



the FILTER



Get Ready, Get Set ... Nominate!

Laboratory professionals often cite "lack of recognition for a job well done" as one of their primary job frustrations. The NSCLS Awards Program is a way for you to recognize the outstanding contributions by individuals in your laboratory and professional society. Please consider nominating individuals you believe are worthy of these awards!

Winners will be announced at the Awards Luncheon on Wednesday during the 2009 Great Plains Regional Laboratory EXPO Iowa-Kansas-Missouri-Nebraska combined spring meeting on April 29, 30, & May 1, 2009 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The forms can be downloaded as a DOC or PDF file from the NSCLS website: www.nscls.net
Go to the awards link on the left side of the page.

The following awards are available this year (criteria for each are listed on the form):

Award of Excellence

Technical Support Award of Excellence

Filter Award

Key to the Future Award

Exhibitor Appreciation Award

All applications must be received by April 4th, 2009 to be considered. The NSCLS Officers will determine the winners of each award, based on the application information.

Completed applications should be sent to the Awards Chairperson:

Amy M. Stanley

26990 Ski Hill Loop

Honey Creek, IA 51542

amy.m.stanley@siemens.com

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Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Linsey Donner, MT (ASCP)

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
1 August 2008 – 15 January 2009

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

Cash receipts

Money Market Interest Income	\$109.58
2007 spring meeting profit	\$7,562.35
Stephanie Gillespie Memorial	\$100.00
ASCLS membership	\$595.00
Total Money Market cash receipts	<u>\$8366.93</u>

Disbursements

Transfers to checking account	<u>\$5,650.00</u>
Total Money Market disbursements	<u>\$5,650.00</u>

Money Market account balance 15 January 2009 \$22,766.04

Checking account balance - 1 August 2008 \$115.30

Cash Receipts

Transfers from Money Market	\$5,650.00
Bank service charge reversal	\$5.00
Total checking account cash receipts	<u>\$5,655.00</u>

Disbursements

ASCLS meeting - President	\$456.05
ASCLS meeting - members	\$2,666.67
ASCLS meeting silent auction	\$50.00
Bank Service Charge	\$20.00
Board Meeting	\$36.83
Filter	\$159.17
Region VI assessment	\$1,100.00
Treasurer	\$92.00
Quad/Spring Meeting Seed Money	\$1,000.00
TOTAL checking account disbursements	<u>\$5,580.72</u>

Checking account balance 15 January 2009 \$189.58

NSCLS SUMMARY OF ASSETS:

Money Market balance 15 January 2009	\$22,766.04
Checking account balance 15 January 2009	\$189.58
Scholarship CD balance 15 January 2009	\$14,384.65
Legislative CD balance 15 January 2009	\$5,071.19
Savings CD balance 15 January 2009	11117.86
NSCLS TOTAL ASSETS - 15 January 2009	<u>\$53,529.32</u>

Membership Development Update

Submitted by Nicole Meier MT (ASCP)

Happy New Year fellow NSCLS professionals! I'm sure some of you are thinking "what is so happy about it?" While we thought everything was going to be "great in 08" some people will definitely disagree with that statement as we begin 2009. While this was a rough year for the economy, there were some wonderful things that happened within NSCLS.

So, do you want me to tell you what was so great about 08 for NSCLS members?

- Jared Schwartz, president of CAP, officially announced their change in position to now support state licensure of clinical laboratory personnel. This due to efforts from ASCLS working collaboratively with them to educate the importance of state licensure.
- A phenomenally successful year with PAC (ASCLS's political action committee) with the repeal of competitive bidding for laboratories and making way with updating the fee schedule for Medicare reimbursement.
- Defining new scopes of practice with the introduction of the Doctorate in CLS.
- Another very successful national meeting, 2008 was in Washington, DC, 2009 is in Chicago, IL- any member of NSCLS has the opportunity to attend this meeting at a discounted rate.

All of these great things from '08 are because of your dedicated membership to NSCLS. Things will be just fine in '09 and we remind you that each and every day, we at NSCLS are helping to improve opportunities within our profession. Tell a friend or perhaps a new hire about us. See you at the quad State meeting this spring.

Stephanie Gillespie Memorial Scholarship

Many Clinical Laboratory Scientists in Nebraska lost a long-time friend and colleague recently with the passing of Stephanie Gillespie. Stephanie had been the Hematology supervisor for many years at Physicians Laboratory in Omaha, NE.

In the past, Stephanie was very active in NSMT (now known as NSCLS). NSCLS has received a memorial in Stephanie's name from Ruth Ann Bartels. The memorial will be added to the NSCLS Scholarship Certificate of Deposit. This CD is used to award scholarships to one Clinical Laboratory Science student and one Clinical Laboratory Technician student every year. NSCLS would like to thank Ruth Ann for her memorial gift in Stephanie's name.

If you are interested in remembering Stephanie with a memorial in this way also, a check made out to the NSCLS Scholarship Fund can be sent to the NSCLS Treasurer:

Linsey Donner
15207 Butler Ave
Omaha, NE 68116

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NSCLS Fall Business Meeting Minutes

submitted by Joyce Colombe, NSCLS Secretary

Present: Tracey Vrba, Joyce Colombe, Linsey Donner, Karen Keller, Roxanne Alter, Shirley Noble and Chelsea Dockins - Connected via phone: Amy Stanley, Nicole Meier and Shana Jensen

1. **President's Report- Tracey Vrba.** Tracey reported that the Filter went out and the web-site is updated. She thanked Joyce Colombe for going to the President Elect meeting at the ASCLS meeting and getting the materials for her. She shared a hand out from the meeting. Tracey sent emails for the government affairs, leadership development committee and registration chair reports. Tracey reported on CAP whiz - members of ASCLS can use it to respond to government issues quickly. PAC will send something for the newsletter.
2. **Secretary's Report - Joyce Colombe.** No report at this time. Joyce still needs the secretary books.
3. **Treasurer's Report - Linsey Donner.** Linsey handed out a printout of the budget. She explained the items on the printout. There is \$1000 seed money for the Spring Meeting.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - A. Bylaws. Tracey will contact Anita Smith about this position.
 - B. Membership - Nicole Meier. No report. It was suggested that Nicole contact lapsed members, let members know what our lobbyists do, let members know about the Filter, check if their employer will pay for membership, etc.
 - C. PACE - Karen Keller. Karen reported that she needs to find out who is the PACE chair from other states. Electronic PACE has a fee of \$75/year and may be used at the quad meeting this year. MediaLab Inc is an Online Learning service that costs subscribers \$95/yr. The state organization gets a royalty based on the number of subscriptions made from people using the link on our website.
 - D. Student Forum - Linsey Donner. Linsey reported that as a fundraiser the students sold raffle tickets for 2 tickets to a NE football game and a gift certificate to a Lincoln restaurant, the Blue Orchid. Linsey thanked Shirley Noble and Dwayne Ball for donation of the football tickets. The students are planning a social event at Dave and Buster's.
 - E. Filter - Courtney Olson. Courtney was not present. If anyone has anything to put in the Filter, forward to Courtney. Committee reports can go in the next Filter. Martin will put the Filter on the website. There was a discussion about having only an electronic copy and sending a postcard or email to members to let them know to check the website.
 - F. Nominations.
President Elect - open

Junior Board Member - Lucas Christiansen

New Professional Co-Directors - Alicia Eisenmenger and Chelsea Dockins

Student Forum President - Whitney Gatz

Leadership Development - open

GAC, PAC, and Bylaws - open

ASCLS National Nominations - Roxanne Alter is the Region VI representative. Nominations are due 1/15/09. She reported that it is a 2 year commitment. Every region has a nomination person. There is cost associated with going to the meeting. The nomination task force chair for National organization has 6 members. This may be revamped. We need a Region VI director.

5. Old Business

- A. 2008 NSCLS Spring Meeting had a profit of \$7500. ASCP receives 25% and CLMA and NSCLS 75%. We need to thank Beth Sargent for the great job she did with the exhibitors. The Awards were given out Thursday night. However, not too many people stayed.
- B. ASCLS Meeting in Washington, DC. Lindsey Donner and Joyce Colombe represented Nebraska in the House of Delegates. They both gave a report of the meeting. There was a discussion of the responsibilities of those going to the ASCLS meeting. Require people that go to submit PACE forms for reimbursement. If the State organization is paying your way, it will be expected that you attend the House of Delegates and the Region VI Caucus and any other meetings that are deemed appropriate. This statement will be added to the reimbursement form. It is expected that people share rooms as much as possible to keep the expenses down.

6. New Business

- A. Quad-State Meeting - April 29 - May 1 at the Mid America Center, Council Bluffs, IA The social event was discussed. Now Kansas and Iowa are in charge. Amy Stanley had no additional information. Amy cannot attend the Nov 1 and 2 meeting in Kansas City. Tracey and Roxanne are planning on attending.
- B. Legislative Days are March 23-24, 2009. Check if the GAC or PAC Representatives would like to go. Lindsey Donner and Roxanne Alter are willing to go.
- C. Member Retention - we get student members and then they do not renew their membership. We have 2 New Professional Co-Directors that could work on this. They can contact the students, let them know about the ASCLS Beginners packet on the website, maybe have an alumni get together.
- D. 2008-2009 Goals
 - Get Electronically connected to the members
 - Fill all the positions at the state level, especially President-Elect
 - Have more regular meetings
 - Improve communications - aim for 3 times.



Mark Your Calendar



Collaboration at its Best!

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.

Book Your Room Now....

Rooms have been reserved at the following hotels. Contact the hotel directly using the phone numbers listed below to make your reservation. Tell the reservation service that you are with the Great Plains Lab Expo in order to receive the group rate.

Country Inn & Suites

17 Arena Way
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
Phone (712) 322-8282

Enclosed walkway to Mid America Center, complimentary breakfast, wireless high speed internet access, spa, fitness center
\$89/night Single, Double or Quad occupancy

Sleep Inn

2211 South 32nd Street
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
Phone (712) 352-1300

Walking distance to Mid America Center
\$109/night Single, Double or Quad occupancy

Spring Hill Suites

3216 Plaza View Dr
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
Phone (712) 256-6500

Next door to the Mid America Center, Complimentary Breakfast, free high speed internet, convenience store, fitness center
\$109/night Single Double, or Quad occupancy

Microtel Inn & Suites

Opening in March, 2009

Within Walking distance of the Mid-America Center.

www.MicrotelInn.com

More information available at <http://www.ascls-ia.org/2009LabExpo.htm>

President's Page. . .

Tracey Vrba, MT(ASCP)



As 2009 begins, your NSCLS leaders are busy working to achieve goals set for this year. We have aimed to improve and strengthen NSCLS leadership and become electronically connected to NSCLS members. These goals were set at our 2008 Fall Board Meeting in October. Our next board meeting will be held January 17, 2009.

Main topics for the winter meeting include leadership openings, 2009 Legislative Days, the 2009 Great Plains Laboratory Expo, and information gathered at the 2008 Region VI Fall Council Meeting. Roxanne Alter the Region VI Nominations Chair and I were able to attend and represent NSCLS at the Region VI meeting in November. We hope to send at least two NSCLS leaders to Washington DC in March for Legislative Days.

We have added three "new" rolls to our list of leaders. Andrea Schank is our new Government Affairs Committee/Political Action Committee Chair. Anita Smith has resumed her roll as Bylaws Chair. The third position, Leadership Development Committee Chair, as well as our President-Elect spot are currently still open! If you have previous experience as an NSCLS leader and are interested in taking on either of these responsibilities, we are looking for you! Please contact me at president@nscls.net.

Our Second goal is to become electronically connected to our members. Web Author Martin Steinbeck has been hard at work keeping our website up to date. Please check out the updates at www.nscls.net. Look at our improved Student and Membership pages, as well as new links to online PACE credits and to the 2009 Great Plains Laboratory Expo website. As always, you can find leadership contacts, scholarship and awards information, NSCLS Bylaws, and other important links.

All NSCLS members should have recently received an email from me Tracey Vrba (president@nscls.net). If you have not, please let me know. I may not have your current email address. The president@nscls.net account will be used to send you the latest in NSCLS news and events as well as to filter information from Region VI and ASCLS leaders. It is also an avenue for you to contact NSCLS leaders with your comments, questions, and concerns! As Always, we would love to hear from you!

Would you rather receive your copy of the **FILTER** electronically?
It's as easy as sending an email with your request to colson@nscls.net.



ALPHA MU TAU Scholarship Update

NSCLS has been notified that Roma Brown has made a generous donation to the Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity in memory of Doris Johnson of Lincoln, NE. Doris died during the summer of 2007. She was known to many of our students because she was the longtime Director of the Laboratory at the NU Student Health Center. She was also the Medical Technology advisor on the Lincoln campus. Doris stepped in and taught Immunology to Medical Technology students when Life Sciences did not have a qualified person to teach it. Doris was a long time NSCLS member back in the era when we were known as NSMT. She served two terms as president of NSMT. During her second term, Doris visited every laboratory in the state of Nebraska. Doris also served as Regional Director for Region VI and was elected to the Judicial Committee of ASMT. She was an Alpha Mu Tau member for many years. Doris and Roma Brown were classmates during their clinical year at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (1949-1950) before it was known as UNMC.

Roma Brown is an NSMT past president. She also served at the national level and is a past president of ASMT (now known as ASCLS). Roma is an emeritus member of Alpha Mu Tau and now resides in Pennsylvania.

Alpha Mu Tau is an honorary fraternity recognizing Medical Technologists/Clinical Laboratory Scientists who have made significant contributions to the profession. Members are elected to membership. The primary activity of Alpha Mu Tau is to promote the profession.

Emeritus members of Alpha Mu Tau with a Nebraska affiliation in addition to Roma Brown include Phyllis Muellenberg (residing in Iowa) and Marilyn Stewart. Dave Glenn and Peggy Prinz Luebbert are active members.

Alpha Mu Tau presents numerous scholarships each year to students pursuing an education in Clinical Laboratory Science, and to those in graduate programs. Students in the combined Clinical Laboratory Science Programs at UNMC and Nebraska Methodist Hospital have been recipients of Alpha Mu Tau Scholarships. In 2008, Alpha Mu Tau awarded scholarships in the amount of \$35,000.00 to 21 students. Four of the 2008 Alpha Mu Tau scholarship awardees are from Nebraska! Their names and clinical sites are:

Troy Ferdig, Nebraska Methodist Hospital, Omaha

Whitney Gatz, UNMC, Norfolk

Robert Risley, Nebraska Methodist Hospital, Omaha

Dana Schultz, UNMC, Omaha

Every organization is only one generation away from extinction. We *must* recruit members who are willing to be active participants in achieving the goals of ASCLS . We *must* seek out fresh perspectives so that we can grow and continue to be relevant in the changing world of laboratory science. We *must* invest in the idea of an institutional legacy in order to survive. We *must* make sure that everyone who joins ASCLS can easily get answers to their questions and find ways to become active.

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

[Clinical Laboratory Science Program](#)

8303 Dodge St.

Omaha, NE 68114

Phone: 402.354.4563

Medical Director: Christine Reyes, MD

Program Director: Julie Richards, MPA, MT(ASCP)BB

Email : julie.richards@nmhs.org

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

Phone: 402.559.8366

Medical Director: James Wisecarver, MD

Program Director: Linda Fell, MS, MT(ASCP)SH

Education Coordinator: Karen Honeycutt, M.Ed, MT(ASCP)SM

Email : LFell@unmc.edu

Lincoln, NE 68510
324 S. 53rd St.
Attn: Courtney Olson

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the
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Winter Edition—2009

2008 – 2009 NSCLS OFFICERS

President	Tracey Vrba	tracey_vrba@hotmail.com
President-elect	TBA	
President-Elect-Elect	Shana Jensen	sjensen@sfmc-gi.org
Past President	Robbe Peetz	turby10cj@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Linsey Donner	lmdonner@unmc.edu
Secretary	Joyce Colombe	jcolombe@southeast.edu
Senior Board Member	Amy Stanley	amy_stanley@siemens.com
Junior Board Member	Lucas Christensen	lchrist2@gmail.com
Student Forum Chair	TBA	
First Year Professional	Chelsea Dockins	cdockinsmgm@aol.com