



the
FILTER

***NCA and BOR Announce
Accreditation Merger***

For the past four years, members of the NCA (ASCLS sponsored) CLS/CLT certification program and members of the BOR (ASCP) Board of Registry for MT/MLTs have been working together to create one nationally accredited certification agency. I am very pleased to announce that on Tuesday, July 22, 2009 chairs of both organizations came together at the annual ASCLS National Meeting in Chicago, IL to announce that the two agencies have come together as one.

The agency will be known as the Board of Certification (BOC). While all of the details have not been announced, we do know that the corresponding official name for our profession will be *Medical Laboratory Scientist* with credentials MLS/MLT(ASCP) with the addition of the superscript *CM* for those under the certificate maintenance program.

The harmonization of the two organizations is very exciting news for our profession. With the challenges that we face in health care today, the unity of these organizations will allow us much more of a voice when it comes to protecting the rights of patients to seek quality laboratory testing provided by quality laboratory professionals.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this collaboration; I will do my best to help get your questions answered. I am very confident that ASCLS along with the new BOC will do everything in its power to keep you informed.

The announcement can be found at <http://laboratorian.advanceweb.com/Article/Lab-Organization-Merger.aspx>

TREASURER'S REPORT

SUBMITTED BY LINSEY DONNER, MT (ASCP)

Money Market balance - 1 August 2008 \$20,049.11

Cash receipts

Money Market Interest Income	\$199.85
2008 spring meeting profit	\$7,562.35
Stephanie Gillespie Memorial	\$100.00
ASCLS membership	<u>\$1,875.00</u>
Total Money Market cash receipts	\$9,737.20

Disbursements

Transfers to checking account	<u>\$10,680.00</u>
Total Money Market disbursements	\$10,680.00

Money Market account balance 30 June 2009 \$19,106.31

Checking account balance - 1 August 2008 \$115.30

Cash Receipts

Transfers from Money Market	\$10,680.00
Stephanie Gillespie Memorial Fund	\$50.00
Bank service charge reversal	<u>\$40.00</u>
Total checking account cash receipts	\$10,770.00

Disbursements

ASCLS meeting - President	\$456.05
ASCLS meeting - members	\$2,666.67
ASCLS meeting silent auction	\$50.00
ASCLS Legislative Days	\$2,989.82
ASCLS PACE Fee	\$325.00
Bank Service Charge	\$55.00
Board Meeting	\$84.84
State Charter	\$20.00
Filter	\$584.65
Region VI assessment	\$1,100.00
Treasurer	\$111.95
NSCLS Scholarship	\$500.00
Awards	\$200.00
Membership/Public Relations	\$93.80
Quad/Spring Meeting Expenses	\$116.00
Quad/Spring Meeting Seed Money	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
TOTAL checking account disbursements	\$10,353.78

Checking account balance 30 June 2009 \$531.52

NSCLS SUMMARY OF ASSETS:

Money Market balance 30 June 2009	\$19,106.31
Checking account balance 30 June 2009	\$531.52
Scholarship CD balance 30 June 2009	\$14,694.56
Legislative CD balance 30 June 2009	\$5,164.31
Savings CD balance 30 June 2009	<u>\$11,316.69</u>
NSCLS TOTAL ASSETS - 30 June 2009	\$50,813.39

President's Page . . .

NICOLE MEIER



First let me begin by saying how excited I am to be your 2009-2010 NSCLS President. And let me follow by saying how apprehensive I am to follow in Tracey's steps, she's a petite gal but she has some Big shoes. This past year Tracey has done such a wonderful job in ensuring that ALL members of NSCLS members are aware of what is going on and done a terrific job of holding all accountable to make our state society a great success.

After attending the ASCLS annual meeting in Chicago I have had time to reflect on the mission of the new ASCLS President Mary Ann McLane and to build on her objectives to develop my own. Let me share my goals for NSCLS for this year with you.

First, for continuity, because Tracey did an excellent job in keeping in touch with the members of ASCLS I want to make sure that all members of NSCLS know what your society is doing for you. By using the Filter, I will consistently post a President's message. Through e-mail on the months in which there is no Filter, I will be sending an e-mail of the new business that we are currently working on and where we stand on old business. If I don't have your e-mail please sent it to me at president@nscls.net or nmeier01@hotmail.com. In addition to my updates of our State society, I will be certain that any important new news from Region and National will be forwarded to you.

Second, which is consistent with the ASCLS President, I will post the same challenge to you: promote your profession. I challenge you to do away with saying things such as "I'm just a medical technologist" and "I just work in the lab." Be proud of who you are and what you do! I once heard that our job can be compared to that of an air traffic controller. They are people that we know exist yet when we fly, we very rarely see or meet. However, what pilot would fly without them? Think of this example when you are promoting yourself and our profession. What doctor would practice medicine without Laboratory Professionals?

Third, and probably most important, promote the society and what it does for you. Now I know that the majority of us are not in sales, but with the important position we play in health care we need to be heard and the reality is that power is in numbers. I'm so pleased that we were able to repeal competitive bidding, now we need to assure that they hear us on issues such as reimbursement for laboratory testing, licensure and how important it is that laboratory testing be performed by qualified Laboratory Professionals, and the need for assistance with educational programs which educate the future of our profession. Without the numbers these things will not be realized. So please when promoting your profession, discuss these issues with your colleges and encourage them to become a member and as I've said before "own their profession."

With all of that said, I'm so happy to be serving you this year. Please keep in contact with your comments, questions and concerns. I want to hear from you about what you have done to promote your profession. Also, I would love for you to shoot me an e-mail if there is someone you would like me to contact in regards to becoming a member of NSCLS. Until next month (via e-mail), ta-ta for now.

NSCLS Annual Business Meeting Minutes

submitted by Joyce Colombe, NSCLS Secretary

1. **President's Report:** President Tracey Vrba thanked everyone. We have met some of the goals that were set for 2008-2009. Leadership positions have been filled. Communication with members has improved and we have met 3 times this year. There will be an additional meeting to work on the by-laws and a meeting for those going to the National ASCLS meeting to discuss expectations. Tracey reported that the membership is down 1000 nationally. Some things were done to balance the budget such as – dues will increase a little, Regional assessment will go from \$700 to \$800 (this is the amount that the Region pays to National, the state part of that will go up), ASCLS today will go electronic, Legislative days dinner will be replaced with wine and cheese. 156 people pre-registered for Legislative days. The Treasurer position and the Secretary position are open for Region VI. Rho Sigma nominations are due May 22, 2009.
2. **Secretary's Report:** Joyce Colombe distributed a copy of the minutes from the NSCLS Winter Business Meeting held January 17, 2009. The minutes were approved as written. The Filter deadline has changed to May 15, 2009.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Linsey Donner distributed a copy of the NSCLS budget for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010. It was suggested to save on postage that the Filter is sent electronically unless the member lets us know otherwise. If a member does not have email, a paper copy of the Filter would be sent. The budget is not finalized; Linsey will email a proposal to be voted on.
4. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Bylaws:** Anita Smith was not present. The bylaws need to be reviewed. The review will be scheduled in June.
 - B. **Membership:** Nicole Meier reported that we have 180 members. All UNMC students are members with the exception of 5. Nicole put something together for the graduates. It was not given out at UNMC's graduation so it will be used for incoming students. She reported that people stopped by the booth. She is asking for emails for everyone.
 - C. **PACE:** Karen Keller reported that she was working with the on-line PACE. She was working with Kim from Iowa so that everything works.
 - D. **LDC:** Melissa Gonzalez was not present. Roxanne Alter reported on the Leadership Academy. This is an opportunity for states to grow their own leaders. There are 5 open positions this year. The requirements are that individuals go to the National meeting, work on projects, meet at CLEC, and got to Legislative Days. Two years ago, the Leadership Academy developed promotional items such as a video. The group works on projects with some of the work done by teleconferencing. It is a big commitment. The deadline was March 31 but they probably would still take applicants at this time.
 - E. **GAC/PAC:** Andrea Shank reported that Andrea Shank, Roxanne Alter, Nicole Meier and Tracey Vrba attended Legislative Days. She said they learned a lot and the meetings were very successful. They focused on laboratory personnel shortages and Medicare reimbursement fees. There is a power point with a handout that could be put on the website. A note could be put in the Filter to look for it. Andrea reported that at the Quad Meeting baskets were raffled and they raised \$700 for PAC.
 - F. **New Professional Committee/Student Forum:** Linsey Donner reported on the following positions for

this committee: Chelsea Dockins -New Professional Adviser, Alicia Eisenmenger- New Professional, Whitney Gatz – First Year Professional, and Student Forum President – TBA. The goal is to have a step ladder of leadership that all work together as a team. NSCLS will be talked about at orientation at UNMC and at SCC. Students get more benefits if they join at the beginning of the year.

G. Filter: Courtney Olson was not present. Information will be sent to her regarding the Filter being distributed electronically.

H. Website: Martin Steinbeck asked for pictures of the award recipients. Martin reported that NSCLS website was added to his personal account. It costs \$6/year to register name. He talked about moving NSCLS to a new site and getting our own account as a group. We may want to wait until we get more specifics on changing the name of the group. Linsey will check about the name change for NSCLS including the date, process, and cost.

I. Nominations: The following nominations were listed:

President – Nicole Meier

President-elect – Shana Jensen

Secretary – Joyce Colombe

Junior Board Member – Jillian Christensen and Lynnett Kastens

President Tracy Vrba asked for any more nominations. The nominations were closed. Junior Board Member had two nominations. Lynnett was asked if she would like to be the Membership Development Chair. She accepted this position and Jillian Christensen stayed as the Junior Board Member. It was moved to accept the nominations.

J. Spring Meeting 2010: Lucus Christensen reported the meeting would be in the Omaha area. He needs a group to work on it and is planning on meeting in May. He is checking on a site.

5. Old Business: ASCLS-NE name change. Tracey reported that now may be a good time to change the name. ASCLS is recommending that all constituent societies change their name to ASCLS-State. This will identify them as members of the ASCLS “Brand.” She referred to the information provided by Anita Smith Bylaws Chair and Linsey Donner Treasurer. It would involve changing the website and logo. The name change would not be effective until 2011. It was approved to change the name.

Amy Stanley reported that the Iowa Chamber of Commerce did all the name tags. She asked about a donation to the Chamber of Commerce. It was decided that the Treasurer for the Quad Meeting can take the money out for this. Also, a thank you note could be sent.

6. New Business: National Meeting is July 21-25 in Chicago, Illinois. Tracy Vrba, Nicole Meier, Shana Jensen, Chelsea Dockins, and Alicia Eisenmenger expressed an interest in going. There is money in the budget for the President and President-Elect and 2 members. With it being in Chicago, it may be possible to pay for 5 people to go. There are also 5-6 students interested in going.

7. Recognition: Scholarship winners Debbie Watts from Southeast Community College and Becky Schainost from Nebraska Methodist Hospital were recognized.

NSCLS at the ASCLS National Meeting in Chicago



Back row : Ricki Otten, Genna Kiser, Shana Jensen, Linda Fell, Roxanne Alter, Whitney Gatz & Nicole Meier — Front Row: Tracey Vrba, Erin Flagle & Amy Bohmont

Student Forum

Chelsea Dockins and Alicia Eisenmenger recently talked to students at UNMC and Southeast Community College on the benefits of becoming a member of ASCLS. Students were asked to volunteer to become members of the student forum which helps to raise money to send students to the national meeting and other various events. The first student forum meeting will be held in September. We are also working on finding speakers for the state meeting in April.

AMA APPROVED CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROGRAMS IN NEBRASKA

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
[MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM](#)

EAST HIGHWAY 6, P.O. BOX 1024
HASTINGS, NE 68902
PHONE: 402-461-2451
INTERIM PROGRAM DIRECTOR: SHIRLEY NOBLE, MS, MT(ASCP)
EDUCATION COORDINATOR: LORI VANBOENING, MT(ASCP)
EMAIL: LVANBOENING@CCCNEB.EDU

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
[MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM](#)

MCDONALD-BELTON CAMPUS
601 WEST STATE FARM ROAD
NORTH PLATTE, NE 69101
PHONE: 308.532.8980 OR 800.658.4308 (EXT. 254)
MEDICAL ADVISORS: DR. BYRON BARKSDALE AND DR. LYLE BARKSDALE
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: MARTIN STEINBECK, M.ED., MT(ASCP)
EMAIL: STEINBECKM@MPCC.EDU

NEBRASKA METHODIST HOSPITAL
[MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM](#)

8303 DODGE ST.
OMAHA, NE 68114
PHONE: 402.354.4563
MEDICAL DIRECTOR: DEBORAH PERRY, MD
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: JULIE RICHARDS, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB
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SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
[MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM](#)

LINCOLN CAMPUS ADMISSIONS
8800 O STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68520-9989
PHONE: 402.437.2760 OR 800.642.4075
MEDICAL DIRECTOR: AINA I. SILENIEKS, M.D.
PROGRAM DIRECTOR: JANIS BIBLE MT(ASCP)

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER
[CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE PROGRAM](#)

987549 NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER
OMAHA, NE 68198-7549
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FALL EDITION—2009

2008 – 2009 NSCLS OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT-ELECT-ELECT	TBA	
PAST PRESIDENT	TRACEY VRBA	TRACEY_VRBA@HOTMAIL.COM
TREASURER	LINSEY DONNER	LMDONNER@UNMC.EDU
SECRETARY	JOYCE COLOMBE	JCOLOMBE@SOUTHEAST.EDU
SENIOR BOARD MEMBER	LUCAS CHRISTENSEN	LUCAS.CHRISTENSEN@ALEGENT.ORG
JUNIOR BOARD MEMBER	JILLIAN CHRISTENSEN	JILLIAN.CHRISTENSEN@ALEGENT.ORG
STUDENT FORUM CHAIR	TBA	
FIRST YEAR PROFESSIONAL	WHITNEY GATZ	WGATZ@NSCLS.NET