



NewsScope



Mark Your Calendar

Join ASCP, ASCLS-IA, KSCLS, MoCLS, and NSCLS for our annual spring meeting on April 29, 30, & May 1, 2009 at the Mid-America Center in

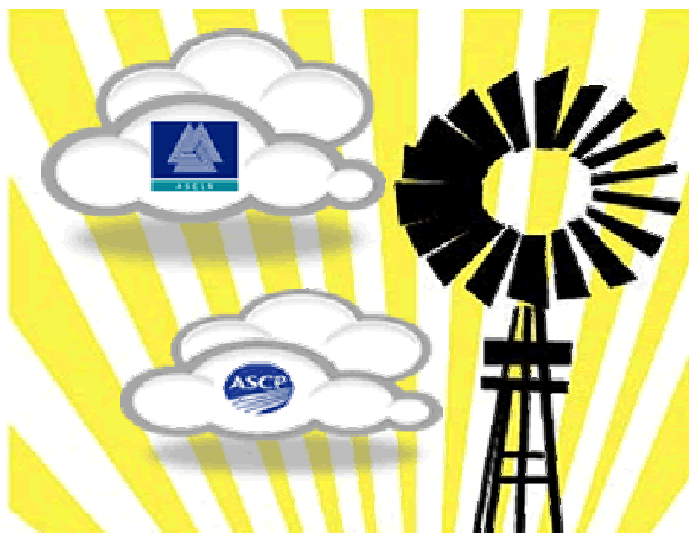
Council Bluffs, Iowa!

Get the latest information and education with P.A.C.E. approved credit offered over the three day conference.

Don't miss the social opportunities too! Wednesday Evening Vendor Welcome Reception and Thursday Evening-Social Event

Complete program information:

<http://www.ascls-ia.org/2009LabExpo.htm>



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President

From the



I cannot believe that my term as President is already coming to a close. Time really does fly by when you are having fun and staying busy. Personally, this past year has really gone by fast because I moved, changed jobs, and am planning a wedding! I relocated to be closer to friends and family, so now I am as far east in Iowa as you can get. I was fortunate to find another great job in the CLS field. The move to a new lab has also given me the opportunity to speak about ASCLS-IA to a whole new group of laboratorians. They have indulged me on several occasions, so I could passionately speak about the benefits of joining our great society.

Recently, ASCLS-IA met in Iowa City for our Winter Board meeting. This is a time for each committee to present their reports and for all of us to discuss new and old business. (All of the minutes and committee reports are posted on our website, www.ascls-ia.org). One of the items we continued to discuss was compiling a list of local newspapers where our members live, so that when one of us does something newsworthy it can be published. I encourage everyone to send our Professional and Public Relations chair the name of your local newspaper. Our Career Recruitment/Education committee is always looking to hear what people are doing around the state to educate our youth about the profession. We have also revitalized our licensure committee and our efforts this year. I encourage you to become educated on the subject of licensure and to help support our cause. We are proposing to change the name of a few of our committees, so they align with those at the national level. However, now is as good a time as any to become involved and join a committee. This is a nice way to get your feet wet and test the waters if you've always to be more involved, but didn't know how to get started. (A listing complete listing of committees is located on our website as well as in this newsletter).

A few years ago we changed our logo from IACLS to ASCLS-IA. We now have new shirts that proudly display this logo. Look for information in this newsletter on how to purchase one. We will also have them on display at the annual spring meeting. We do hope to see you all in Council Bluffs this spring for another great meeting. This one happens to be a collaborative effort that includes the neighboring state societies of: Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri. We will have a very large group of speakers and topics to pick from. You won't want to miss it!

Even though the past year was a busy one, it was also a fun one! Being President of such a great society is a very rewarding opportunity. I continue to encourage you all to become involved on the local level and remember to continue to promote the voice, value and vision of our profession and our society.



Renew or Join ASCLS at www.ascls.org
Please keep your Email address current on the
Website so you will be kept in the LOOP!!

Nominate Today for State Association Awards

Please take the a minute to nominate your favorite laboratorian for an state award:

- **Mentor of the Year:** A person who has given guidance and extra effort to help others in the laboratory.
- **Outstanding Support Staff:** A person that is giving your laboratory wonderful support so that the patient testing is completed with the best possible efficiency.
- **Phlebotomist of the Year:** The person at your lab who makes phlebotomy look easy and who has the talent to improve the patient’s experience.
- **Student of the Year:** To recognize an outstanding clinical laboratory scientist/clinical laboratory technician (CLS/CLT – MT/MLT) student, who has demonstrated educational excellence and dedication to the laboratory profession. Must be current student in a medical technology program at an accredited institution.
- **Member of the Year:** To recognize an outstanding clinical laboratory scientist, who, in professional and personal life and as a member of ASCLS-IA and ASCLS, has demonstrated dedication to the well-being of his fellow man: and who, by outstanding example, has inspired other laboratory professionals. To be Eligible for this Award the candidate must:
 1. Be actively involved in the profession of clinical laboratory science.
 2. Be a current member of ASCLS-IA and ASCLS.



Award forms can be obtained by contacting:

Janice Frerichs, Email: Janice-frerichs@uiowa.edu or 319-335-8193

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

2009 Legislative Symposium	March 23-24 2009 Washington DC
National Medical Laboratory Professional Week	April 19– 25
State Association Spring Meeting	April 28, Council Bluffs
Great Plains Regional Lab Expo	April 29, 30. May 1 Council Bluffs
National ASCLS Meeting	July 21-25 Chicago, Il

Scholarships Available Through the Iowa Medical Technology Scholarship Fund.

Fact Sheet

The Iowa Medical Technology Scholarship Fund (IMTSF) was formed in 1958 for the purpose of promoting and supporting the education of medical technology students at all levels.

Originally funded by the Iowa Association for Pathologists and the Iowa Society of Medical Technology, IMTSF received a substantial bequest by Miss Pearl Spanswick. In 2004, IACLS donated a substantial fund to honor the career Marian Schwabbaur. Each year, IMTSF awards scholarships to qualifying students.

Scholarships:

Current scholarships are available for Medical Technology Training, Medical Laboratory Technician Training, and graduate course work in a laboratory related field. The number of scholarships available will depend on the applicant response and availability of funds.

Scholarship Availability:

Any Iowa resident who has been accepted in an accredited Iowa program for Medical Technology (MT) or for Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) is eligible to apply. All applicants must have a minimum grade point of 2.5 or be in the top 25% of his/her high school graduating class.

Deadline for Application:

Applications and accompanying material **must** be postmarked no later than **March 31, 2009**. **Applications and accompanying material will not be considered for a scholarship if the deadline date is not met.**

Eligibility will be determined by the following:

Grade Point Average - each applicant must include his/her most recent **official transcript** with the scholarship application.

Essay - each application must include a one page essay on why a laboratory career was selected and what he/she expects to accomplish in the field.

References - send a reference form to each selected reference.

Scholarship award winners will be announced at the IACLS Spring Meeting.

Application Forms Available from: Vonnie Hirichsen-See Contact Information Below

IMTSF Committee Will Accept Completed Applications

Vonnie Hinrichsen

JaniceFrerichs

113 Grandview Blvd

222 Red Hill Lane

Spencer, IA 51301

Iowa City, IA 52245

monkeyfarm@smunet.net

Janice-frerichs@uiowa.edu



Meet the Nominees for Leadership in ASCLS-IA-2009



President Elect: Keri Erickson is serving her second term as ASCLS-IA Board Member. She was an ASCLS-IA Omicron Sigma Recipient in 2008 and has been an ASCLS member since 1993. ASCLS participation has been very beneficial in her career development. She appreciates her colleagues willingness to share ideas and resources. Currently, Keri is the Laboratory Manager at Mitchell County Regional Health Center in Osage, IA.



Treasurer: Karen Campbell is currently the ASCLS-IA Treasurer, and enjoys holding this position in the state lab organization. She became a member of ASCLS-IA when she was a student in the MT/CLS program at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. Karen received her BA and MAT degrees from Drake University, and has been the MLT Program Chair at Des Moines Area Community College since 1999. She encourages students to become active in and for their future profession, which includes becoming involved in the state professional lab organization.



Board Member: Vicki Siefers graduated from Iowa State and St. Luke's School of Medical Technology in 1977, a master's degree in Pathology from University of Iowa in 1987. Vicki is serving ASCLS-IA as the chair of the licensure committee. She has worked at the University of Iowa Pathology department for 26 years. She works in the core lab and EDA (endocrinology drug assay) labs and serves as the recording secretary for SEIU Local 199 and is currently on the bargaining team. She also assists with teaching (on the bench only) clinical lab scientist students.

ASCLS-IA Shirts.....Now Available Only \$20.00 Each

Two Styles to choose from: Polo or Oxford

Sizes Range from Women's Small-2X(XXL) or Men's Medium-2X(XXL)

Pre-Order your shirt to be available for Pick-up during the 2009 Great Plains Regional Laboratory Expo in Council Bluffs, IA, April 29-May 1 or choose to have your shirt mailed to your home or delivered personally by a Board Member or Committee Chair.



Mail Order form and check to: Kim Von Ahsen, 640 E. Euclid Ave, Des Moines, IA 50313

Circle Delivery Method	Style: Polo	Size	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
Pick Up at Expo Mail Member_____					
Name:	Style: Oxford	Size	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
	Men or Women				
Email or Phone	Shipping				
Address	Total				
Make Checks Payable to ASCLS-IA	Questions: Email vonakhskk@ihs.org				

Legislative Update on Licensure

Submitted by Vicki Siefers



Left to Right

Dave Cavanaugh, President of IA Society of Histotechnologists,

Robin Schwartz, IA Society of Cytotechnologists

Representative Todd Taylor

Vicki Siefers, ASCLS_IA



ASCLS-IA is moving forward with a plan to implement state licensure following a positive statement by the ASCP endorsing the process. Other medical professionals are recognizing the importance of maintaining high standards in the laboratory and are supporting these efforts. Those currently working in the profession will be grandfathered in. Setting some standards for those employed in laboratories will insure the quality of laboratory results and improve patient care. It will also protect the scope of practice by excluding those who are not qualified. Those states that currently have licensing are California, Puerto Rico, Florida, Nevada, Tennessee, Hawaii, North Dakota, West Virginia, Louisiana, Rhode Island, Montana, Missouri, and New York. States currently working towards the goal of licensure are Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, and 13 others. Representatives Mary Mascher and Todd Taylor have agreed to sponsor this as a study bill this year. As a study bill, there will be plenty of time for input from concerned individuals and groups. The committee members are Vicki Siefers, Chair, University of Iowa; Bonnie Rubin, University of Iowa Public Health; Jan Frerichs, University of Iowa Pathology education; Judy Jackson, Mississippi Regional Blood Center; Liz Kirkpatrick, Madison Health; Keri Erickson; Marty Boesenberg, Iowa Cytology Society; Mickey Williams; Pat Knebel; Robin Schwartz, Iowa Cytology Society, McFarland Clinic; Sheila Pitts, ASCLS-IA president; Theresa Ortner, University of Iowa; Tim Schroeder, Marengo Memorial Hospital; Virginia Schuerman; Don Johnson, Mercy Rural Network Affiliates; and Dave Cavanaugh, Iowa Society of Histotechnology. Any input or questions can be directed to Vicki Siefers, vsiefers@mchsi.com or 319-338-5984 or to any committee member. The committee is hopeful that once we have a bill number many ASCLS members will contact their legislative representatives to express support for the bill. We are hopeful of having some language this legislative session and will be happy to share that language with the membership.



What Has ASCLS Done for Us ?

- Over the Past **Seven** Decades, ASCLS has:
 - Advocated for the profession
 - Set standards
 - Provided education (professional and continuing)
 - Influenced legislation that impacted the field of clinical laboratory science
 - Fought for the rights of laboratorians
 - Has represented the best interests of laboratorians as individuals and collectively



February 13, 2009

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2008-2009 Officers and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT

Sheila Pitts
504 S. 4th St.
Bellevue, IA 52031
Work 563-589-9615
Home 319-325-2500
sapitts23@hotmail.com

SECRETARY

Lindsey Davenport Landry
546 Sicily Ct.
North Liberty, IA 52317
Work 319-338-0581
Home 708-567-2642
kldavenport@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBER

Liz Kirkpatrick
8800 Hammontree Circle
Urbandale, IA 5032
Work 515-247-3610
Home 515-276-6487
ekirkpatrick@mercydesmoines.org

STUDENT REP.

Rachel Kobernusz
2486 Black Diamond Rd SW
Iowa City, IA 52240
Home 641-512-1068
Rachel-kobernusz@uiowa.edu

GOV. LIAISON/PAC

Theresa Ortner
2525 24th Ave
Marion, IA 52302
Work 319-356-3530
Home 319-373-0908
eco_tiger17@yahoo.com

NOMINATIONS/AWARDS

Jan Frerichs, Past President
222 Red Hill Lane
Iowa City, IA 52245
Work 319-335-8193
Home 319-338-6341
Janice-frerichs@uiowa.edu

PUBLICATIONS/NEWS SCOPE TEAM

Judy Jackson
13223 Competine Rd
Hedrick, IA 52563
Work 941-682-8149
Home 641-934-5423
jjackson@mvrbc.com

LICENSURE CHAIR

Vicki Siefers
15 Brown Deer Knoll
Coralville, IA 52241
Work: 319-356-3531
Home: 319-338-5984
vsiefers@mchsi.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Jan Frerichs
222 Red Hill Lane
Iowa City, IA 52245
Work 319-335-8193
Home 319-338-6341
Janice-frerichs@uiowa.edu

TREASURER

Karen Campbell
DMACC MLT Program
2006 S. Ankeny Blvd., Bldg. 9
Ankeny, IA 50023
Work 515-964-6296
kjcampbell@dmacc.edu

BOARD MEMBER

Judy Jackson
13223 Competine Rd
Hedrick, IA 52563
Work 641-682-8149
Home 641-934-5423
jjackson@mvrbc.com

BY-LAWS

Mickey Williams
241 Prospect Ave
Waterloo, IA 50703
Home 319-233-9782
mwilliams@aol.com

HISTORIAN

Yvonne Hinrichsen
113 Grandview Blvd.
Spencer, IA 51301
Work 712-262-6174
Home 712-262-6424
monkeyfarm@smunet.net

PACE LIAISON

Kim Von Ahsen
640 E. Euclid
Des Moines, IA 50313
Work 515-241-6825
Home 515-707-9106
vonahskk@ihs.org

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Kim Von Ahsen
640 E. Euclid
Des Moines, IA 50313
Work 515-241-6825
Home 515-707-9106
vonahskk@ihs.org

BOARD MEMBER

Kim Rieck
3141 Van Buren Ave
Hartley, IA 51346
Home 712-363-2627

klrieck@beckman.com

FIRST YEAR PROFESSIONAL

Jennifer Claeys
2412 Shady Glen Ct
Iowa City, IA 52246
319-530-1102
jennifer_claeys@yahoo.com

CAREER RECRUIT/EDUC

Judy Jackson
13223 Competine Rd
Hedrick, IA 52563
Work 641-682-8149
Home: 641-934-5423
jjackson@mvrbc.com

MEMBERSHIP DEVEL.

Yvonne Hinrichsen
113 Grandview Blvd
Spencer, IA 51301
Work 712-262-6174
Home 712-262-6424
monkeyfarm@smunet.net

PROF. /PUBLIC RELATIONS

Janel Hartwigsen
3405 SW Westwood St.
Ankeny, IA 50023
Work 515-699-5655
Home 515-289-3856
janel.hartwigsen@va.gov

WEBMASTER

Kim Von Ahsen
640 E. Euclid
Des Moines, IA 50313
Work 515-241-6825
Home 515-707-9106
vonahskk@ihs.org

OFFICERS

Meeting to Discuss IMTSF-Tuesday, April 28

A discussion was held at the winter board meeting regarding the future of IMTSF. The discussion centered on whether to dissolve IMTSF as a separate entity and establish a separate scholarship sub-committee under either the Nominations and Awards Committee or Career Recruitment/Education Committee. A meeting to discuss this issue will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 in Council Bluffs immediately following the spring board meeting. If IMTSF is dissolved, the money would be transferred to a separate, specific account in ASCLS-IA.

All members of IMTSF are encouraged to participate in this discussion. IMTSF members are ASCLS-IA members who are currently serving or have previously served an elected position in ASCLS-IA, IACLS, or ISMT.

Jan Frerichs, MT (ASCP), Past-President, ASCLS-IA



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Useful Recruitment tools for the laboratory profession can be found at:

www.labsarevital.com also by using Facebook or the ascls website

ASCLS-IA
113 Grandview
Spencer, IA 51301

www.ascls-ia.org