CHAIR’S MESSAGE

Kathleen Hansen, MLS(ASCP)™

The Board of Certification continues to work on its mission of “providing excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide”.

The BOC had a very productive meeting in September in Las Vegas. We took many actions which are described in detail in other articles in this newsletter. I’d like to mention a couple of important highlights:

The work of the BOC depends heavily on dedicated laboratorians who volunteer to serve on its Board of Governors and its many committees. Each year, we have the opportunity to give awards to recognize these individuals who add hours of volunteer time to their already busy lives as laboratory professionals in many roles. This year, Distinguished Service Awards were presented to past Board of Governors members Perthena Latchaw, Tim Miley, and Walter Oliveira. Among them they have dedicated well over 50 years of volunteer service to the BOC. Be sure to read about them in this issue, as well as other volunteers who received awards.

We also bade farewell to two Board of Governors members who have completed their terms. Susan Morris has been one of the ASCLS representatives to the BOG and has served it in many capacities. Deedee O’Brien has been the public member on the BOG and has brought patient and public perspectives which have been most valuable. We will miss both of them!

At the same time, we welcomed new BOG members Linda Smith, ASCLS representative, and Elaine Francis, public member. We look forward to working with both of them!

The Board of Certification is an outstanding example of collaboration among organizations. There are eleven organizations representing various areas within laboratory medicine that participate on the BOG.

Recently, these organizations worked together to respond to a decision announced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that would recognize nursing degrees as the equivalent of biological sciences degrees - allowing individuals with associate degrees in nursing to perform moderate complexity testing, and those with baccalaureate degrees in nursing to perform high complexity testing.

Several steps have been taken by the BOC and its sponsoring, collaborating, and participating societies to combat this decision:

- Most of the associations signed a letter to CMS outlining opposition to the decision.
- A petition of protest was made available to members of the associations and all laboratorians which generated almost 40,000 signatures.
- A meeting was held in late September between CMS and representatives of ASCP BOC, ASCP, and ASCLS to try to understand why CMS took this step, and to explain why the education and scopes of practice of nurses and laboratorians are not the same.

While this matter is far from resolved, I believe that we should all take pride in the cooperation and collaboration shown in the laboratory community’s response to the issue. Over many years, laboratory organizations have often been characterized as being too fragmented and not speaking with one voice on issues of importance to the laboratory. The work that has been done on this issue shows that this does not have to be true.

As we continue to work on this issue and many others of importance to the laboratory community, I thank the volunteers and staff who work so hard to advance our mission on behalf of the patients we all serve.
UPDATES FROM THE
BOC BOARD OF GOVERNORS’ MEETING

The ASCP Board of Certification Board of Governors met in Las Vegas on Sept. 17 and 18. The following actions were taken by the Board:

Eligibility requirements were revised for the following categories. Details are provided at the links below:

- U.S. Specialist in Blood Banking, SBB(ASCP); International Specialist in Blood Banking, SBB(ASCP); and International Technologist in Blood Banking, BB(ASCP)
- U.S. Specialist in Chemistry, SC(ASCP); International Specialist in Chemistry, SC(ASCP); and International Technologist in Chemistry, C(ASCP)
- International Technologist in Cytogenetics, CG(ASCP)
- U.S. Specialist in Cytotechnology, SCT(ASCP); and International Specialist in Cytotechnology, SCT(ASCP)
- U.S. Specialist in Hematology, SH(ASCP); International Specialist in Hematology, SH(ASCP); and International Technologist in Hematology, H(ASCP)
- U.S. Specialist in Microbiology, SM(ASCP); International Specialist in Microbiology, SM(ASCP); and International Technologist in Microbiology, M(ASCP)
- U.S. Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP); and International Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCP)
- U.S. Donor Phlebotomy Technician, DPT(ASCP)

Eligibility requirements were approved for two new certifications: the U.S. Specialist in Molecular Biology, SMB(ASCP); and the International Specialist in Molecular Biology, SMB(ASCP). The first examination administration for these two new categories is anticipated in January 2018. Further information will be provided in later editions of the BOC Newsletter in 2017.

Requirements for the Credentials Maintenance Program (CMP) were approved for the Medical Laboratory Assistant, MLA(ASCP) certification that began July 1, 2016. Nine points will be required within a three-year period as follows: one point minimum in safety, two points in the area certified, and the remaining points in the area of the specialty, management, education, or other related laboratory areas of interest. Detailed information on CMP is provided on the website.

For individuals required to complete the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP), and who have allowed their certification to expire for ten or more years, requirements for recertification were approved. For those individuals with expired NCA certificates who have not reinstated with the Board of Certification by Nov. 1, 2019, the same requirements for recertification will also apply. For detailed requirements, see the article on “Requirements for Recertification after a Lapse of Ten or More Years” on page 8.

The Guidelines for Ethical Behavior that all certificants shall abide by were revised.

KATHLEEN HANSEN, MLS(ASCP)CM HONORED BY ASCLS

BOC Board of Governors Chair, Kathleen Hansen was honored with the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award at the ASCLS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.

Ms. Hansen has served ASCLS at the state, regional, and national levels and is an ASCLS Past President.

She chaired the search committee for ASCLS’s new Executive Vice President.

She has been a speaker on a variety of topics and has been a strong advocate for the profession in the regulatory and legislative arenas. ASCLS noted her work on the ASCLS Government Affairs Committee and the pursuit of state licensure.

The Core Values that Define the BOC:

- COMPETENCE
- EXCELLENCE
- RESPECT
- TRUST
- INTEGRITY
- STEWARDSHIP
### 2016–2017 Examination Committee and Work Group Volunteers

**Apheresis Qualification Work Group**  
**Chair**  
Marisa Marques, MD, FASCP - AL  
**Vice Chair**  
Christina Anderson, RN, BSN, HP(ASCP) - OK  
**Members**  
Christopher Chun, MT(ASCP)HP - UT  
Antonia Hagen-Coonradt - MT  
Wanda Koetz, RN, HP(ASCP) - MN  
Robert Weinstein, MD - MA

**Blood Banking Examination Committee**  
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**Vice Chair**  
Laurie Gillard, MS, MLS(ASCP)CM - IL  
**Members**  
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Meghan Delaney, DO, MPH, FASCP - WA  
Karen Evans, MT(ASCP)SBB\(^{CM}\) - MO  
Theresa Kinard, MD - AZ  
Nancy Lang, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB - OH

**Clinical Chemistry Examination Committee**  
**Chair**  
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**Vice Chair**  
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Thampy Mathew, MT(ASCP)SC\(^{CM}\) - IL  
Erica Schatz Caracoglia, MAEd, MT(ASCP) - NC

**Cytogenetics Examination Committee**  
**Chair**  
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**Vice Chair**  
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**Members**  
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Lori Koslosky, CG(ASCP)\(^{CM}\) - IL  
Annmarie Rupp, MA, CG(ASCP)\(^{CM}\) - IL  
Michael Zombory, CG(ASCP)\(^{CM}\) - VA

**Cytometry Examination Committee**  
**Members**  
Jessica Back, PhD, CCy - MI  
Bruce Greig, MT(ASCP), CCy - TN  
Joanne Lannigan - VA  
Mara Neal, MT(ASCP) - FL  
Walter Oliveira, MLS(ASCP)\(^{CM}\)SI - VA  
Kristy Wolniak, MD, PhD - IL

**Cytometry Qualification Work Group**  
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**Members**  
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Barbara Greb, MT(ASCP)PBT,SI,QCYM - VA  
Roberta Montgomery, MLS(ASCP)\(^{CM}\)SI - IL  
Irene Patel, MT(ASCP)SH - IL

**Cytotechnology Examination Committee**  
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**Members**  
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Roberta Montgomery, MLS(ASCP)\(^{CM}\)SI - IL  
Irene Patel, MT(ASCP)SH - IL

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**Vice Chair**  
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Jeanne Isabel, MLS(ASCP)\(^{CM}\)SH\(^{CM}\) - IL  
Miriam Kim, MT(ASCP)SH\(^{CM}\) - WA

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Terri Riddick, MPA, MT(ASCP) - NC  
Teresa Taff, MA, MT(ASCP)SM - MO

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Daniel Scungio, MT(ASCP)SLS - VA

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Vice Chair
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Lela Buckingham, PhD, MSc, MB(ASCP)CM, DLMCM - IL
Ann Crowley, MB(ASCP)CM - NE
Ericka Hendrix, PhD, MB(ASCP)CM - TX
Kathy Mangold, PhD, MB(ASCP)CM - IL

Pathologists’ Assistants Examination Committee

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Vice Chair
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Jerome Taxy, MD, FASCP - IL

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Theresa McElhattan, CLA(ASCP)PBTCM - PA
Lynne Steele – MS, MT(ASCP) - IL
ISAC, ICCS AND ASCP BOC TO LAUNCH NEW CONJOINT CERTIFICATION IN CYTOMETRY

Bethesda – September 30, 2016

The International Society for Advancement of Cytometry (ISAC), the International Clinical Cytometry Society (ICCS) and the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification (BOC) announced today they have reached an agreement to develop, administer, and maintain a new conjoint Certification in Cytometry to be issued by the BOC. The new Certification in Cytometry will be launched in the spring of 2017, and will replace both the ICCE and the QCYM recognition programs. By combining forces for this new certification, the three societies will be able to increase the impact of cytometry certification in clinical and research fields around the world.

“ASCP BOC’s involvement in the cytometry certification program will strengthen the credential and the field of cytometry,” said Paul Wallace, President of ISAC. “ASCP BOC can open doors to the possibility of state licensure for certified cytometrists that ISAC and ICCS cannot do on its own.”

“ASCP is the world’s largest professional membership organization for pathologists and laboratory professionals. Having a certification that includes their endorsement will bring a high recognition factor to the cytometry credential,” said Bruce Greig, Chair of the ICCE certification advisory committee and member of ICCS.

“ISAC and ICCS have proven that there is a worldwide demand for a cytometry certification program” said Pat Tanabe, Executive Director, ASCP Board of Certification. “Combining our Qualification in Cytometry with the ICCE certification program will increase our impact in the field of cytometry.”

Until the new ASCP BOC certification is launched in the spring of 2017, the ICCE program and the QCYM will continue to be available with business as usual as the transition unfolds.

Current holders of the ASCP BOC QCYM (Qualification in Cytometry) and ICCE certification will be offered the opportunity to receive the new conjoint certification in Cytometry, CY(ASCP), without taking the new Cytometry Exam. More information about this will be coming soon.

ISAC and ICCS, with generous support from the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, developed and launched the International Cytometry Certification Examination (ICCE) program in September 2011 to benefit cytometrists around the globe. That support will continue with the new credential to now be offered by ASCP.

ELAINE FRANCIS, EDD, AND LINDA A SMITH, PHD, MLS(ASCP)CMBBCM, JOIN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Elaine Francis was elected to the BOC Board of Governors in April as the new Public Member. Elected from a pool of seven candidates, the Public Member’s responsibility is to represent the public health interest on the Board of Governors. Dr. Francis is the Chair, MEd in Curriculum and Teaching at Fitchburg State University in Fitchburg, Massachusetts and sits on the Board of Directors for the Ironstone Therapy, Inc.

Linda Smith was elected as an American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) member representative to the Board of Governors. She is Faculty Director and Professor at UT Health Science Center, Clinical Laboratory Sciences in San Antonio, TX. Dr. Smith is an experienced lecturer and served as the President of ASCLS in 2012-2013. She has been the recipient of the Omicron Sigma award and most recently honored with the ASCLS Board of Directors Award for her leadership as Chair of the ASCLS Body of Knowledge Process Task Force.
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AGT Representative
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Participating Society Representative
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Lena Spencer, MA, HTL(ASCP)QIHC - KY
2015-2017 ASCP Board of Governors Chair Kathleen Hansen, MLS(ASCP)CM presented the 2016 Board of Certification Distinguished Service Awards to Perthena Latchaw, MS, MLS(ASCP)CM; Timothy Miley, MD, FASCP; and Walter Oliveira, MLS(ASCP)CM,SI, on September 17, 2016.

The Distinguished Service Award (DSA) is presented to volunteers who have served the Board of Certification for a minimum of six years, on either the Board of Governors or a Board of Certification committee. Awardees must have made significant contributions involving extra time and effort toward the BOC mission to provide excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide.

Ms. Latchaw served on the Joint Generalist Examination Committee from 1996 to 2001 and most recently served on the Board of Governors from 2006 to 2015. She was instrumental in getting the BOC Program Directors Ad Hoc Advisory Group started in 2012.

Dr. Miley served on the Hematology Examination Committee beginning in 1999 and was elected to serve on the Board of Governors on 2005. He continues to work on the Hematology Exam Committee through his tenure on the Board in 2014. He served as the BOG’s Financial Officer in 2013 and 2014.

Mr. Oliveira served on the Immunology Examination Committee in 1997 to 2005. He was elected to the Board of Governors in 2004 to 2014 and continues to serve on the new Medical Laboratory Assistant Examination Committee. He was the recipient of the BOG Chair Award in 2004.

The DSA recipients were honored at a luncheon at Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas during the BOG Fall meeting.

2016 BOC DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2016 BOARD OF CERTIFICATION SERVICE AWARDS

The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors awarded 2016 Board of Certification Service Awards to five dedicated volunteers who have made noteworthy contributions during his/her tenure as a BOC committee or Board member.

Trent Coy, SCT(ASCP)CMMB served on the Cytotechnology Examination Committee from 2010 to 2015 and served as committee vice-chair from 2012 to 2013, and later as chair in 2014.

Janet Cromien, MT(ASCP)SM served on the Microbiology Examination Committee from 2010 to 2015 and served as committee vice-chair in 2012, and as chair 2013 to 2015.

Helen Jenks, MT(ASCP)CG served on the Cytogenetics Examination Committee from 2010 to 2015.

Rebecca Kenner, MT(ASCP)DLM served on the Laboratory Management Exam Committee from 2007 to 2015 and served as committee vice-chair from 2009 to 2011, and as chair 2012 to 2015.

April Reineke, PA(ASCP)CM served on the Pathologists’ Assistant Exam Committee from 2007 to 2015 and served as committee vice-chair in 2011, and as committee chair 2012 to 2015.

Jayanna Slayten, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB served on the Blood Banking Exam Committee from 2008 to 2015 and served as committee chair from 2013 to 2014.
It has been said that no one really ever leaves the BOC and the reference is usually in regards to the BOC’s dedicated volunteers, but the same may be said now for employees, too.

Felicia Nelson joined the BOC in July as the new Associate Project Manager in Examination Activities. Ms. Nelson will coordinate exam committee related tasks, including logistics for all the exam committee meetings.

Ms. Nelson is no stranger to the BOC, as her first position at ASCP was with the Board of Registry (BOR) in 1980. At that time, she was an Examination Assistant whose job was to type exam questions in the “MagCard Machine.” She later became the Examination Committee Secretary. Since that time, Ms. Nelson worked in the ASCP Executive Offices and most recently worked in the ASCP Education Department where she staffed live continuing education programs.

Of all her positions in the BOR/BOC and ASCP, none have been more interesting than her first real job out of high school, where she worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). She worked in the closed file department and the financial department, based in Manhattan, and dealt with crimes over $500.

Ms. Nelson grew up in Brooklyn, New York, where she attended high school and community college. She later graduated from Roosevelt University in Chicago and earned her master’s degree in Adult Training and Development from Phoenix University. She has two children and three grandchildren and a host of extended family. When not with family she enjoys swimming, playing golf, and roller skating.

When asked how it feels to be back in the BOR/BOC, she says, “The ASCP and the BOC is a very worthy organization to work for. It takes certification seriously.”

The 10 year lapsed policy includes NCA Certificants whose NCA certification has been lapsed for 10+ years beginning 10/1/2019.

Detailed information for reapplying for certification after a ten year lapse will be available on the ASCP Board of Certification website after January 1, 2017.

In honor of Barbara DuBray-Benstein, PhD, SCT(ASCP), a Scholarship Endowment Fund has been established at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). Dr. Benstein recently celebrated her 35th anniversary at UTHSC and in honor of this milestone and her impending retirement, she chose to endow a scholarship that will make an investment in the future of Cytotechnology.

Dr. Benstein served the on the Board of Registry’s Cytotechnology Examination Committee from 1990 to 1995 and then on the Board of Certification Board of Governors from 2002 to 2011. UTHSC is recognizing Dr. Benstein for her active leadership, contributions and dedicated service to the field of cytotechnology throughout her career. More information on the endowment can be found at the following link: uthscalumni.com/benstein.
## BOC PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS MEETING DATES

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<td><strong>ASC 64th Annual Scientific Meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;American Society of Cytopathology (ASC)&lt;br&gt;New Orleans, LA</td>
<td><strong>asmMicrobe 2017</strong>&lt;br&gt;American Society for Microbiology (ASM)&lt;br&gt;New Orleans, LA</td>
<td><strong>2017 ASCP Annual Meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)&lt;br&gt;Chicago, IL</td>
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<td><strong>AGT 42nd Annual Meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT)&lt;br&gt;St. Louis, MO</td>
<td><strong>41st Annual Continuing Education Conference</strong>&lt;br&gt;American Association of Pathologists' Assistants (AAPA)&lt;br&gt;San Antonio, TX</td>
<td><strong>2017 NSH Annual Symposium/Convention</strong>&lt;br&gt;National Society for Histotechnology (NSH)&lt;br&gt;Orlando, FL</td>
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<td><strong>DECEMBER 2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>JULY 2017</strong></td>
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<td><strong>58th ASH Annual Meeting &amp; Exposition</strong>&lt;br&gt;American Society of Hematology (ASH)&lt;br&gt;San Diego, CA</td>
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### BOC PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS

**Sponsoring Societies**
- Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT)
- American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)
- American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)

**Participating Societies**
- AABB
- American Association of Pathologists’ Assistants (AAPA)
- American Society of Cytopathology (ASC)
- American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
- Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA)
- National Society for Histotechnology (NSH)

**Collaborating Societies**
- AACC
- American Society of Hematology (ASH)

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