



The SoShowMe

A publication of the Missouri Organization
for Clinical Laboratory Science

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

WWW.MOCLS.ORG

WINTER 2007



*"May all your
troubles last as long
as your New Year's
resolutions"*

- JOEY ADAMS

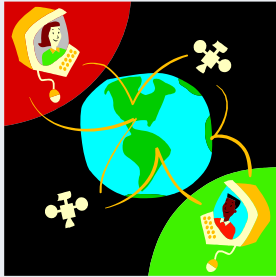


MoCLS President, Tim R. Randolph (seated, center), pose for a picture with veteran and newcomer board members. Pictured standing (l-r): Christine Bremser, Debbie Baudler, Rob Beeler, April Hansen, Judy Donovan, Candi Barker, Nancy Reddig, and Hannah D. Zane, PhD. Seated(l-r): Sharon Smith, Tim, Christy Murray, and Shelly Schoeberlein

Hello ASCLS/MoCLS members,

As the 2006-2007 President of the Missouri Organization for Clinical Laboratory Science (MoCLS), a state subsidiary of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), I am excited to provide this letter of introduction and information. It is my hope that through the efforts of the MoCLS Board of Directors, you will see the benefits of membership in ASCLS/MoCLS and will take advantage of the opportunities provided.

ASCLS is the premier professional organization representing the non-physician practitioners of laboratory medicine. At the national level, ASCLS is constantly surveying the landscape for issues that affect the practice of laboratory medicine and is continually formulating strategies to advance our practice field and to combat those who seek to threaten our profession. The most common battlefields for ASCLS occur in Washington DC.




Want to become a member?

- Please visit the Membership section of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science website at www.ascls.org

Each year, legislation is introduced that both supports and threatens the practice of laboratory medicine. When such legislation surfaces the ASCLS staff, led by Don Lavanty, lobby legislators on Capitol Hill to garner support and assist the ASCLS Board of Directors in the creation of position papers to clarify our position on the issues. At the annual ASCLS National Meeting, the House of Delegates, composed of Board Members from each constituent state society, convenes to discuss the issues and offer support and opinions to the Board of Directors as they develop our position papers.

Another benefit of membership in ASCLS/MoCLS is the continuing education opportunities. This benefit is becoming even more important as both of the primary certifying bodies for laboratory medicine, the American Society for Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) and the National Credentialing Agency for Laboratory Personnel (NCA), now require ongoing continuing education to maintain certification. ASCLS/MoCLS offers an annual meeting at both the national level (ASCLS) and the state level (MoCLS) and members are afforded a substantial discount toward the registration fee. ASCLS also offers continuing education offering that can be accessed from the ASCLS website - www.ascls.org. Case studies, hard-copy programs, and on-line programs can be purchased at discounted prices for members. MoCLS is also planning local continuing education offerings in a few select locations for the 2006-2007 year. All of these offerings are PACE accredited which is recognized by both ASCP and NCA for re-certification purposes.

For me, the greatest benefit of membership in ASCLS/MoCLS has been the networking. ASCLS/MoCLS is subdivided in several ways but one such subdivision is called the "scientific assembly" or SA for short. The purpose of the SA is to draw together members with the same area of expertise. This provides each of us with a collection of experts from around the country. Many of the SAs have a computer listserv as another benefit of membership. Any subscriber to an SA Listserv can post a question or comment to the list at any time and should expect to receive many responses within a few minutes to a couple of days. Many members have gotten almost immediate answers to technical question or clinical problems from this network of experts. Subscribers are also afforded the luxury of eavesdropping on every question/answer session that is posted on the listserv. In addition, networking also occurs at each state, regional and national professional meeting.

 *"Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know."
- Daniel J. Boorstin*



***Need
money for
school?***

***- Please visit
the
Education
section of
the American
Society for
Clinical
Laboratory
Science
website at
www.ascls.org***

ASCLS and MoCLS also offer educational and research scholarships to our members. At the national level the Education and Research Fund (E&R) and Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity offer scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students and small grants for targeted research studies. At the state level the Missouri Scholarship Fund (MSF) also offers undergraduate and graduate scholarship and research funds to members. These funds are supported by personal contributions and by fund-raising efforts that occur at our professional meetings.

To some the opportunity to participate in the formation of the future of our profession may not seem like a benefit, but to me it is the mark of a professional. ASCLS/MoCLS is an organization with many opportunities to get involved. We encourage new members to start by volunteering with simple tasks like joining a committee or a task force to discuss a specific issue or plan a particular event. Once one has accrued experience in the organization, individuals may be encouraged to run for one of several Board positions. After witnessing the impact that ASCLS/MoCLS can have on our profession, most Board members continue to be active as together we work to shape the future of our profession.

I encourage you to seek the many benefits that membership in ASCLS/MoCLS offers. Please feel free to email me with any questions you may have or to inquire about involvement in our organization. Expect to hear from me several times this year via group email, through the SoShowMe Newsletter, and through the Board members assigned to provide support to you. I am proud to be a clinical laboratorian and a member of ASCLS/MoCLS. As we laboratory professionals come together with one voice, we will be heard, and the profession we love will be all the better for our efforts.

Sincerely,

Tim R. Randolph, M.S., MT(ASCP), CLS(NCA), President
Missouri Organization for Clinical Laboratory Science (MoCLS)
Assistant Professor
Department of Clinical Laboratory Science
Saint Louis University
randoltr@slu.edu

News n' Notes

A BEST-SELLER IN THE ORIENT

Before moving to Missouri in 2002, Hannah D. Zane, Ph.D., CLS (NCA), MT (ASCP), SM (AAM), Professor Emeritus/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), had taken an early retirement to devote her full time to authoring *Immunology: Theoretical and Practical Concepts in Laboratory Medicine*.

This comprehensive textbook, containing a thorough overview of both fundamental and advanced immunologic concepts in laboratory medicine, was first published by W.B. Saunders. *Recently, the book has been translated into Chinese and published by Elsevier (Singapore). 2,000 copies had already been sold in Taiwan!*

Dr. Zane is a founding chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, School of Health Related Professions at UMDNJ, and a former Director of Clinical Laboratory Science Programs at both the baccalaureate and graduate level. She had served as a *Consultant to the Research and Development Committee*, American Society of Clinical Pathologist (ASCP), Board of Registry, and was a *Consulting Editor and a Review Board member for Clinical Laboratory Science*, Journal of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS).

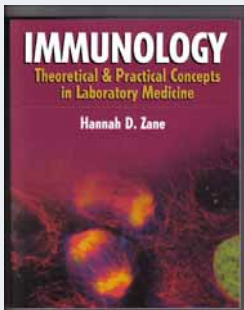
Currently, Dr. Zane is an active member of the MoCLS, serving on the Board of Directors and chairing the Bylaws Committee. ☞

2007 Legislative Symposium Political Action Committee (PAC) Solicitation

Healthcare in America has unfortunately evolved into a complex and intricate network of legislation and regulation. Legislation approved today can vastly change the future course of a profession... *our profession*. It is the responsibility of the profession itself and its members to keep lawmakers fully informed and cognizant of the key issues that may directly impact on us. To provide the needed information to our lawmakers, it is necessary to gain *access and attention*. ASCLS/PAC is designed to do just that...to gain access to and obtain attention of lawmakers. By providing campaign contributions to a carefully selected number of candidates, ASCLS/PAC helps ensure the re-election of lawmakers who have been sensitive to the needs of the clinical laboratory profession. Our support for these candidates guarantees that ASCLS is well represented in Congress.

“Want Influence? – Donate to the ASCLS/PAC. Its easy and it makes a difference. See <http://www.ascls.org/leadership/pac/brochure.pdf> .”

Contact Suzanne Butch at butchs@umich.edu to obtain 2007 pins for your PAC solicitation. ☞



For more info on the PAC, please click on the picture to be taken to the website:



What is ASCLS/MoCLS Doing for you?

"The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become by it."

- John Ruskin



*For info on
the 2007
Senate bill:*

[SB314](#)

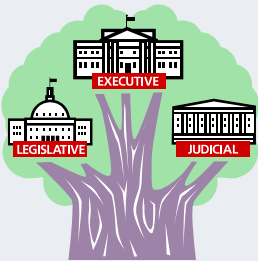
When I look back on my childhood, I can see with sharp clarity the multitude of things my Mom did for me. As is the case with all children, I had no clue how much work was involved in doing the laundry and preparing meals, two of the many services provided for me by my mother. I was blinded to the pretreatment, the sorting, the washing, drying, ironing, folding, and putting away. From my perspective, my dresser was full more often than it was empty. I was oblivious to the grocery lists, the coupon clipping, the shopping, stocking the pantry, the planning, the cooking, the dish washing, and the putting away of the dishes. I had the privilege of enjoying a tasty hot meal at regular times regardless of the chaos occurring at work, in my home, or in the world. It made no difference if my mom was tired, happy, broke, ill, or if she was unjustly treated at work. By the way, I was reared by a single mother with an 8th grade education who worked a job and a half before doing my laundry and preparing my meals. Times were hard and we did without many things, but I always had a full stomach and a clean shirt.

It is much the same with ASCLS and your state chapter, MoCLS. The organization works continuously for me and you to keep our proverbial stomachs full and our lab coats clean, both when times are good and bad. Like our moms, they are largely the reason the good times are so good and the bad times are not so bad.

Let me share with you just three things that ASCLS and MoCLS will be doing for me and for you between now and April, 2007. First, MoCLS started the new year by filing a Licensure bill in the Missouri General Assembly in hopes of finally achieving licensure for laboratory professionals in Missouri. This bill is the culmination of three years of work in which the MoCLS Board logged hundreds of hours drafting, discussing and rewriting the bill language and engaging in countless fundraisers to earn the thousands of dollars needed to provide a lobbyist to promote our bill. Why; because we love our profession? Not as much as our mother's love us, of course, but enough to log a few hours after work (as my mom did) in hopes of elevating our profession. Of all the allied health professions that I am aware, only Health Information Management (Medical Records) joins clinical laboratory science among the largely unlicensed health care professions. I desire to at least be recognized as equal to my florist, my hair stylist, or my massage therapist at the local spa who require a license to practice. I desire to have the bargaining power to say to an employer, you must hire an educated, certified and licensed

laboratory professional in your lab, it's the law.

Second, ASCLS sponsors an annual event in Washington DC called Legislative Days (Leg Days). It is a two day event where laboratory professionals from around the country converge upon Washington to learn and lobby. The first day is spent in sessions learning about the current and upcoming pieces of legislation that will impact laboratory medicine, and during the second day we disperse to the offices of our senators and representatives to educate them on the impact these bills will have on the delivery of laboratory services and ultimately on patient care. Some of the current issues are Title VII and Title VIII cuts, competitive bidding, and Medicare reimbursements. Title VII and Title VIII are the federal investments in nursing and allied health education programs, respectively. The current Title VII and VIII budget is 2 billion below the FY 2005 budget. We have submitted letters, partnered with many other health care organizations, and are actively lobbying for an increase in the FY 2007 Labor-HHS-Educations Appropriations bill to be increased by 7 billion dollars. Educational programs need federal support not only to maintain or grow enrollment but in many cases just to stay open.

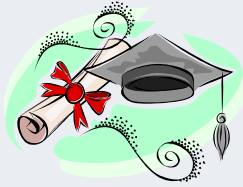


For the Leg Days Flyer, click on the picture above!

Competitive bidding is the federal plan designed to cut laboratory costs incurred by the Medicare system by having large, high volume labs compete for the contract then require all labs that perform Medicare testing to submit the same Medicare reimbursements. This would be like Home Depot and Lowe's Hardware stores setting the prices for hardware that the local family owned businesses must match. Can you spell "bankruptcy"?

Last, the Medicare reimbursement levels for many lab tests have been frozen for years while inflation continues to eat away at our profits which impact our financial solvency and our bargaining power with hospital administrators. MoCLS will be sending a few people, and others from Missouri will join us on their own dime, to speak together with a unified voice to convince legislators of the shortsightedness of these pieces of legislation. All other ASCLS state chapters will have representatives in Washington for Leg Days with a goal of ensuring that all senator and representatives will hear from us. In recent years both ASCP and CLMA have joined us at Legislative Days and we welcome the partnership.

Another way that MoCLS shows their commitment to supporting the laboratory community is through the Missouri Scholarship Fund (MSF). The MSF fund was developed in 1988 to support students and active professionals in the fulfillment of



For more scholarship info, go to www.mocls.org and click on the scholarship link.

their career goals. The first award was disseminated in 1995. Two scholarship are currently offered; the MoCLS Student Scholarship and the MoCLS Education Scholarship. The purpose of the MoCLS Student Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to Missouri CLS (MT) or CLT (MLT) students for formal education, research, or continuing education which directly relates to laboratory science. Similarly, the MoCLS Education Scholarship exists to provide financial assistance to MoCLS members for formal education, research, or continuing education which directly relates to laboratory science. Although these scholarships do have submission criteria, they are limited to students and active professionals in Missouri making them much less competitive than any other scholarship available. Would you like to attend a meeting, enroll in a continuing education program online, and further your education? If so, these scholarships are available to you as a benefit of simply being a member in an organization who is already working for you behind the scenes striving to showcase and develop the profession of clinical laboratory science.

Where will you be on April 18-20, 2007? No, this is not the anniversary of Elvis', John Lennon's or JFK's death. This is the date of the annual MoCLS Spring Meeting. The 2007 meeting will be held at the Lodge of Four Seasons and will be co-sponsored by the Ozark Chapter of CLMA. MoCLS has been working hard the past year planning this meeting. We have an outstanding program, fun social events, comfortable accommodations, and an opportunity for you to learn the latest in the scientific sessions, see the latest in the exhibit hall, and network with laboratory professionals like yourself from around the state. In days gone by the opportunity to learn was a privileged, now it is a requirement. So why not meet your needs in an atmosphere of fun filled frivolity for faithful finders of fete, freely forming friendships forever, fending off fallacies with facts, and filling faces with fascination and fondness. Forge forward and forecast the future from a focused flurry of factoids from fortune finding full-grown, former follicle furry friends, focusing on fulfilling forensic fantasies. Fretting falsely, finally finished.

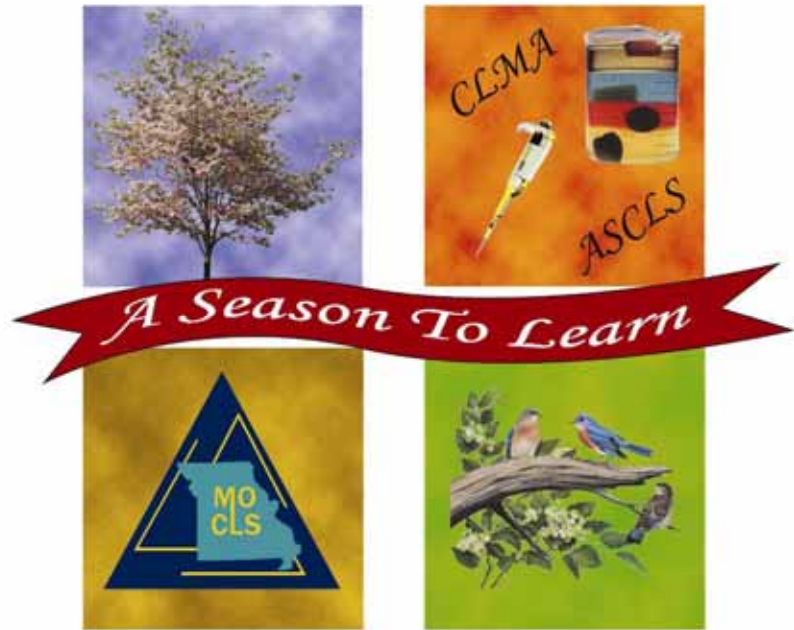
Tim R. Randolph

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim R. Randolph".

M.S., MT (ASCP), CLS (NCA)
MoCLS President
Annual Meeting Program Chair
Assistant Professor
Department of Clinical Laboratory Science
Saint Louis University

S a v e t h e
D a t e !!

*For more info
on the Lodge,
click on the
picture →→*



*Or go to the
website:*

*[www.4seasons
resort.com](http://www.4seasonsresort.com)*

M O C L S /
O z a r k - C L M A
2007 S p r i n g
M e e t i n g

A p r i l 18-20, 2007
A t t h e L o d g e o f
t h e F o u r
S e a s o n s
L a k e O z a r k , M O