it seemed to work well for a first try. It is a PACE goal to make attendance tracking and certificate documentation an easier process for both session moderators and the attendees at future national meetings. State societies may continue to use the paper system if they wish. ASCLS did not purchase the scanners. They were rented from Spargo, the company that supplied scanners to the exhibitors at the Lab Expo

A new policy has been instituted for national PACE committee members. Committee members must now attend one ASCLS national meeting each year: the annual meeting, CLEC, or the Legislative Symposium. PACE committee members will help staff the PACE table at the meeting they attend.

As the demand for continuing education grows, the PACE committee works to ensure that programs with PACE approval are quality programs. Attendees of PACE approved ASCLS national programs can be assured that their continuing education documentation will be accepted by all certification and licensing bodies.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding PACE please feel free to contact: Mary Coleman, ND PACE representative at mcoleman@medicine.nodak.edu, Cindy Koffman at cindyko@rmcnet.org, or Sherry Miner, sherym@ascls.org, at the ASCLS National Office.

More News from Region V

Moving Mountains - "It is the voice and actions of many that create the ripples that can move mountains."~unknown

By: Lezlee Koch, ASCLS Region V Director

The mountains that now must be moved are laboratory errors. By moving these mountains, clinical laboratory professionals will help assure patient safety and improved medical outcomes for the patients they serve. For patients, some of the most devastating medical mistakes can start in the laboratory, studies by the IOM and national health & safety organizations document that 3 to 5 percent of the billions of specimens taken each year are defective, be it a biopsy that doesn't extract the tumor cells, blood that isn't drawn correctly, or even a mix-up with another patient's sample. These same studies also document that only about 1 percent of the occurring errors lead to serious harm or delays in treatment. Even though this low percent may sound assuring, you and I both truly hope that it is not us or one of our loved ones that are part of this percent when we seek healthcare.

Clinical laboratory professionals know that tests can fail and outcomes can be impacted because things can go wrong at every step of the process even with multiple checks and balances in place. Every day laboratory professionals combat pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical errors with quality assessment mechanisms that are second nature to us. Over the past several years, our clinical laboratories have enhanced policies on positive patient identification, specimen labeling, handling critical values, and many more. Laboratories have embarked on successful quality journeys utilizing Six Sigma principles and Lean production techniques with the ultimate goal of decreasing errors and improving testing turn-around-times to improve patient outcomes. Quality is at the heart of everything we do. So have we done enough? Absolutely not!

We have remained focused on the areas within our direct control. The time is now to step out of that mode. Clinical laboratory professionals must start pursuing quality in areas that may not be in their direct control but absolutely do impact quality in laboratory medicine and ultimately patient safety. These areas may be any where from correct test ordering by a physician, to patient education so they may be actively involved in medical decisions for their care, to guiding correct medical intervention strategies through expansion of interpretive test resulting, to assisting in developing clinical pathways that utilize appropriate and effective laboratory testing.

ASCLS Is Focusing on Patient Safety – New Patient Safety Task Force Appointed

Background: The Institute of Medicine (IOM) study recommended that all health care organizations and professional groups "adopt an explicit purpose to continually reduce the burden of illness, injury, and disability and to improve the health and functioning of people." The difference between the health care that we have now and the health care that we could and should have is described as a chasm.

The IOM suggests six aims that health care organizations and professions should focus attention in order to improve the performance of the health care system and achieve the above purpose. These aims are:

1. Safety: focus on patient safety so that we do not harm the patients while treating them.

Region V report continued from page 9...

2. Effectiveness: provide services based on benefit to the patient and based on evidence based practice to avoid over-and under-use of services.
3. Timeliness: reduce the time to provide care to prevent additional harm to the patient
4. Efficiency: avoid waste of medical resources
5. Equitableness: provide quality care that does not vary according to sex, race, ethnicity, geographical location, and socioeconomic status.

Your ASCLS Board of Directors has appointed a new "Patient Safety Task Force". Region V is well represented on this Task Force (TF). Members appointed include: Cathy Otto (Chair), Rick Benson (MI), Judy Davis (TN), Shirley Heber (SD), Mary Jo Tietge (WI), Jean Bauer (MN), Elissa Passiment (Staff Liaison) and myself as the Board Liaison. The TF is charged with recommending strategies that ASCLS should adopt to address these aims and that will serve to inculcate the IOM recommendations into our mission and strategic plan. In particular, the TF should make recommendations as to how ASCLS can help the laboratory workforce develop and evaluate methods that focus on patient safety. The TF is requested to submit its recommendations to the ASCLS Board of Directors for discussion at the Annual Meeting in San Diego, July 17, 2007.

What Can Region V Members Do To Assist The Patient Safety Task Force?

Have you, your laboratory, your facility or your health system developed new quality assessment or safety initiatives that address one of the six aims listed above to improve performance in health care? Do you have suggestions for development of new programs, protocols, references, or resources to achieve improved patient outcomes and safety? If you answered yes to either of these... we want to hear from you. You may contact anyone of the TF members or myself at lezleek@sio.midco.net.

As the opening quote states, "It is the voice and action of **many** that create the ripples!" We want our ASCLS ripples to turn into tidal waves... you can help make that happen!

Brain Teaser Answers

bruise.....rubies
 warned....wander
 please....asleep
 listen...silent
 veined...envied
 trance....nectar

In Our Next Issue

We will be featuring a case study column in upcoming issues of The Connection. If you have an interesting case study that you would like to share with fellow ASCLS-ND members, please feel free to submit them to me at any time. This includes students! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Shannon Jongeward
 The Connection Editor
 ASCLS-ND
shannon@gra.midco.net

ASCLS-ND Call for Nominations

2007 ASCLS-ND Nominations

It's that time of year again! We are in need of dedicated members who would like to become more involved in our professional society. If you know of anyone, including yourself, who would like to opportunity to make a difference and serve on the ASCLS-ND Board of Directors, let us know. The positions we have up for elections for the 2007-2008 year are:

President-elect: 1 year term

- Becomes familiar with presidential duties to transition into the position of the following year
- Assists the President as needed and serves as CEO in absence of the President
- Develops knowledge of past and present Society activities
- Chairs ASCLS-ND membership development committee, and serves as liaison to LEND advisory board
- Co-chairs ASCLS-ND delegation at the annual meeting of ASCLS House of Delegates
- Prepares budget for the following year
- Attends the Region V council meeting, business meetings, and ASCLS annual meeting

Delegate: 1 year term

- Becomes familiar with issues presented to the House of Delegates at the annual ASCLS meeting
- Attends all meetings of the House of Delegates and other meetings as requested by the chair of the ND delegation
- Submits an article for publication in the fall issue of the ASCLS-ND newsletter

Board Member at Large: 2 year term

- Serves as member of ASCLS-ND Board of Directors
- Serves as committee chair and other leadership roles as requested by the President

We will be accepting nominations until March 15th, 2007. Please include the name, e-mail address, work phone number, and place of employment of the nominee. Please submit nominations to:

Robin Kuhne ,ASCLS-ND Nominations Chair

MeritCare Microbiology Laboratory

Fargo, ND

701-234-2113

robin.kuhne@meritcare.com

ASCLS-ND Member List

Current as of January 31st, 2007

Jessie Anderson	Nina Hintz	Ron Piatz
Liane Anderson	Terri Hintz	Garis Pollert
Byana Arnold	Jean Dean Holland	Robert Porter
Stacy Askvig	Sue Hollister	Mindy Pulkrabek
Cynthia Ault	Michael Holm	Elaine Ramstad
Renaë Baltzer	Julie Hoverson	Mindy Raulston
Mary Belanus	Jessica Irion	Delilah Rosecrans
Lesley Bernard	Bonnie Jangula	Frances Sailer
Tara Bondley	Timothy Joachim	Janice Schuh
Laura Bossert	Kathy Jones	Heather Scott
Linda Bossert	Shannon Jongeward	Elaine Sommers
Thomas Braaten	Kari Kempel	Geraldine Stebbins
Heidi Brosius	Renee Kennedy	Susan Tidball
A Wayne Bruce	Melissa Kraft	Danielle Tofte
Nancy Buchholz	Robin Kuhne	Emily Tron
Deborah Burke	Tracie Laine	Angela Jo Uhlich
Romel Canapi	Jennifer Lamoureux	Jane Voss
Karen Cisek	Kimberly Larson	Margie Vossler
Mary Coleman	Toscha Larson	Terri Walker
Sharon Daniels	Cheryl Lee	Victoria Welton
Ronda Dercher	Jennifer Lemer	Melissa Wilhelmi
Mary Dhuyvetter	Evonne Lopez	Renda Wilson
Tish Elliott	Amber Lundell	
Jeanette Festvog	Judy Magnuson	
Pamela Fitzgerald	Lori Martell	
Audrey Garner	Laurie Massey	
Pat Geistler	Laura Mastel	
Loretta Groth	Sandra Matthey	
Linda Gylland	Dawn Michelson	
Patricia Halvorson	Carol Nilles	
Patricia Hanggi	Leola Olson	
Marlys Harrision	Patricia Person	
Jocelyn Haugen	Karen Peterson	
Alice Hawley	Kimberly Peterson	

Leadership Roster 2006-2007

President: Stacy Askvig

701-839-1847

saskvig@medicine.nodak.edu

President-Elect: Dawn Michelson

701-237-9705

medtecdawn2@aol.com

Past-President: Kathy Jones

701-282-6381

kathy.jones@meritcare.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Sue Hollister

701-234-2481

hollister@polarcomm.com

Board Member: Terri Hintz

701-772-1388

thintz@altru.org

Board Member: Shannon Jongeward

701-775-9330

shannon@gra.midco.net

Nominations Chair: Robin Kuhne

701-234-2401

robin.kuhne@meritcare.com

Student Representative: Kim Larson

701-636-3216

kimandtommeyer@hotmail.com

First Year Professional: Kari Kempel

701-280-4881

kari.kempel@meritcare.com

Region V Director: Lezlee Koch

lezleek@sio.midco.net

Region V Student Rep: Emily Tron

701-793-2402

emily_tron@yahoo.com

Delegate: Liane Anderson

701-852-1607

liane.anderson@trinityhealth.org

PACE Coordinator: Mary Coleman

701-775-3664

mcoleman@medicine.nodak.edu

Publications Editor: Shannon Jongeward

701-775-9330

shannon@gra.midco.net

Member of the Year Nominations

Do you know someone who has significantly contributed to ASCLS-ND this year? Who has given outstanding service to our profession and to the organization? If so, nominate them for the ASCLS-ND member of the year. You can submit your nominations to shannon@gra.midco.net or saskvig@medicine.nodak.edu. In your nominations, please state why you think this person is deserving of this award. It will be given out at the annual ASCLS-ND spring meeting in Jamestown, April 25th, 2007.