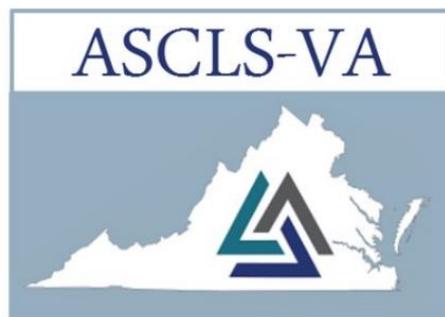


ASCLS-DC / ASCLS-VA Joint Virtual Spring Meeting



Join us for our Joint Virtual Annual Spring Meeting on April 10, 2021, 9:00 am-3:30 pm.

When: Saturday, April 10, 2021, 9 - 3:30 pm (Eastern Time)

Where: Virtual Zoom meeting - Zoom links will be provided to registered participants before the meeting date.

Registration Fees

ASCLS Members: \$25

Non-Members: \$35

Students: \$10

Click on the following link, which will bring you to the registration site: <https://rb.gy/sy37ye>

You may also use the QR code below to go directly to the registration page.



Joint Virtual Annual Spring Meeting Agenda

9:00 - 9:15	Welcome from ASCLS-DC and ASCLS-VA
9:15 - 10:15	Opening Keynote Presentation (PACE 1 credit): Launching an Organization-wide Laboratory Testing Protocol during a Public Health Crisis
10:15 – 11:15	Concurrent Sessions A (PACE 1 credit) Choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptive Immune Responses to SARS-CoV-2 Infection • Making Prenatal Cell-Free DNA Screening Accessible and Affordable to All Women
11:15 – 12:15	Concurrent Sessions B (PACE 1 credit) Choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Findings: A Cloud of Suspicion and the Public's Perception • Implementation of Clinical Laboratory Simulation
12:15 - 1:00	Lunch break / Student forums / Board meetings
1:00 - 2:00	Concurrent Sessions C (PACE 1 credit) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danger Zone: Cases of Biohazardous Exposures in the Microbiology Laboratory • Inter-professionalism in MLS education
2:00 - 3:00	Closing Keynote Presentation (PACE 1 credit): Addressing the Past to Impact the Future of Personalized Medicine
3:00 - 3:30	House of Delegate Meetings

The Capital Area Society (ASCLS-DC) has applied for approval as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. ® Program.

Educational Sessions Details (in alphabetical order)

Title: Adaptive Immune Responses to SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Speaker: Gezahegn Gorfu Tolla PhD., MLS (ASCP)

Dr. Gorfu Tolla is an assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Description: This session will review the protective effects serum antibodies provide to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. In addition, the role the immune system plays, specifically T-cells, in fighting a COVID infection will be described. And finally, these concepts will be related to the immunological basis for the COVID-19 vaccines on the market.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Explain current concepts of the role of antibody in protection from SARS-CoV-2 infection.
2. Discuss the potential role of T-cells in protection from SARS-CoV-2 infection.
3. Describe the immunological basis for COVID-19 vaccines.

Title: Addressing the Past to Impact the Future of Personalized Medicine

Speaker: Barbara Harrison MS, CGC

Ms. Harrison, MS, CGC is a Certified Genetic Counselor at Howard University in Washington, D.C with 24 years of experience. She is an Assistant Professor teaching graduate students, medical students, and medical residents in the areas of genetics, genetic testing, genetic counseling, and ethics.

Description: Although the premise of personalized medicine is using a person's genetic information to guide the management of their health, historically marginalized populations have not realized these benefits. This presentation will review these disparities, as well as other examples of unequal treatment in medicine, and identify ways to move forward.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Describe briefly the role of genetic counselors in the delivery of health care.
2. Identify examples of discrimination in medicine that have led to mistrust in marginalized communities.
3. Detail areas of disparities in research and how it impacts the availability and utility of genetic testing.
4. Identify ways these disparities are being addressed and future directions.

Title: Danger Zone: Cases of Biohazardous Exposures in the Microbiology Laboratory

Speaker: Marcia Firmani Ph.D., MSPH, MT(ASCP)MBCM

Dr. Firmani is the chair of the Biomedical Laboratory Sciences department in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at George Washington University. She is also the director for the Molecular Diagnostic Sciences and Clinical Microbiology programs and has over 20 years of experience in molecular microbiology research and education.

Description: This session will provide an overview of several infectious disease cases that were the result of exposure while working in the Microbiology laboratory. The cases will include details regarding the exposure as well as the organisms that were involved. Safety measures that should be implemented when working with infectious pathogens will also be emphasized.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Discuss several infectious disease cases among healthcare workers exposed to biohazards in the laboratory.
2. Describe organisms involved in laboratory-acquired infections, specifically the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and prevention.
3. Identify measures to improve safety practices in the clinical laboratory.

Title: Implementation of Clinical Laboratory Simulation

Speaker: **Angela Wilson MS, M(ASCP)**

Ms. Wilson received her Bachelor's in Biology from Russell Sage College in Troy, New York. She earned her ASCP certification in Microbiology in 2002. While a practicing clinical microbiologist, she attained her Master's in Biomedical Ethics from Union Graduate College in Schenectady, New York. She has worked with students in the clinical lab setting for 13 years, and she is currently an adjunct instructor at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

Description: This presentation includes information for the design, implementation, and assessment necessary for establishing a clinical simulation laboratory for a clinical microbiology practicum that meets the requirements of NAACLS accredited educational institutions. Participant will learn the essential elements for an effective clinical laboratory simulation, sources to reference when establishing procedures, numbers of specimens, and diversity of specimens, as well as procedures for quality control and biosafety measures. Finally, methods for assessing the success of the laboratory simulation will be discussed.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. List the essential elements of a clinical laboratory simulation.
2. Discuss how to implement a clinical laboratory simulation using guidelines provided by curriculum committees, professional organizations and accrediting bodies.
3. Utilize strategies to promote student independence in a clinical lab simulation, improve student learning and overall satisfaction in the clinical laboratory simulation.
4. Describe quantitative and qualitative ways to review the success of a clinical laboratory simulation.

Title: Interprofessional Education: A Superpower for the Next Generation of Health Professionals

Speaker: Jean Chappell EdD, MT(ASCP)C

Dr. Chappell holds an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an Emphasis in Leadership Studies; M.S. in Microbial Genetics; and a dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Zoology and Chemistry. With over 20 years of experience in higher education, she has served as dean at institutions in WV, Ohio and VA. Previous to her administrative roles, she held a position as a tenured faculty member of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at Marshall University. Dr. Chappell has numerous publications and presentations, including co-authoring a textbook, *Health Informatics for the Curious* (2016). She is currently an Education Consultant with Sheba International, a grant writing and administration firm based in Huntington, WV.

Description: Interprofessional Education (IPE) is challenging to incorporate into competency-rich MLS curricula. Nonetheless, studies demonstrate a strong positive relationship between IPE in healthcare curricula and success in entry-level careers. This session reviews elements of interprofessionalism in healthcare, specifically the role of IPE in a successful healthcare career and optimum patient care.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Describe the key elements of interprofessionalism.
2. Explain how interprofessionalism in health education may lead to positive patient outcomes.
3. Describe two challenges to implementation of interprofessionalism to the MLS curriculum.

Title: Launching an Organization-wide Laboratory Testing Protocol during a Public Health Crisis

Speaker: Cindy M. Liu MD, MPH, PhD

Dr. Liu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health and Chief Medical Officer of Antibiotic Resistance Action Center at the George Washington Milken Institute School of Public Health in Washington D.C. Dr. Liu is trained in molecular microbiology, microbial ecology, clinical pathology (laboratory medicine), and clinical epidemiology. Dr. Liu works on several research projects that are funded through the NIH and other governmental agencies and foundations.

Description: Dr. Liu, an associate professor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Chief Medical Officer of Antibiotic Resistance Action Center at GW, will share how she led the establishment of a new public health laboratory integral to the GW community's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Identify resources and stakeholders required to establish a high-throughput public health laboratory within a university setting.
2. Describe the composition of team members necessary to ensure successful implementation of such an effort.
3. Delineate steps required to develop a new laboratory test from the research stage through FDA Emergency Use Authorization.

Title: Making Prenatal Cell-Free DNA Screening Accessible and Affordable to All Women

Speaker: Lawrence Prensky MS, LCGC

Mr. Prensky is the Medical Education Manager at PerkinElmer. He is a licensed genetic counselor and is a diplomate of the American Board of Genetic Counseling and the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors. Prior to working with PerkinElmer, Lawrence was a clinical prenatal genetic counselor for over 20 years.

Description: Cell-free DNA (cfDNA) is a newer test used in the prenatal screening of pregnancies for certain chromosomal anomalies. This talk will explain the utility of cfDNA; how this test works; and how the application of Rolling Circle Replication (RCR) makes this test more accessible and cost-effective to laboratories and women.

Level: Intermediate

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Explain what cfDNA is and its role in screening for fetal aneuploidies.
2. Discuss the use and application of Rolling Circle Replication (RCR) in cfDNA NIPT screening.
3. Describe the implementation of the cfDNA screening platform in a local and regional laboratory.

Title: Scientific Findings: A Cloud of Suspicion and the Public's Perception

Speaker: Carol Rentas PhD, MEd, MT(ASCP) SCCM

Dr. Rentas is an assistant professor in the Biomedical Laboratory Sciences department at George Washington University. She has worked as a medical lab professional in military and civilian hospitals across the country before moving into education with more than 20 years of experience in laboratory science and education.

Description: As medical scientists, we are taught to be skeptical and question data. This is the basis for the peer-review and reproducibility processes which ensure reliability and validity of the scientific and medical reports available to the public. But what happens when the public is suspicious of scientific findings and the work we do. This talk will review the evolution of the public's skepticism of science and its effect on the health care field, specifically medical laboratory science. From there, we will demonstrate the value of effectively communicating science to the public. Finally, we will discuss appropriate methods and tools to translate and efficiently disseminate scientific findings to the public.

Level: Basic

P.A.C.E. Contact Hours: 1.0

Objectives:

1. Discuss the contrasting natures of scientific discovery and public opinion.
2. Explain the contributing factors which led to the evolution of the public's skepticism of science and its effect on the health care field, specifically medical laboratory science.
3. Demonstrate the importance of effectively communicating science to the public.
4. Utilize the appropriate methods and tools to relay scientific findings to the average citizen.