

The Kansas Scope



The President's Corner March 2024– Beckie Hetrick

By now, the holiday decorations are tucked away for the year, and we begin to think about spring.

When we think of spring, then our thoughts turn to our annual meeting and education event. We will be meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Salina, KS. We are planning this event with ASCP Wheatlands, and are looking forward to a great meeting. Our theme will be “Looking to the Future...”, and our speakers will provide insight as to what they think lies ahead. Be sure to join us and perhaps get a fresh perspective on the profession while interacting with other laboratory professionals from around Kansas.

The ASCLS House of Delegates met on 1/14/24 for a mid-year meeting. Highlights included the improved financial standing of our society, membership is holding steady and the state of our constituent societies as noted in the surveys done recently. sign on to : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USLzcy7fq48> to listen to the updates there.

ASCLS- Kansas is maintaining steady membership numbers and is financially sound. We are committed this year to doing more to attract young people to the profession. To that end, we are working with the HOSA (Future Health Occupations Students) and are attending their Spring Leadership Conference in late March.

It is also the time of year to elect new officers. See more detail later in the newsletter, but we encourage our members to consider being part of our 2024-25 Leadership Team.

Beckie Hetrick, President

Be sure to celebrate Medical Laboratory Professionals Week-

April 14-20!

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Save the Date:



- April 14-20: NMLP Week
- April 9-10: Annual Mtg at the Hilton Garden Inn in Salina, KS
- ASCLS-KS Annual Business Meeting: April 9
- ASCLS, AGT & SAFMLS Jt. Ann Mtg, Pittsburg, PA July 7-11

ASCLS-KS & ASCP Wheatlands 2024 Spring Annual Meeting



Hilton Garden Inn, 3320 South 9th St, Salina, KS, 67401

Join us as we look to the future of laboratory medicine. Learn, meet with friends and colleagues, and interact with vendors in two full days of continuing education and fun.



[REGISTER HERE](#) for the meeting or SCAN 

or go to <https://ezregister.com/events/39936/>

Educational program schedule to follow as finalized.

Use the code "ASCLS" by March 9 to receive a special hotel room rate.

Members of ASCLS, ASCP Wheatlands, & SAFMLS: \$100 per day.

Non-members: \$125 per day. Questions? ASCLSKS@gmail.com



2024 Call for Nominations

This is a call for nominations to serve on the ASCLS Kansas Leadership Team. Please consider running for the following positions:

For questions or to make a nomination, please contact Jennifer Jones, Nominations Chair and Past President jjones1@kumc.edu

President-elect: 2 years

The President elect shall become familiar with the duties of the office of President, shall assist the President as the President may from time to time direct, and shall, in the absence of the President, act as chief executive of the Society, and preside at meetings of the Society and Board of Directors.

Qualifications:

- Professional, Ascending Professional or Emeritus members for at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to election.
- Shall have served on the Board or a committee of the Society.
- Shall have attended at least four meetings of the Board of Directors

Treasurer: 2 years

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the Society, shall file required financial reports, and chair the Finance Committee.

Qualifications:

- Professional, Ascending Professional or Emeritus members for at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to election.
- Shall have served on the Board or a committee of the Society.
- Shall have attended at least four meetings of the Board of Directors

Director: one 3-year position and one 2-year position

The Directors, with the Society officers, are responsible for the management of the affairs of the Society between business meetings.

Qualifications:

- Professional, Ascending Professional or Emeritus members for at least one (1) year.

Representatives at Large: three 1-year positions

Qualifications:

- Professional, Ascending Professional or Emeritus members for at least one (1) year.

ASCLS Delegates: 2 positions

ASCLS-KANSAS Members willing to serve in the ASCLS House of Delegates will be chosen at the ASCLS-KS 2024 Annual Meeting. These delegates will serve a one-year term. Attendees will have the option to attend the meeting in-person or virtually, giving the delegates the option of attending face to face or online.

Delegates MUST be registered for the Joint Annual Meeting.

ASCLS Delegate duties include:

- Voting in the election of the 2024-2025 officers, which occurs on Tuesday, July 9, 2024
- Participating in the House of Delegates Meeting on Thursday, July 11, 2024, 10am EDT
- Participating in the mid-year House of Delegates Meeting in January 2025

Ballots for nominees will be sent out via email, and new officers will be installed at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Salina in April. The new terms will begin in August, 2024. We know there are lots of very talented members who we would like to have join the leadership group for ASCLS-Kansas. Thanks!

2023-2024 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY



OFFICERS	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	REPS AT LARGE	COMMITTEE
President – Beckie Hetrick	(2024) Richard Harmon	Jan Hudzicki	Awards-Eric Elsinghorst
Pres-Elect – Heather Santaniello	(2024) Celestia Seymour	Karen Gunther	Education – Jan Hudzicki
Past-Pres – Jennifer Jones	(2025) Kevin Staats	Yan Zheng	Gov Affairs – Heather Santaniello
Secretary – Letycia C. Nuñez Argote	(2025) Drew Jones		Nominations -Jennifer Jones
Treasurer – Megan Neill	(2026) Kasey Edwardson		Publications – Carlee Roberts
	Developing Professional – Andrew Samon		Promotion of Profession– Leah Ade
	Ascending Prof – Carlee Roberts		Membership-Renee Hodgkins
			Bylaws- Marla Williams



We invite you to join ASCLS (and ASCLS-Kansas). For more information, please visit ascls.org where membership details can be found. Or, feel free to contact anyone on the leadership team for assistance.



We hope your plans are underway to celebrate Medical Laboratory Professionals Week from April 14th to the 20th. It is a great time to honor your laboratory staff and all their hard work as they work to provide quality laboratory information to assist in the treatment of their patients.

Lab staff like to have potlucks, devise puzzles and games, and often use this week to highlight their staff to the rest of their health care facilities.

*****If you do something fun and have taken pictures or any ideas for MLPW activities, just let us know – bhetrick@hotmail.com. We will share them in the next edition of the newsletter.*

Adopting the Professional Title of Medical Laboratory Scientist – “MLS” why, who, what, when, and how?

[From a PowerPoint presentation by Kathy Doig, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SH^{CM} and

Linda A. Smith, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}BB^{CM}]



A rose by any other name....

	1930	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Official credential name timeline																			
Laboratory Technician (not MLT)	Orange																		
Medical Technologist	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Clinical Laboratory Scientist											Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue			
Medical Laboratory Scientist																	Green	Green	Green
Common usage...how people refer to themselves and others																			
Laboratory Technician	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Medical Technologist	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Clinical Laboratory Scientist											Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Medical Laboratory Scientist																	Green	Green	Green



Our various titles CONFUSE

- The public
- Other health care practitioners
- Administrators and the C-suite
- Prospective students
- Us

● ● ● | BUT “Medical Technology” does not mean what it did in 1936

○ Top new medical technologies (2019)

- Smart inhalers
- 3-D printing
- CRISPR
- Telehealth
- Precision medicine
- Health wearables
- Artificial organs
- Robotic surgery

Proclinical Blog <https://www.proclinical.com/blogs/20192/top-10-new-medical-technologies-of-2019>

Note: If you search for medical technology on the Internet, you won't find our profession!

● ● ● | What has happened ?



○ **Position paper “Standardizing the Professional Title of Medical Laboratory Professionals”**

- Co-sponsored by ASCP BOC & ASCLS
- Adopted by ASCLS House of Delegates July, 2020
- Focused on BS degree as little confusion with title MLT
- All participating and sponsoring organizations on the ASCP BOC Board of Governors “signed on” in support



Steps toward universal adoption of MLS title

- ASCP BOC has transitioned all MT certifications to **MLS as of 2023**
- AMT will transition all MT certifications to MLS in 2023
- CLSI supports the change to MLS
 - sent an email that encourages their volunteers to update credentials ASAP
- ASCP BOC formed a task force to identify implementation issues and make recommendations

→ **If you would like to read the position paper regarding the standardization of titles:**



Read the full report

https://www.ascp.org/content/docs/default-source/boc-pdfs/about_boc/promote_mls_standardized_titles.pdf

