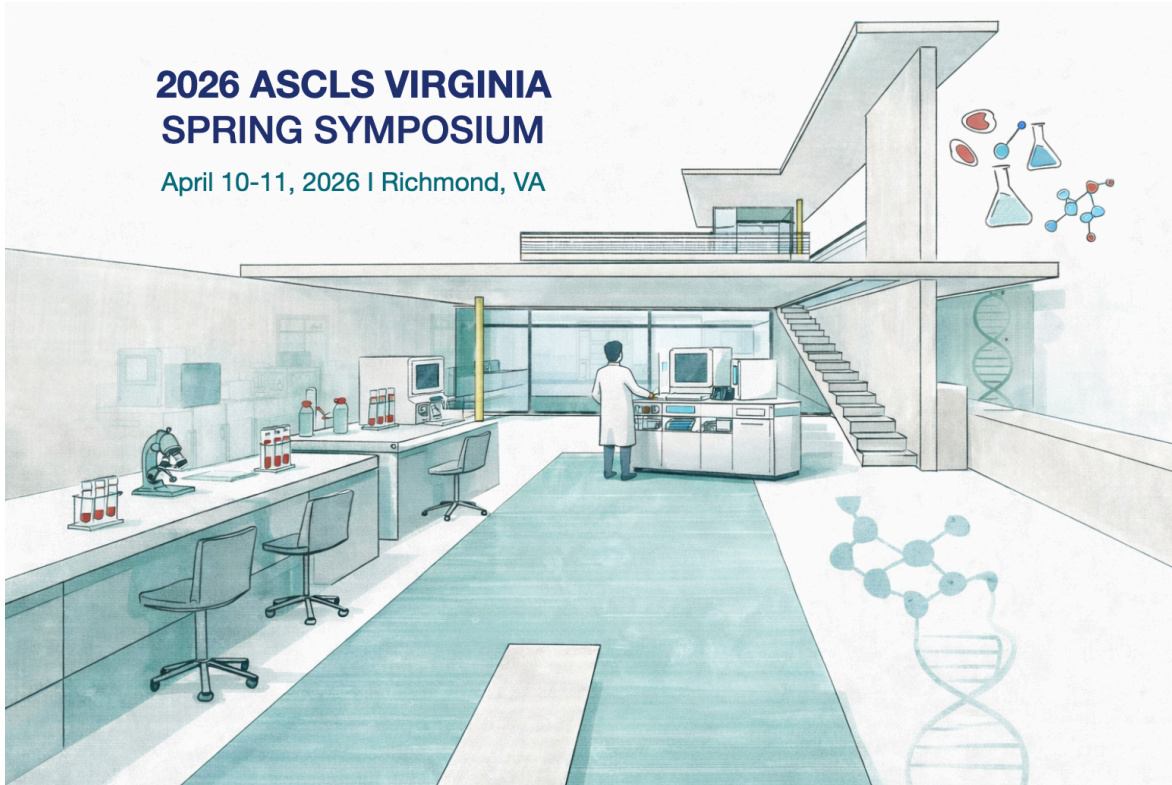




VCU



2026 ASCLS VIRGINIA SPRING SYMPOSIUM

April 10-11, 2026 | Richmond, VA

2026 Annual Meeting

April 10-11, 2026

Virginia Commonwealth University

College of Health Professions

900 E Leigh St.

Richmond, VA 23219



This conference is organized by ASCLS-VA. Speakers will provide educational sessions for laboratory professionals, educators, and students. Minimum of 5 P.A.C.E. credits (1 contact hour each) available.

ASCLS-VA is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. program.

ORGANIZATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Registration

Registration costs: Member (\$30), Non-Member (\$45), Students (\$15).

Please register online [here](#).

Hotel

Special rates (\$184/night) are available at the **Hilton Richmond Downtown** for conference attendees. Reservations can be made [here](#).

Conference Parking

Parking vouchers will be available to all attendees during check-in for the symposium. **Parking vouchers will only be valid for the Eighth St. Parking Deck** (659 N. 8th St., Richmond, VA, 23298). When exiting the garage after the conference, please scan the provided parking voucher at the machine at the garage exit.

Student Quiz Bowl

Students are invited to form teams of up to 4 to participate in a quiz bowl on Medical Laboratory Science topics. The quiz bowl will take place on **Friday, April 10, from 2-4 PM** in Room 1075 on the 1st floor of the College of Health Professions at 900 E Leigh St. Please contact Rachel Childs (rchilds@odu.edu) or Elizabeth VonCanon (emdraper@vcu.edu) for registration.

TopGolf Social Event (Optional)

Attendees are invited to enjoy snacks and a round of golf together on **Friday, April 10, from 5-7 PM at TopGolf** located at **2308 Westwood Avenue**, Richmond, VA 23230. The event is free for the first 75 registrants for the symposium.

Educational Sessions

ASCLS-VA has organized a variety of speakers for **Saturday, April 11**. Please arrive Saturday to the College of Health Professions located at 900 E Leigh St. by **8:30 AM** to start the day with our opening keynote from Kathryn Golab, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SH^{CM}.

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FRIDAY PROGRAM

APRIL 10

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Student Quiz Bowl** *Moderator: R. Childs, D.H.Sc, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}*

The student quiz bowl will begin promptly at 2pm. Teams should plan to arrive between 1:30 and 1:45pm to check in and receive instructions.

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **TopGolf Social Event**

Snacks and a round of golf will be provided to the first 75 conference registrants. Pre-registration is necessary via Google Form from the ASCLS-VA President.

SATURDAY PROGRAM

APRIL 11

The CE Organizer code for each session will be given out immediately following the presentation. Retain this code for entry into the CE organizer for credit.

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM **Registration and Breakfast**

Visit the registration table outside the Auditorium on the first floor of the College of Health Professions to pick up your name tag and parking voucher. Enjoy breakfast set up in the nearby room.

8:30 AM - 8:45 AM **President Opening**

*Laura Link, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Radford University*

Location: Room 1050

8:45 AM - 9:45 AM **Opening Keynote**

*Kathryn Golab, DCLS,
MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SH^{CM}
Sentara Health*

From the Bench to the Bedside: The DCLS in Clinical Practice

Description: This session will cover what the DCLS is, current DCLS programs, compare the training of the DCLS to a PhD or a Clinical Pathologist, and discuss the impact of the DCLS through clinical case studies.

Location: Room 1050

Moderator: L. Link, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Basic

Program Area: GEN

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM **Break**

Please feel free to mingle with our Vendors during this time.

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SATURDAY PROGRAM CONTINUED

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Concurrent Sessions (1)**

*Session 1: Aleksandar Janjic, PhD, MB (ASCP)
 10X Genomics*

Resolving Biological Complexity with Single Cell and Spatial Analysis

Description: We will have an in depth look at single cell and spatial transcriptomic technologies from 10x Genomics, understand how the technology is being used within the clinical lab, and discuss the future of the technology and potential areas where the students may see development within the field.

Location: Room 1013

Moderator: M. Lacy, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Intermediate

Program Area: Related Interest

*Session 2: Grace Williams, PhD
 VCU Health*

Special Considerations for Pediatric Patients: Examples from Toxicology

Description: Children are not small adults, they have unique physiology differences and communication barriers which affect clinical management of therapeutic drugs and toxic exposures to many different substances. In this presentation, these considerations will be discussed in the framework of toxicology testing and therapeutic drug monitoring.

Location: Room 1050

Moderator: C. Wilson, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Basic

Program Area: CHEM

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM **Break**

Please feel free to mingle with our Vendors during this time.

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SATURDAY PROGRAM CONTINUED

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM **Concurrent Sessions (2)**

*Session 3: Jennifer Mcleod, MPA, MPH, PA-C, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
VCU Health Massey Cancer Center*

Diagnostic Evaluation of Primary Mediastinal Large B-cell Lymphoma: A Clinical and Laboratory Case Study

Description: This case-based session explores the clinical and laboratory evaluation of Primary Mediastinal Large B-cell Lymphoma (PMBCL). Participants will examine diagnostic lab tests, histopathology, immunotyping, and understand treatment-related complications, including chemotherapy effects and secondary malignancies.

Location: Room 1013

Moderator: M. Lee, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Intermediate

Program Area: HEM

*Session 4: Christopher Doern, PhD
VCU Health*

Practical Approaches to Microbiology: How to Draw the Line in a "Culture" of Working It All Up

Description: This lecture will discuss some practical approaches to practicing clinical microbiology to help streamline work and ensure that resources are not being wasted. The goal is to identify and discuss some low hanging fruit and common problems that can hopefully be adopted in many labs to help reduce unnecessary work and streamline patient care.

Location: Room 1050

Moderator: K. Angelini, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SMC^{CM}

Level: Intermediate

Program Area: MICRO

12:15 AM - 1:15 PM **Lunch**

Please pickup your lunch and enjoy it in Room 1075. Feel free to mingle with vendors as well.

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SATURDAY PROGRAM CONTINUED

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions (3)

*Session 5: Doryan Redding, MSHS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
UVA Health System*

Harmony in Healthcare: Navigating Clinical Misunderstandings through Interprofessional Education

Description: In the lab, misunderstandings with other departments are common and can disrupt our work. This session helps new laboratorians tackle these challenges through real scenarios—examining why errors happen, how they affect us, and strategies to turn mistakes into teaching moments that improve communication and collaboration.

Location: Room 1013

Moderator: M. Jamerson, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Basic

Program Area: Medical Ethics

*Session 6: Courtney Lawrence, MD, MS
American Red Cross*

Reimagining Platelet Storage: The Cold-Stored Platelet Comeback

Description: This one-hour session explores the history and science behind modern platelet storage while telling the story behind the resurgence of cold-stored platelets. We'll examine operational challenges, clinical drivers, and the expanding body of research fueling the renewed interest in cold-storage of platelets and shaping their role in transfusion therapy.

Location: Room 1050

Moderator: M. Reeves, PhD, MB(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Intermediate

Program Area: BB

SATURDAY PROGRAM CONTINUED

2:15 PM - 3:00 PM **Break, Business and Student Meeting**

Please feel free to rest and mingle with our vendors before the closing keynote. All are welcome to attend the business meeting. The business and student meeting for ASCLS-VA members will be held in Room 1050.

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Closing Keynote** *Lashanta Brice, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SH^{CM} Stago Diagnostics*

More Than Numbers: Expanding the Laboratory's Impact on Patient Care

Description: This presentation highlights how clinical laboratories can extend their impact beyond reporting results by improving test ordering, strengthening collaboration, offering consultative expertise, and leading education. Through real case studies, it demonstrates how laboratorians elevate patient care by guiding method selection, troubleshooting discrepancies, and partnering directly with clinicians to optimize diagnostic decisions.

Location: Room 1050

Moderator: R. Childs, D.H.Sc, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Level: Intermediate

Program Area: GEN

4:00 PM - 4:15 PM **Closing Remarks** *Laura Link, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} Radford University*

SPONSORS AND VENDORS

We would like to give a special thanks to the sponsor of our Spring Symposium!



COMMONWEALTH TRANSFUSION FOUNDATION

Please make sure to visit our vendors during lunch and breaks!



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P.A.C.E. CE ORGANIZER



The CE organizer code for each session will be given out immediately following the presentation. Retain this code for entry into CE Organizer for credit.

Date	Presentation Title	Topic Area	Hours	P.A.C.E. Code
4/11/2026	From the Bench to the Bedside: The DCLS in Clinical Practice	GEN	1.0	
4/11/2026	Resolving Biological Complexity with Single Cell and Spatial Analysis	RELATED INTEREST	1.0	
4/11/2026	Diagnostic Evaluation of Primary Mediastinal Large B-cell Lymphoma: A Clinical and Laboratory Case Study	CHEM	1.0	
4/11/2026	Special Considerations for Pediatric Patients: Examples from Toxicology	HEM	1.0	
4/11/2026	Practical Approaches to Microbiology: How to Draw the Line in a "Culture" of Working It All Up	MICRO	1.0	
4/11/2026	Harmony in Healthcare: Navigating Clinical Misunderstandings through Interprofessional Education	MEDICAL ETHICS	1.0	
4/11/2026	Reimagining Platelet Storage: The Cold-Stored Platelet Comeback	BB	1.0	
4/11/2026	More Than Numbers: Expanding the Laboratory's Impact on Patient Care	GEN	1.0	

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