

Summer 2025

Bench Notes



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow ASCLS-New Yorkers! I hope you all are enjoying the summer and have been able to take some well-deserved time off.

The ASCLS-NY Board of Directors has some downtime after our successful Spring Seminar, where we networked, heard excellent presentations, and recognized members with awards and scholarships. Thank you to Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences for hosting! We will be gearing back up for fall soon and starting to plan next year's seminar, which will be back in the New York metro area. Keep an eye on the ASCLS-NY Community for the date and location announcement.

August is the beginning of the ASCLS fiscal year, and memberships expire on July 31. Please check your account to be sure you have renewed for the upcoming year. We would love to have you stay with us!

August is also when our educators kick their fall preparation into high gear and laboratories finalize their fall student training schedule. Thank you all for your dedication to educating the next laboratorians! Without your commitment, we could not make a dent in our shortages. You are all appreciated!

This message marks my last as ASCLS-NY President. It has been an honor to be of service in this way. I look forward to staying involved with the Board of Directors and supporting our new President, Rhiannon Tierney, as Past-President for the next two years. If you are interested in getting more involved, please reach out! We are particularly in need of a Developing Professional (student) Board member and a Membership Chair.

Yours with gratitude,

Tracey Graney, PhD, MLS(ASCP)
ASCLS-NY President



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Editor:
Carol Golyski

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FOLLOW ASCLS-NY

- Web site: connect.ascls.org/newyork
- Facebook: American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science—New York
- Instagram: [asclsny](https://www.instagram.com/asclsny)
- Twitter: [@asclsny](https://twitter.com/asclsny)



ASCLS– NY Mission/Vision Statement

ASCLS-NY serves as the voice of all clinical laboratory professionals, creating a vision for the advancement of the clinical laboratory practice field, and advocating the value and the role of the profession ensuring safe, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient centered health care.

ASCLS-NY is an inclusive, culturally relevant community of people acknowledging their differences and unique characteristics; it is an organization where all persons can engage and participate in a meaningful way empowering everyone to grow and learn.

ASCLS-NY is the constituent state society of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. ASCLS is divided into ten geographic regions and ASCLS -NY is a member of Region I along with the constituent societies of Maine, Connecticut and Central New England.



Renew Your ASCLS Membership Today!

Through Us, A Community—Through You, New Beginnings

Renew Website QR Code

Updated Member Info QR Code



REMINDER:

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE

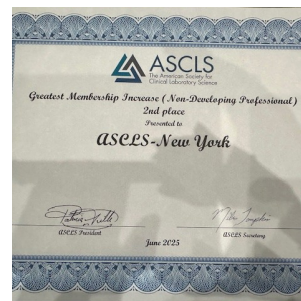
JULY 31ST

ASCLS-NY RECEIVES 2ND PLACE GREATEST MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AWARD

ASCLS-NY was recognized at the Joint Annual Meeting during the Awards Ceremony for the constituent society's efforts in promoting membership growth. Congratulations to James Payne, ASCLS-NY Membership Chair and committee member Lourdes Martinez



Kathleen Finnegan (r) accepts the membership award from ASCLS President Patricia Tille



Membership Award Certificate



ASCLS-NY AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The annual ASCLS-NY Awards Ceremony took place during lunch at the annual Spring Seminar. This year the seminar was held at the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. The organization recognizes members who have made significant contributions to the state constituent society. The following members were honored:

Sara Marie Ciccarelli Member of the Year Award: Rhiannon Tierney

Mary B. Cooper Service Award: Gwenn Schwerdel

Omicron Sigma Presidents Honor Roll:

Kathleen Finnegan

Rhiannon Tierney

Lisa Hochstein

Michelle Parent

Carol Golyski

Gwenn Schwerdel

Scholarship Recipients:

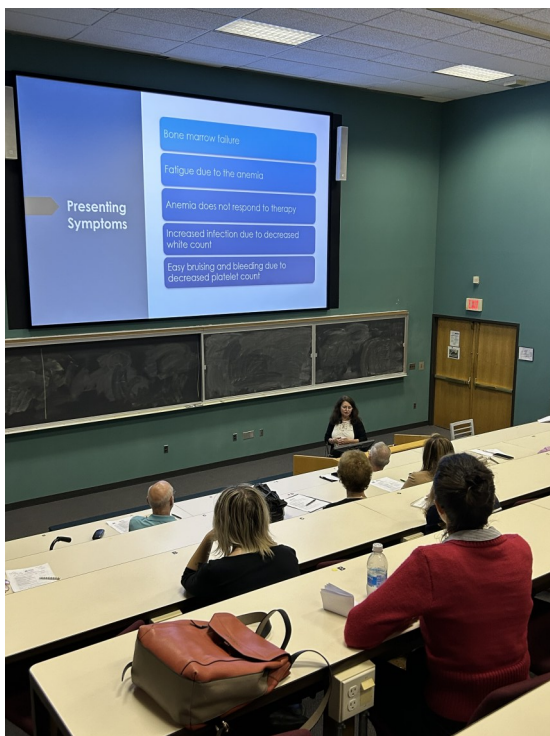
Evelyn Salome Barros—Mercy University

Natalia Lizardo—Mercy University





ASCLS-NY SPRING SEMINAR



Kathleen Finnegan giving a presentation



Omicron Sigma Honorees



Rhianon Tierney(l), recipient of the Sara Marie Ciccarelli Member of the Year Award with President Tracey Graney (r)



President Tracey Graney (l) presents the Mary B. Cooper Service Award to Gwenn Schwerdel



ASCLS-NY

SPRING BOARD MEETING

Highlights from the Spring Board Meeting, held Thursday May 29 in Albany, NY :

- Officers and Board Members gave their annual reports
- Board approved 2 baccalaureate ASCLS-NY scholarships to be awarded this year; there were no applications at the associate or graduate levels
- Treasurer presented the budget for the fiscal year beginning Aug. 1, 2025; all were in favor of the budget; approval to take place at annual business meeting open to all ASCLS-NY members
- Nominations Chair reported slate was filled for upcoming election to be held at annual business meeting
- Discussed potential location for the 2026 Spring Seminar

BUSINESS MEETING

Highlights from the Spring Business Meeting held Friday, May 30 in Albany, NY:

- The budget for the fiscal year beginning Aug. 1, 2025 was approved.
- Elections took place and officers/board members were voted in by majority rule
- Discussion took place regarding a location for the 2026 Spring Seminar

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to our newly elected officers:

President-elect—**Lourdes Martinez**

Treasurer—**Gwen Schwerdel**

Secretary -**Lisa Hochstein**

Board Member 1 year—**Aniqa Rattu**

Board Member 2 year—**Michelle Parent**

Board Member 2 year—**Yon Choi-Gomes**

Nominations—**Kathleen Finnegan**

Judicial—**Tracey Graney**



JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

The Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) was held June 8-12 in Sacramento, California . Approximately 625 medical laboratorians attended. This meeting was sponsored by the America Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), the Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT) and the Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS). The format consisted of educational sessions, exhibits, governance sessions, awards ceremony and social events. Participants could attend in-person or virtually.



Educational session



Exhibits



Awards Ceremony



Social event



ASCLS-NY in person attendees Lisa Hochstein (l) and Kathleen Finnegan (r)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

JOINT ANNUAL MEETING SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 12, 2025

Submitted by Kathleen Finnegan

ASCLS-NY Delegate

Revision of the ASCLS Vision and Mission values was voted on and approved
The new Body of Knowledge was voted on and approved

By Law Changes:

Amendment 1 Amend the voting process for candidates for National elective positions
to allow voting by all eligible members of ASCLS

Passed

Amendment 2 Replacing the requirement for majority vote for plurality vote. For Directors and elective committee members: the director/committee members with the most votes wins the election

Passed

A vote was put forward to the House of Delegates that the House of Delegates' agenda will be posted
2 weeks prior to the National meeting

Passed

Kyle Riding installed as the new president

Stacey Robinson President Elect



STUDENT CORNER



Congratulations to all recent graduates of Medical Laboratory programs!!!

ASCLS-NY wishes you a successful and rewarding career. We encourage you to continue your membership as an Ascending Professional. We also encourage you to become involved in your professional organization. Attending meetings and seminars or helping on a committee is a good way to become acquainted with our organization.

Congratulations to our recent scholarship winners.! You can proudly enhance your resumes by including your scholarship award from your professional organization!

The ASCLS-NY Baccalaureate Scholarships were announced at the ASCLS-NY Awards Ceremony held during the Spring Seminar in Albany, NY. The recipients of the \$1,000 awards were:

Evelyn Salome Barros—Mercy University

Natalia Lizardo—Mercy University

The Alpha Mu Tanu Fraternity (AMTF) scholarships were announced at the Joint Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony held in Sacramento, California. The ASCLS-NY recipients were:

Natalia Lizardo—Mercy University; Dorothy Morris Memorial Scholarship of \$3,000

Yesenia Blanco-Mercy University; AMTF Undergraduate Scholarship of \$2,000



Please update any address or email changes, especially if you were using a school address.



CLINICAL CORNER



SPRING QUESTION

*Submitted by
Yon Choi-Gomes, M.A. Ed., MLS(ASCLS)
St. John's University*

QUESTION:

In which of the following conditions is the prostate-specific antigen most likely to fall within the reference range?

1. benign prostatic hypertrophy
2. post-digital rectal examination
3. post radical prostatectomy
4. acute prostatitis

ANSWER:

3. post radical prostatectomy

A complete surgical removal of the prostate—the source of PSA—should result in PSA levels dropping to undetectable levels. In contrast, all other conditions listed are associated with elevated PSA levels.



SUMMER QUESTION

Submitted by Carol Golyski

QUESTION:

Dermatomycosis, a contagious fungal infection, typically infects

1. skin
2. hair
3. nails
4. all of the above

Answer will appear in the Fall edition

EDITOR'S CORNER

Dear ASCLS-NY Members,

I have often had members ask me "How can I get involved in ASCLS-NY?" As newsletter, I can offer one suggestion: write an article for *Bench Notes*!

You do not have to have to be a literature major to submit an article. Start small and keep it simple. You may surprise yourself and discover that you enjoy writing.

Bench Notes is always in need of questions and case studies for the Clinical Corner. Share any unusual or infrequently seen test results. The Student Corner welcomes any activities or projects involving medical laboratory students.

Need help in getting started?
Email me and I would be happy to be of assistance:
editor.asclsny@gmail.com

Enjoy your summer!!!!

You in ASCLS-NY,
Carol Golyski
Editor, *Bench Notes*



ASCLS NY OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 2024-2025

President	Tracey Graney
President Elect	Rhiannon Tierney
Past President	Gwenn Schwerdel
Secretary	Lisa Hochstein
Treasurer	Lauren Brooks
Two Year Board Member (second year)	Yon Choi Gomes
Two year Board Member (first year)	Lourdes Martinez
One Year Board Member	Aniqa Rattu
Nominations	Kathleen Finnegan
Judicial	Robina Colclough
	Davy
Membership	James Payne
	Lourdes Martinez
Public Relations & Promotion of the Profession	Tracey Graney
	Rhiannon Tierney
Scholarship	Yon Choi-Gomes
Awards	Robina Colclough-
	Davy
Charity	Gwenn Schwerdel
Developing Professional	Vacant
Ascending Professional	Emily Alvo
Newsletter Editor	Carol Golyski



UPCOMING ASCLS EVENTS

October 20-21, 2025	Labvocate (Legislative Symposium) Alexandria, Virginia
January 18, 2026	Mid-year Meeting of the House of Delegates
February 5-7, 2026	Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference Bellevue, Washington
June 28-July 2, 2026	Joint Annual Meeting St. Louis, Missouri

