

The Connection

April 2017



President

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Hi all, I would like to tell you a story about myself and a person named Renee Copeland Soape who will always be a part of my life and up until now I have never met. I am telling you this story because I want everyone to know that you will have the opportunity to become a part of “the pool”. At the ASCLS ND state meeting to be held in Grand Forks we will have the “**Be the Match**” organization collecting buccal swabs (yup not blood anymore) for testing.

Many years ago (I think it was the early 1990's) I was walking through our local mall during a cancer awareness event when I happened to come across a booth taking blood samples for the bone marrow registry. I went in and donated and officially became a part of “the pool”. I thought nothing more about it. Now fast forward to 2006 and one day out of the blue I receive a call from the donor program. I was a tentative match for a 37 year old woman with two young girls. She has been diagnosed with CML and is in need of a bone marrow transplant, would I be interested. I said yes. All I could think of was that her children needed their mother. And so the journey begins.

The organization sent me some collection tubes to be filled and returned for further testing. A few weeks later they called and told me that I was a match and ask again if I was still interested. I said yes. So they fly me to Minneapolis for a physical and final testing. All goes well and I am told that if I am still interested they would like me to donate. I said yes. I am then told that I would need to be available when the recipient is ready as everything that is done from here on out depends on the recipient. Fast forward again to Sept 2007 I am getting my son ready to move to Wyoming for school when I get the call stating that the recipient is ready and they have chosen stem cell replacement instead of bone marrow. I would need to give myself shots for 5 days then be flown to Minneapolis for harvest, am I still willing to donate? I said yes.

So on my trip to Wyoming I gave myself shots. The day I returned home they flew my husband and myself to Minneapolis. The whole process was amazing. My recipient received her stem cells on Oct 1, 2007.

One year later I received a letter from the donor program asking if I would like to

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Medical Laboratory Professionals Week



April 23-29, 2017

Laboratory Professionals Week (MLPW) provides the profession with a unique opportunity to increase public understanding of and appreciation for clinical laboratory personnel.



[Participate in the 2nd Annual Lab Week Run!](#) Get a group of coworkers together and register for this virtual 5K. This event is sponsored by the ASCLS Student Forum and New Professional New Member Forum

Nicole Lemieux and Alice Hawley
Last years participants in the 5K run





ASCLS Members! Are you....

Looking for an opportunity of a lifetime?

Want to enhance your leadership skills?

Interested in taking that next step up in your professional career?

Want to expand your network of professional friends?

Looking for ways to enhance your professional life and path to professional success?

The ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy
is just the opportunity you've been looking for!

Visit the Leadership Academy website to learn more about this amazing opportunity.

The website contains information on the academy curriculum, time involvement, accountabilities, individuals to contact if you have questions, and complete information on the application/selection process.

We are accepting applications now!

We'd love to have you in our next class!

Application DEADLINE: June 1, 2017

www.regionvascls.online/leadership-academy.html

NEWS FROM LEGISLATIVE DAYS

The annual ASCLS Legislative Symposium was held March 20-21, 2017 at the Hilton Old Town in Alexandria, Virginia, and at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. As president-elect for ASCLS-ND, I attended the symposium, along with Muhammad Rijj, the current ASCLS-ND student representative.

The atmosphere in Washington D.C. was a bit more 'charged' than usual this year, given all of the recent political changes and dialogue. In some ways, however, I think that 'charged' atmosphere carried over to our discussions and energized the participants, making for a successful and enlightening symposium.

On Monday, March 20th, symposium attendees participated in all-day sessions that covered everything from the discussing each legislative issue facing the clinical laboratory in-depth, to the current make-up of congressional health-related committees, to tips for meeting with representatives.

On Tuesday, March 21st, ASCLS provided a BIG breakfast at the Hilton Old Town, after which Muhammad and I headed to Capitol Hill! Some big events were occurring while we were there including hearings for Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch and President Trump visiting the Capitol to discuss healthcare legislation. It was the first time visiting Washington D.C. for Muhammad and myself, which made it even more exciting. Armed with all the valuable information from the previous day, we met with aides for all three North Dakota congressional members: Senator John Hoeven, Senator Heidi Heitkamp, and Representative Kevin Cramer. Senator Heitkamp was even able to join us briefly (see attached photo).

It was very clear that Capitol Hill is a busy place so our meetings were pretty short, but still worthwhile. The main issue we wanted to discuss had to do with the portion of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) that deals with establishing a new market-based laboratory fee schedule. Many concerns had been identified with PAMA (ex. how most of the data being collected were coming from large reference labs while hospital and physician lab data were being excluded, CMS's unclear definition of 'applicable laboratory', how CMS would verify the accuracy and validity of data, etc.), and these concerns and their potential negative implications for North Dakota labs were passed on to each aide. We also briefly discussed laboratory workforce issues and Laboratory Developed Tests. Knowing that all the other ASCLS Legislative Symposium participants were having similar conversations with their representatives/aides from states across the country helped make our efforts feel even more valuable!

After a very busy day of finding (we did a pretty good job of this for two North Dakotans in a big city!) and participating in meetings, Muhammad and I had a few hours to site see around the Capitol. We visited the Supreme Court Building, Library of Congress, World War II Memorial, Washington Monument, and White House! We walked the whole way so we were thankful for our big breakfast!

It will be interesting to see what happens in the next year with the laboratory issues we discussed, especially PAMA. Regardless of the outcome, I am thankful for the opportunity I had to bring awareness to these issues, and even more thankful that we have an organization like ASCLS to lead the charge in these efforts! If you

have specific questions about the issues we covered during the 2017 ASCLS Legislative Symposium, you can visit the ASCLS webpage (ascls.org), or feel free to contact me directly at brooke.solberg@med.und.edu.



Brooke Solberg, Heidi Heitkamp, Muhammad Riji

Greetings ASCLS-ND,

This is Muhammad Riji, ASCLS-ND Student representative. I recently traveled to Washington DC for the annual Legislative Symposium. I was not sure what to expect but after the first day, I was amazed at how much politics is involved in our profession. The first day we had meetings all day. We spent the day learning about how ASCLS interact and collaborate with members of congress. We had series of lectures and panels discussing various issues and topics that are currently going on. Some of the issues has potential of affecting our profession on a large scale in the long run. On Tuesday morning, we went to Capitol Hill to discuss our issues with ND's congress men and woman. One of the major issue we discussed was about Protecting access to Medicare Act or PAMA. PAMA requires CMS to calculate and establish a new Medicare Clinical Lab Fee Schedule (CLFS based on private payer payment data submitted by "applicable labs". We urged congress men John Hoeven and Kevin Kramer and congress woman Heidi Heitkamp to ask congress support for Administrative Delay of Implementation of Section 216 of PAMA. We wanted the delay because the project as laid out by CMS is flawed and does not reflect true market based reimbursement rates as intended by Congress. We explained to the Congress men and woman the urgency and importance of this issue and how it will negatively impact our state. We also discussed about the shortage of MLS and MLT and how laboratory developed tests should be carefully regulated. The Congress men and woman said they would consider the issues right away. I am so thankful for ASCLS for all the hard work its executive members are putting forth to make sure our profession stay alive.

Muhammad Riji

Laboratory Words

N N
 S X
 W P F Q
 V E Y Z
 O D A K O R
 B S E R U M
 E E F L D O O L B Z D F A S T I N G M G
 O B G L A I T N E R E F F I D D M Q I D
 A U D A P T N E M U R T S N I G D N
 X T P E L D E E N M U E L J W I
 Y R T S I M E H C E X Y A Y
 V P H E M A T O L O G Y
 T Y R O T A R O B A L E G D
 E U R I N A L Y S I S J L T
 M C R O S S M A T C H C F Z R P
 K E T N G N W S E V O L G L
 W H T Y P E J R M K A L A U
 A E U Y J D J T P R
 U R Z P O T O W
 T D Q D

LABORATORY
 URINALYSIS
 CHEMISTRY
 HEMATOLOGY
 BLOOD
 SERUM
 FASTING
 CROSSMATCH
 TYPE
 DRAW
 NEEDLE
 TUBE
 INSTRUMENT
 DIFFERENTIAL
 GLOVES
 COAT



ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy – the who, what why, where and how??

WHO: Region V and YOU!!

ASCLS Region V has a wonderful opportunity that is available to any ASCLS member from Region V - an opportunity to pursue leadership, professionalism, management and self-knowledge. It provides the opportunity to do it all with others who are going through the same process and with others who will help to guide and assist you in the journey.

WHAT: Leadership and Professionalism

The ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy's goal is to provide a structured regional Leadership Academy that will prepare members to become future leaders in ASCLS and within the profession of Medical Laboratory Science, as well as, being able to apply the concepts to one's own personal and individual development.

WHY: Ability to Succeed

The ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy helps develop our participants to succeed not only in leadership roles within ASCLS but to succeed in life by developing personal and life application skills. Of the 10 graduates since the program's inception, 4 have gone on to lead their respective states as ASCLS presidents, several have been involved in ASCLS at state, regional and national levels and many have become leaders in their own institutions.

WHERE: Keeping it within the Region

The Academy goes from October to October with very minimal time away from home and thus, less cost for the participant. Plus, the host state societies assist their participants with expenses. Having the academy within the region also allows the participants to develop a network of professional mentors and friends close to home.

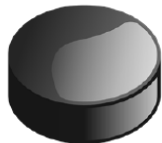
HOW: Fill out an Application

Look around and identify ASCLS members who have the potential to become leaders. It might be a person you work with, it might be that member that you touch base with at your state meeting, it might be YOU!! Pass along or fill out an application and return by June 1, 2017.

Follow the website below to find out more info or reach out to your state president if you have any questions.

www.regionvascls.online/leadership-academy.html





Game
On!
Advancing
Laboratory
Science



Reach your GOALS!
Join us for the 2017
ASCLS-ND State Meeting

APRIL 24-25, 2017
RAMADA GRAND FORKS
1205 N. 43RD ST.
GRAND FORKS, ND 58203
701.775.3951

Meeting Chair Information

Mary Coleman: mary.coleman@med.und.edu
Shannon Jongeward: shannon.jongeward@med.und.edu
Brooke Solberg: brooke.solberg.1@med.und.edu

[Click here](#) to be taken to the online registration

Continued from page 1

share my information with my recipient as she is wanting to exchange information. I said yes.

Meet Renee. We have been Facebook friends since sharing information. I am now getting the privilege of meeting her in person. She is flying from Texas to ND to meet my husband and I just 5 months shy of her 10 year remission anniversary.

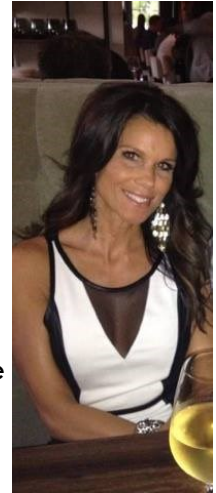
My philosophy has always been “help those that you can as someday you may need help yourself”. This is so true. I have always been a blood donor and there was a time when I needed blood myself. If I can’t do for others why should I expect others to do for me.

That said, I encourage everyone who can to come see “Be the Match” at the ASCLS-ND meeting on Monday night during the vendor hour and get swabbed. Who knows, you may one day save a life.

If you would like more information on my experience, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sharon Reistad - ASCLS-ND state president

Sharon.reistad@med.und.edu



PAC – the “Inside Scoop”

by Shirley Heber, ASCLS National PAC Chair and Mary Coleman, ASCLS-ND PAC Representative

PAC – if someone asked you what PAC is, what would you say? Is it important? Do we need to get involved? Don’t stop reading yet.....

Facts every ASCLS member needs to know.....

- ASCLS is committed to supporting the laboratory profession – many decisions that affect us are made on Capitol Hill. **Lobbying is essential** to assure input on critical health care decisions.
- ASCLS PAC supports these efforts – solely through member contributions.
- ASCLS annual fundraising goal is \$50,000 – current donations are only a third of this amount.

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

Summer 1986 edition of The Connection

A full copy of this issue of The Connection can be seen at ascksnd.org

1986 NDSMT MEMBER OF THE YEAR

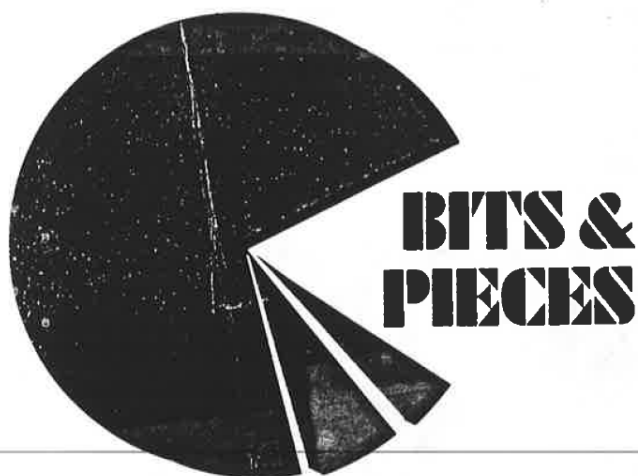
Julie Braaten was named Member of the Year at the 1986 NDSMT Meeting held in Grand Forks in April. Julie has been Laboratory Services Manager at the Union Hospital in Mayville since 1968. She received her Medical Technology Certification in 1966 after interning at Hennepin County Medical Center, and earned a Master's Degree in Medical Microbiology from The University of North Dakota in 1985.

Julie has served NDSMT as President, Secretary-Treasurer and has been active on committees at the state and regional levels. She is a member of the LEND Advisory Committee and has presented laboratory science seminars for the LEND Program. Since 1980, Julie has held an adjunct faculty position at the University of North Dakota.

CONGRATULATIONS JULIE!!!



Marcia Ubbelohde (RT) presents award to Julie Braaten



A MOTHER mouse was out for a walk with her five babies when a big cat suddenly appeared. The little ones hid behind their mother who stood her ground and began to bark loudly: "Arf! Arf!" This frightened the cat, which turned and fled. Turning to her offspring, the mother mouse said: "Now children, that should teach you the value of knowing a second language."

No difficult job ever gets done until someone tackles it right now.

P & R
ACTION ALERT



Recently several television shows have portrayed the profession of clinical laboratory sciences in a less than positive light. In fact, they have been showing it as non-existent. We cannot afford to allow a medium as pervasive as television to misrepresent us.

The shows of which I'm speaking are two daytime soaps and one nighttime series. The soaps, "One Life to Live" and "General Hospital", are both in the top five of the most watched shows in their genre. The prime time show, "St. Elsewhere", also has a large following. Altogether they make an impact on millions of people. They provide audio and visual information upon which longlasting opinions and views are based. Opinions and views that will be hard to correct.

Both "General Hospital" and "St. Elsewhere" depict interns and residents as the professionals who perform clinical laboratory testing. They are frequently shown drawing blood and then going to the clinical laboratory to perform the ordered test. On "One Life to Live" the laboratory manager was portrayed as being a registered nurse. Is this the image we are content to leave with the American public?

Changing these misrepresentations of our profession will require effort on everybody's part. All of us must be willing to write letters to the networks airing these shows explaining the inaccuracies and educating them about the who and what involved in the practice of the profession of clinical laboratory sciences. We cannot accept their excuses of artistic freedom or dramatic

license. Other allied health professions have insured that they are portrayed fairly. Isn't it time we stand up for ourselves and do the same?

Before beginning your letters there are a few tips to review. First, use plain paper or personal stationery and not society letterhead. Tell them you are an avid viewer but disappointed that they didn't research the area of the clinical laboratory more thoroughly. Give them some information about yourself and the profession such as your job title, your job responsibilities, and your educational background. Encourage them to utilize accurate portrayals of our profession. Most importantly, enlist as many clinical laboratory practitioners as you can to write letters of their own. It is not only the content of the letters which makes the impact but also the number of letters received at one time.

Don't waste another minute. Address your letters to the following:

"St. Elsewhere"
c/o NBC-TV
3000 W. Alameda Avenue
Burbank, CA 91505

"General Hospital"
c/o ABC-TV
1438 N. Gower Street
Los Angeles, CA 90028

"One Life to Live"
c/o ABC-TV
1330 Ave. of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTS
CONTRIBUTES TO LABORATORY
EDUCATION FOR NORTH DAKOTA

By Wayne Bruce
Co-Director of LEND

American Scientific Products has traditionally been a company that provides excellent service to all clinical laboratories in North Dakota. One outstanding trademark has been their concern for the professional development of persons using their products. This characteristic was displayed in dramatic fashion as they presented a check for \$3,000 to Laboratory Education for North Dakota (LEND) at the Annual NDSMT Meeting in Grand Forks this spring. This represents a total sum of \$23,000 they have contributed to the LEND Program over the past several years.

This support has primarily been used to defray the cost of the laboratory science seminars and regional workshops, allowing the fees for these programs to remain low compared to other continuing education programs of similar quality and scope.

Susan Taggert, the new regional sales representative for American Scientific Products, indicated on a recent trip to Grand Forks that \$3,000 will be presented to LEND at the 1987 NDSMT Annual Meeting.

The LEND Program is very appreciative of this support and urges you to thank the Scientific Products representative for their support of your LEND Program when he/she visits your laboratory.



Chris Overvold (RT) presents check to Wayne Bruce

DR. VENNES RECEIVES AWARD AND
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN
NDSMT AND ASMT

Dr. Wayne Bruce, on behalf of NDSMT, presented Dr. John Vennes with a plaque expressing the appreciation of NDSMT members for all he has done for clinical laboratory science in North Dakota.

Dr. Vennes was made an honorary member of NDSMT at the Annual NDSMT Meeting this spring in Grand Forks. At the ASMT Meeting in New Orleans in June, Dr. Vennes was made an honorary member of ASMT by the consensus of the House of Delegates.



Wayne Bruce (RT) presents award to Dr. Vennes



June 22-27, 1986

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY
54th Annual Meeting & Exhibit

**DELEGATE REPORT FROM
ASMT NATIONAL MEETING:
The Educational Activities
Available at the Meeting
By Patti Thibedeau**

1985-86 President, Mary Briden, in a welcoming letter to those attending the National Convention, stressed that this meeting was "designed to meet the needs of clinical laboratorians in diverse roles and settings." After having been involved in planning our 1986 State Convention, I had some idea of the scope of what she was talking about: ASMT members have so many different needs and backgrounds, it is difficult to plan educational programs which are of interest to all. But, on the national level, there truly is something for everyone!

The bench medical technologist is offered over fifty scientific sessions, thirty workshops, and numerous paper presentations to choose from. There are also eleven scientific assemblies, or specialty organizations, which have functions within ASMT.

Society leaders and laboratory managers were able to attend programs on topics such as government relations, supervision, the future of the profession and the society, licensure, and others.

Educators participated in paper and poster presentations, which are excellent ways of covering a great deal of information within a hectic time schedule.



**NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA
DELEGATIONS: (L to R)**

Back Row: (ND): John Festvog,
Dorrene Haugrud, Patti
Thibedeau, Mary Coleman.
Front Row: (SD): Pam Kieffer,
Diane Breen, M. Miller, Bonnie
Holiday.
Absent: Wayne Bruce (ND)



REGION V LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Mission:

The ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy will provide guidance, education and resources at a regional level to prepare ASCLS members for leadership roles in ASCLS, within the profession and the workplace.

Goals:

1. Provide a structured regional Leadership Academy that will prepare our members to become future leaders in ASCLS and within the profession of Medical Laboratory Science
2. Identify members with potential to become leaders in ASCLS and invest in their growth and development
3. Provide the Leadership Academy participants with resources, skills and knowledge to prepare them and allow them to succeed in leadership roles

Benefits to the Participant:

1. Gain confidence to step into leadership roles
2. Enhance personal and professional knowledge and skills to be successful
3. Have opportunities to be mentored by and learn from ASCLS leaders
4. Broaden professional network of friends and peers within ASCLS
5. Acquire experience to identify and successfully achieve goals

Benefits to ASCLS:

1. Develop strong leaders that generate excitement, enthusiasm and commitment to the organization
2. Shape the future of the organization and the profession at large
3. Increase passion for ASCLS locally, regionally, and nationally
4. Increase the pool of future leaders at all levels of the organization

Curriculum Summary

The following topics will be covered during the 12-month Leadership Academy:

History of ASCLS	Professional Advocacy
Leadership and Communication Styles	Recruitment Strategies
Goals and Strategic Planning	Leadership Book Discussions
Organization Skills/Time Management	Group teambuilding projects
Conflict Management	Participation in meetings
Conducting Successful Meetings	

P.A.C. E™ continuing education credits will be awarded for each session completed.

ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy Candidate application instructions

Admission to the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy will be through a competitive application process. Candidates must agree to a commitment of personal time and effort over 12 months in addition to a financial commitment for travel expenses to attend Leadership Academy workshops and activities. The types and availability of possible funding sources will be described if accepted into the Leadership Academy.

Candidates selected will be required to certify their intention to commit to:

- Attending the two required fall ASCLS Region V 2-Day Symposiums that have predetermined scheduled Leadership Academy class sessions.
- Attending the 1-day scheduled Leadership Academy retreat. The retreat will be held at a location to be determined and convenient for the participants.
- Attending all scheduled class conference calls. 2-5 conference calls will be scheduled throughout the year and each will last approximately 90 minutes. Pre and post-assignments for the conference calls are also required.
- Time commitment: The time necessary for successful completion of the program requirements.

While there is no charge to participate in the Region V Leadership Academy program for members from Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota and North Dakota, travel and meeting registration costs should be considered when applying. Fees for participants outside the Region V Collaborative will be assessed a registration fee of \$120.00.

Candidate Eligibility:

Candidate must be an ASCLS Professional member (Professional 1, Professional 2 or First Year Professional) in good standing at the time the Leadership Academy begins and the following year of class graduation. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by any current ASCLS member. ASCLS Student Members may apply for the Leadership Academy if they will be renewing as a First Year Professional during the ASCLS annual renewal cycle prior to the Leadership Academy class begin date.

Applications:

Applications will be considered complete once all application documents have been received:

1. Completed Applicant Form (including all sections and essay questions)
2. Two (2) completed recommendation forms and letters of recommendation

Recommendation Forms and Letters:

Candidates are required to submit two (2) recommendation forms and letters of recommendation with their applications. The recommendation form is included with the application form. References should come from individuals who have held or currently hold leadership roles in ASCLS, their communities, workplaces, and/or other volunteer organizations, and can speak knowledgeably about the applicant's experience, strengths, weaknesses and potential as a leader.

Application Instructions:

The application form, responses to essay questions, recommendation forms and letters of recommendation are to be submitted in one electronic application packet. If necessary, references/recommendations can be sent separately by individuals completing the forms. Forms coming directly from references should be sent to Lori Pimentel at lkpimentel@gmail.com

Candidates are responsible, however, for ensuring that these items reach ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy Committee by the application deadline below. Forms received after the due date will cause the entire application package to be ruled ineligible.

In order for your application to be considered, ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy committee must receive all completed materials by the application deadline of **June 1** of current application year. Incomplete applications or applications received after this date will not be considered.

If possible, all materials should be gathered into one complete package and emailed to Lori Pimentel at lkpimentel@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Pimentel at lkpimentel@gmail.com. Receipt of complete applications will be acknowledged by email. All applicants will be notified of their acceptance status no later than **July 10** of current application year.

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- If every member gave at least **\$10.00**, we would far exceed our goal. How often are we spending 10.00 on one of the following?
 - *A couple Starbucks specialty coffees, or a couple drinks at a local bar*
 - *Lunch out with friends*
 - *One ticket to a movie*

What is a PAC and why should I donate?

Political Action Committees were created in 1944 for the purpose of re-electing President Franklin D Roosevelt. Since that time, PACs have been organized for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect and defeat candidates who can influence decision-making for specific businesses or special-interest groups.

In order to effect any changes for the laboratory profession on the "Hill", ASCLS utilizes a legislative lobbyist, Patrick Cooney, to identify key Congressmen/women who are on committees that can directly influence health

care decisions relating to the laboratory. Once these individuals are identified, Patrick tries to secure an audience with them; this may require an ASCLS contribution.

Without available funding, these opportunities slip away – unfortunately, the laboratory profession has not had a big voice over the years due to our desire to remain “behind the scenes.” **We need someone to speak for us, and that takes money.**

Hot off the Press:

- ASCLS raised \$4141 (nearly 10% of our annual goal) in PAC donations from members at the March 2017 Legislative Days which was the highest amount ever raised at this meeting! However, that leaves us with 90% still to raise before September 1, 2017.
- With 50 states, that means all states need to raise at least \$900 to reach our goal. Sounds pretty doable – but believe it or not, some states don’t raise even \$100. Looking at state donation reports from Evans and Katz for the current fiscal year, ND doesn’t have any. Last year we had one donor.
- Gold Level donors are recognized at the national meeting (and can be recognized by the states/regions also) – these are people who give \$300 to ASCLS PAC over the course of the ASCLS fiscal year. There are a number of these folks, and several more reached this gold level last week. But they can’t carry the load for the whole organization. Positive changes will only be made if we all contribute toward keeping our laboratory voices loud enough to be heard and this takes money.

How can I donate to ASCLS-ND PAC?

We will have a jar at the state meeting ASCLS-ND booth for PAC donations. You can drop your money in anonymously. The FEC allows a total of \$50 contributed anonymously per individual. Or you can be recognized for your donation by filling out a voluntary contribution form. Currently you would need to pay by cash, check or credit card at the ASCLS-ND booth.

I will also have copies available at the ASCLS-ND booth of a PowerPoint presentation on the GAC (government affairs committee) PAC, and the legislative symposium) that was recently done by a member from Pennsylvania. If you are not attending the spring meeting but would like a copy you can email me at mary.coleman@med.und.edu.

What are some current legislative topics?

Three talking points at the March 20-21, 2017 legislative days were: Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) - it will reset the clinical lab fee schedule for Medicare; Growing Crisis in the Clinical Lab Workforce; and Laboratory Developed Tests (LDT) - they should be carefully regulated.



ASCLS REGION V LEADERSHIP ACADEMY APPLICANT FORM (2017-2018 CLASS)

ASCLS welcomes your application to the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy. Please complete all sections of this form and submit along with separate recommendation forms and letters. For complete information refer to 'Application Information and Instructions' separate document.

Application Deadline: June 1, 2017

Applicant name: ASCLS Member #: Year of Join Date:

E-mail:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone numbers: Work: Home: Cell Phone:

Employment Position:

Employment Facility:

Employment City, State, Zip:

 City: State: Zip:

Applicant Background and Professional Involvement:

Briefly describe your level of ASCLS activity/service at the local, state, regional or national level below. (Include offices held, meetings attended, service on committees, task forces, involvement in state or regional meeting planning, job fairs, volunteering to speak about ASCLS and Medical Laboratory Science at high schools and colleges, etc.)

State/Constituent Society:

Regional:

National ASCLS:

APPLICANT FORM - Section 2

A complete application packet includes:

Application Form with signature below

Responses to essay questions

Two recommendation forms with respective letters of recommendation attached

List the professionals that will be submitting letters of recommendation for you:

- 1.
- 2.

Please send all materials by **midnight on June 1, 2017** to [Lori Pimentel at lkpimentel@gmail.com](mailto:lkpimentel@gmail.com)..

In order to accomplish the objectives of the Region V Leadership Academy, the full commitment and participation of each individual selected is necessary. Participants are expected to attend Region V Leadership Academy sessions scheduled during the 2017 and 2018 Region V Symposium, the Leadership Academy retreat, to participate in scheduled conference calls and complete class assignments.

Individuals will be removed from the Academy if he/she does not comply with the stated requirements.

If selected, I am fully prepared to be an active participant and devote the time and energy required to complete the program. My signature below (electronic signature is acceptable) indicates that I understand the requirements for participation in the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy and have completed this form to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

(filling in signature above and submitting electronically constitutes an official signature)

Date:

It is also important that you have your employer's support and understanding of the obligations of participation in the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy. Please acknowledge that this support has been obtained from your employer by indicating below who you reviewed this information and required obligations with.

Name of Employer Leader:

Position:

Date of Discussion:

Was employer supportive of your application? (Answer Yes or No):

APPLICANT FORM - Section 3

Essay Questions: (Please respond to each question below. Limit responses for each question to 250-300 words.)

1. **Why do you want to be a participant in the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy?**

2. **What do you expect to do with the experience and knowledge gained from participating in the ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy to benefit ASCLS and your Region, State or local Society? Please also discuss how you would use this in your day-to-day work life as a medical laboratory professional.**

3. **ASCLS Region V Leadership Academy participants will benefit from exposure to a wide-range of perspectives. What contribution – either in terms of unique experiences or special skills – would you bring to ASCLS that would enrich, benefit and inform others?**

4. **Identify a current or past leader in any field of endeavor whom you admire or has been a mentor for you. Explain what attributes makes that person a role model and what you gained from the relationship.**

Curriculum & Time Involvement

Time Commitment Information

- 2 ASCLS Region V Meetings (2 days each)
- 1 mid-year retreat (1 day)
- 2 conference calls (preparation and reading for the call)
- Read and complete summary report for two leadership books
- Group class project and presentation at second Region V meeting
- Serve on a State Meeting or Region V Symposium committee

Curriculum Topics *(Note: Curriculum may vary dependent on content assessment of the Academy Committee, previous Academy classes and availability of speakers or materials)*

- ASCLS 101/History of ASCLS
- Successful Meeting Skills
- Leadership Styles
- Goal Setting
- Communication Styles
- Strategic Planning
- Team Building
- Advocacy
- Organization Skills
- Member Recruitment
- Time Management

Group Project General Information:

*One of the Region V Tri-State Leadership Academy curriculum assignments includes working on a group project during the year. This project should further the goals of **ASCLS** at the state, regional or national level, should be able to be completed within this year, and should have a 'product' that can be presented at the final meeting of the Leadership Academy year (Region V Tri-State meeting held in Alexandria MN). Students are asked to think about issues that are facing ASCLS and its members and how we can use our combined team effort to address them.*

Incoming Leadership Academy students will be requested to suggest at least two projects that they feel would benefit ASCLS and that they would be interested in pursuing during the year. For ideas, students are encouraged to visit with ASCLS state leaders and other ASCLS members about possible exciting and worthwhile project topics.