



ASCP
BOARD OF
CERTIFICATION®

BOC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

Providing
excellence in
certification of
laboratory
professionals on
behalf of patients
worldwide.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



**Karen Brown, MS,
MLS(ASCP)^{CM}**

Colleagues often ask questions about the ASCPⁱ credential ("i" represents international). This certification was approved by the Board of Registry Board of Governors in 2006 and globally expanded the mission of the BOR (now BOC). Yet, today, there is still confusion and misunderstanding surrounding this credential as well as the international examinations.

Initially, the first international examinations offered were for the International Medical Technologist, MT(ASCPⁱ) and International Medical Laboratory Technician, MLT(ASCPⁱ). The International Phlebotomy Technician, PBT(ASCPⁱ), International Technologist in Molecular Biology, MB(ASCPⁱ), and International Technologist in Gynecologic Cytology, CTgyn(ASCPⁱ) were subsequently added. Then, in 2009, a Spanish language examination for the International Medical Technologist became available. And, now in 2014, the Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors (BOG) passed a motion to offer an International Technologist in Hematology, H(ASCPⁱ). Other categorical examinations will be offered in 2015. Today, international certifications have been awarded in 68 countries with over 4,300 laboratory professionals worldwide holding the ASCPⁱ credential.

International examinations, just as the examinations offered in this country, utilize the Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) format. Examinees also have the same time limit restrictions and the examinations are administered only at secure Pearson VUE testing centers. In fact, because such testing centers are not available in many countries, access to our certification examinations may not always be possible for some qualified laboratory professionals who are unable to travel to a distant testing venue. Note that all international examinations are derived by the CAT process from the same pool of questions as used for the U.S. examinations. Prior to October 2014, the only difference between the international and U.S. examinations was that the global exams did not include any U.S. specific regulatory questions. However, now international examinees will take the same examination as those in the U.S. for MLT(ASCPⁱ), MB(ASCPⁱ), PBT(ASCPⁱ) and H(ASCPⁱ). The transition to use the same test question database for both ASCP and ASCPⁱ examinations will continue for other categories as examinations are published. The exceptions will be the Spanish language version of the MT(ASCPⁱ) and the CTgyn(ASCPⁱ) exams. The CTgyn(ASCPⁱ) exam was developed

The core values that
define the BOC

Competence
Excellence
Respect
Trust
Integrity
Stewardship

solely for the international community and by U.S. law, cytologists working in the U.S. must have completed a CAAHEP accredited cytology program (such programs are only available in this country). This transition utilizing the same databases for ASCP and ASCPi exams underscores the equivalency of each credential. And while international examinees will be asked U.S. specific regulatory questions, study resources are available. Likewise, the percentage of questions in this subset as related to laboratory operations is not significant.

ASCPi eligibility routes vary from those for the U.S. examinations. There are minor differences in the eligibility requirements with regard to which international laboratory accreditation agencies are acceptable for laboratory experience, which accredited or approved educational programs are acceptable, and how eligibility is documented. While the ASCPi credential can help laboratory professionals be more competitive in their own countries, it has also helped individuals seeking jobs in the U.S., but note that U.S. immigration requirements and state licensure mandates must be met before anyone with the ASCPi certification can work in this country. Additionally, California is the only state that recognizes the MT(ASCPi) credential. Furthermore, the eligibility requirements for any of the international examinations do not include proficiency in English.

So, any laboratory manager in the U.S. should verify mastery of English when screening potential ASCPi certificants for employment. And, as with U.S. certificants, those laboratory professionals holding the ASCPi credential must participate in the International Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) in order to retain their ASCPi certification designation. CMP was mandatory beginning in 2004 for U.S. ASCP certificants and in 2012 for those individuals holding ASCPi.

Finally, in January 2015, the International Medical Technologist certification will officially be recognized as the International Medical Laboratory Scientist, MLS(ASCPi). This transition was approved by the BOC BOG to more closely align the international credential with the related U.S. certification.

Therefore, by offering it's gold standard credentials to eligible international individuals, the ASCP BOC is helping to ensure the global competence of new and practicing laboratory professionals.

Wow! It's Already Been Five Years!

The Five Year Anniversary of the Formation of the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC)

Introduction

In July 2009, the National Credentialing Agency for Laboratory Personnel (NCA) and the ASCP Board of Registry (BOR) signed a unification agreement to form a single certification agency for clinical laboratory professionals. The creation of the ASCP BOC ended 32 years of division and fragmentation among clinical laboratory professionals over certification credentials.

Agreement on credentials promotes unity within the professions and a consistent mechanism to demonstrate appropriate training and qualifications for entry into the workforce. Benefits anticipated included simplifying the process for students and eliminating the need to consider taking two exams. Education program directors would no longer have to interact with two agencies and would refer to one content guideline and related examination materials. A single credential would simplify recruitment for employers and eliminate confusion about which credential was most representative of the standards and criteria necessary for entry level staff.

The credential that was the most challenging to address was the CLS (Clinical Laboratory Scientist) credential of NCA and the MT (Medical Technologist) credential of the BOR. As part of the transition to a single certification organization, there was agreement that this credential going forward would become MLS (Medical Laboratory Scientist).

First Steps After Unification: Integration of NCA Examination Committee Members and Intellectual Property

One of the first steps following the formation of the BOC was to invite two NCA examination committee members to join each of the former BOR examination committees. This included the Phlebotomy, Hematology, Microbiology, Chemistry, Blood Banking, Molecular Biology and Laboratory Management examination committees. As of today, 11 of the former NCA examination committee members remain active on these committees. Two of these members serve as the vice-chairs of their respective

committees, and one member chairs an examination committee.

These examination committees also had the task of integrating the NCA examination questions that totaled over 3,000 items into the existing databases of each BOC exam. Committee members reviewed all NCA items and added those items with testing concepts not currently in each examination's item bank. Not surprising were the number of NCA questions that were similar to those already in the examination databases.

One new examination category was added to the BOC portfolio as the NCA offered a cytogenetics examination. Seven previous NCA examination committee members plus an appointee from the Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT), who was also the Board liaison, served on the original Cytogenetics Examination Committee. Today, five of the original members remain including the vice-chair and chair, as new committee members have replaced those whose terms have expired. This committee was assigned the challenging task of converting the existing computer-based test to the computer adaptive testing (CAT) format used by all other BOC examinations. This required several face to face meetings during which the committee had to overcome the steep learning curve needed to understand the CAT algorithm and to develop the CAT Cytogenetics exam database. The Cytogenetics CAT certification examination was administered beginning July 1, 2011.

Also of interest, the number of total examinees taking the Technologist in Molecular Biology/Molecular Pathology increased significantly following the unification of the NCA and BOR. This exam population continues to grow, emphasizing the increased adoption of molecular methods in the clinical laboratory.

CMP—Credential Maintenance Program

CMP is one of the cornerstones of the BOC, as it was for NCA and the BOR. This program recognizes that a very important aspect of professionalism is the need to demonstrate continued competency throughout a medical laboratory career as well as a commitment to excellence in the work place. All credentials issued by the BOC require the certified individual to submit a minimum number of continuing education hours in their field every three years in order to retain their credential. As of 2012, CMP is now required of all ASCPi International credentials as well.

Each year, the number of CMP participants increases. This increase is due to certificants participating in CMP for the very first time, but also those who have done it many times. It is possible to have individuals doing CMP for the 14th time!

Organizational Structure and Mission, Vision, and Values

In October 2009, the new Board of Governors of the BOC convened for the first time. The Board of Governors includes stakeholders at all levels and, with the unification, organizations participating on the Board were defined as sponsoring, participating, and collaborating professional partners. While differences in financial commitment and numbers of representatives to the BOC may vary, all organizations share the common goal of supporting the BOC mission, vision, and values. The three Sponsoring Organizations include:

ASCP	American Society for Clinical Pathology
ASCLS	American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
AGT	Association of Genetic Technologists

There are representatives from six Participating Societies:

AABB	
AAPA	American Association of Pathologists' Assistants
ASM	American Society for Microbiology
ASC	American Society for Cytopathology
CLMA	Clinical Laboratory Management Association
NSH	National Society for Histotechnology

And, there are representatives from two Collaborating Organizations:

ASH	American Society of Hematology
AACC	American Association for Clinical Chemistry

The final member of the Board is a Public Member who represents the interests of the public and the patients served by the BOC.

In 2014, the Board of Governors of the BOC reaffirmed its mission statement and created a new vision statement along with core values.

The mission statement of the BOC continues to be:

Providing excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide.

The new vision statement of the BOC is:

To be the gold standard in global certification for all laboratory professionals.

Values of the BOC include:

Competence	We seek to ensure public safety by providing a competent medical/clinical laboratory workforce
Excellence	We strive to be the gold standard in credentialing services throughout the world
Respect	We collaborate with our colleagues in many laboratory professions and value their diversity
Trust	We expect our Board, committees, staff members, and certificants to be honest and forthright in all processes, decisions, and actions
Integrity	We comply with the best practices for credentialing organizations by meeting or exceeding industry standards
Stewardship	We are dedicated to maintaining the security of the information entrusted to us and judiciously using our resources

Governance

A Governance Task Force was created in 2013 to strategically evaluate current governance practices and recommendation if any change would be in the best interest of the BOC. Governance of the BOC had remained unchanged from previous BOR practices following the unification, and this initiative provided an opportunity for the Board to further evaluate the effectiveness and relevance of its existing operations. The Governance Task Force proposed three significant changes for BOC governance and all were approved and implemented.

The first change included the nomination of a single candidate for open Board positions. Previously, each professional partner organization nominated two individuals for each position, often creating a challenging choice for the Board. This two-person nomination was also problematic when one of the candidates was a valued and productive incumbent. By providing guidance to our professional partners regarding desired characteristics in their single nominee, the BOC has already begun to see the benefits of this governance change.

The second related to BOC leadership positions and a succession strategy for the Chair position. With this change, the office of Vice Chair (now Chair-Elect) automatically becomes the Chair, allowing for enhanced continuity of strategic priorities and BOC initiatives. The term of office for both the Chair and Chair-Elect is one, two-year term.

The final governance change involved the Nominating Committee. Previously, this committee was composed only of members of the BOC. On occasion, this presented a challenge, particularly if a member of the committee was suggested by fellow Board members for officer or executive committee service. Now, this committee will include past members of the BOC to help avoid any potential conflicts of interest.

International Certification and New Credentials

Although International Certification was initiated by the Board of Registry in 2006, this initiative to contribute globally to the highest standards of patient safety continues to be a high priority for the BOC. To date, 4,613 individuals have been certified in one of the ASCPⁱ certification categories or its single qualification. More certification examinations will soon be offered. Most recently, the International Technologist in Hematology became available, along with the five original international certification examinations. The BOC and its Examination Oversight Committee also continue to evaluate opportunities for new certification examinations in the U.S. to further assure the highest standards of patient safety. Most recently, after extensive due diligence, the BOC approved

the creation of a Medical Laboratory Assistant examination and a qualification in Apheresis.

Conclusion

The ASCP Board of Certification is a best-practice example of laboratory professionals speaking together in a unified voice to ensure quality within the medical laboratory profession, with a core value of certification for the profession, by the profession.

Board of Certification Reaches Milestone

The oldest and largest certification agency for laboratory professionals, the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) reached a major milestone this summer when it certified Simeitsa Stamoulas, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} as its 500,000th medical laboratory professional. Certification through the ASCP BOC signifies the gold standard for professional competency of medical laboratory personnel around the world.

Ms. Stamoulas, who graduated from University of Maryland, Baltimore in May, is employed as a medical laboratory scientist at University of Maryland Medical Center, in Baltimore.

The first person in her family to graduate from college, she has a passion for community service. "Working as a medical laboratory scientist, I feel I am able to better assist my community in providing accurate results in a timely fashion. When I realized that behind every sample there is a person behind it, it became more personal," Ms. Stamoulas said.



Simeitsa Stamoulas, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} (center) is honored as the 500,000 BOC certificant in Tampa by BOG Chair, Karen Brown, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM} and BOC Executive Director, Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

While growing up, she said her family instilled in her the importance of pursuing an education. Although she struggled with financial challenges, she was determined to obtain a bachelor's degree. While attending the University of Maryland, Baltimore, as a full-time student, she worked two part-time jobs at the Rehabilitation and Pain Management Center of Maryland as an office assistant and with the Department of Pathology as a laboratory research assistant.

"Eventually, I focused entirely on my studies to prepare for the ASCP certification exam," she said. "I locked myself in the school library study rooms with my notes spread out along the table with snacks to keep energized. After completing the exam, I was thrilled to learn that I had passed the ASCP exam. I knew it was well worth the struggle."

The key to success, she said, is determination. "People don't just become laboratory scientists unless they believe and are determined to do so," Ms. Stamoulas said. "Empathy is a key quality that medical technologists carry. One should have compassion in the work they do."

She spends her free time volunteering at a local homeless shelter as well as assisting refugee families with learning English and becoming acclimated to living in the United States.

Change in Credential Name for International Medical Technologist

Effective Jan. 1, 2015 the International Medical Technologist, **MT**(ASCP)[®] credential will officially transition into the International Medical Laboratory Scientist, **MLS**(ASCP)[®] credential. The ASCP BOC is transitioning the MT(ASCP)[®] credential to MLS(ASCP)[®] in order to more closely align it with its U.S. counterpart. All individuals certified beginning Jan. 1, 2015, will be awarded the title MLS(ASCP)[®]. Individuals certified MT(ASCP)[®] prior to Jan. 1, 2015, will transition to MLS(ASCP)[®] upon completion of the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) after Jan. 1, 2015. Individuals certified before January 2012 who are not required to participate in the CMP program and who choose not to do so on a voluntary basis will retain their MT(ASCP)[®] credential

CMP Update

At the recent Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors' meeting in Tampa on Oct. 11-12, 2014, the following changes in the Certification Maintenance Program (CMP) were approved:

- Laboratory professionals teaching students during their clinical rotation through an accredited laboratory training program may earn one point per year for this activity;
- The number of points awarded for "Research & preparation for presentation and workshop (first time only)" will be capped at 50 percent of the total points required for CMP for both certifications and qualifications;
- The current title, "Certification Maintenance Program," will be changed to "Credential Maintenance Program" to incorporate both certification and qualification maintenance; and,
- For individuals who maintain their qualification, the initials "CM" in superscript will appear after their qualification initials (e.g., Qualification in Immunohistochemistry, QIHC^{CM}).

These changes will be reflected in the revised Credentials Maintenance Program (CMP) booklet to be published in January 2015. This booklet will also be available online in January 2015 at www.ascp.org/cmp.

Revisions in U.S. Eligibility Requirements

The Board of Certification (BOC) Board of Governors met on Oct. 11-12, 2014, in Tampa. The Board of Governors approved a number of motions revising the eligibility requirements as shown:

- Due to changing technology, the time limits for completion of the experience requirements have been reduced for the following categories: Technologist and Specialist in Hematology, Technologist and Specialist in Chemistry, Technologist and Specialist in Blood Banking, Technologist and Specialist in Microbiology, Specialist in Cytotechnology, Histotechnician, Histotechnologist, and Diplomate in Laboratory Management. This revision will go into effect Jan. 1, 2017.

[See detailed U.S. Eligibility Requirement Revisions Jan. 2017.](#)

- Educators in accredited laboratory programs may now qualify for certification in the following specialist categories: Specialist in Blood Banking, Specialist in Chemistry, Specialist in Hematology, Specialist in Microbiology, and Specialist in Cytotechnology. This revision is effective immediately.

[See detailed U. S. Specialists Eligibility Requirement Revisions.](#)

- The Technologist in Molecular Biology (MB) eligibility requirements were revised to include veterinary, industry, and research experience, in addition to clinical laboratory experience. This is effective immediately.

[See MB Eligibility Requirement Revisions.](#)

Where are they now? Catching Up with Past BOC Milestone Certificants

The ASCP Board of Certification celebrates the milestone of the 500,000th certificant in 2014. Over the years, other milestone certificants have been recognized by the Board of Certification (Board of Registry). The BOC caught up with two of those certificants and asked where they are now.

In 1975, Harry Watkins became the 100,000th MT(ASCP) certificant. In 2004, Lisa Conque, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, was recognized as the 400,000th certificant.

Harry Watkins PhD, is currently a professor of strategy and sustainability at Point Loma Nazarene University, in San Diego. While Dr. Watkins no longer works in the medical laboratory field, he did share that getting certified had an important impact on his career. "It taught me that I am a good student. I enjoyed the classwork at the University of Oregon Medical School.... it attracted me to management because of the very poor management practices at the one hospital where I worked for two years." Dr. Watkins went on to earn an MBA and later a PhD in business. He originally intended to get involved in hospital management, but

decided to pursue a career in high technology marketing and education.

Lisa Conques is currently the billing specialist and outreach coordinator for St. Vincent Infirmary Laboratory CHI, in Arkansas. Prior to that she worked as the operations Coordinator for the laboratory.

When asked about the impact of her ASCP certification in propelling her career forward, she shared that being certified is a requirement at her facility for any medical technology position. Certification is not only important as a technologist but it shows educational respect with healthcare colleagues, she says.

For students seeking to become certified in the medical laboratory field should pursue certification as their first milestone after graduation, she advises. "As a manager, it is the first thing I look for when hiring new employees," She adds.

Asked to identify changes that have occurred during her career, she replies, "The field is always changing. New equipment and new innovation means the technologist has to be adaptive and continue the educational process throughout their career. The new generation of scientists need to collaborate and be willing to pass on their knowledge to those techs around them."

Board of Certification Distinguished Service Award

Susan S. Graham, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM} received the ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) 2014 Distinguished Service Award (DSA) at the Board of Governors Luncheon on Oct. 11, 2014 in Tampa, Fla.

The DSA is awarded 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 towards the BOC mission to provide excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide.



Susan S. Graham, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM} (left) Karen A. Brown, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

Ms. Graham was nominated by several members of the Board of Governors for her service on the BOC Hematology Examination Committee from 2004-2012. She served as Chair of the Hematology Exam Committee in 2010-2012 and later as a Consultant in 2012-13. In addition to her service on the Hematology Examination Committee, she served on the Joint Generalist Examination Committee in 2003 and again in 2007-2013.

Ms. Graham is Chair and Program Director of the Clinical Laboratory Science Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. In Spring, Ms. Graham was nominated to serve as an ASCP Member Representative to the BOC Board of Governors. Her term began in October at the close of the Fall Board of Governors meeting in Tampa.

2014 Board of Certification Board of Governors Awards

The ASCP Board of Certification Board of Governors awarded the 2014 Board of Governors Award to Catherine L. Gebhart, MB(ASCP)^{CM} and Laurence R. Jordan, MS, MT(ASCP)SH,PBT^{CM}. The BOG Award is given to volunteers that have served as Chair of a BOC Committee or as an officer of the Board of Governors and that have made noteworthy contributions during their tenure as a committee or Board member.

Ms. Gebhart served on the Molecular Biology Examination Committee from 2007 to 2013 and served as committee chair from 2010 to 2012. Mr. Jordan served on the Phlebotomy Examination Committee from 2006 to 2012 and served as committee chair in 2011 and 2012. He later served as a consultant to the committee in 2013.

Three Representatives Join the Board of Governors

At the close of the October BOC Board of Governors meeting in Tampa, three new BOG members began terms on the Board of Governors.

Susan S. Graham, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM} was elected as an ASCP Member Representative and previously served on the BOC Hematology Examination Committee from 2000 to 2013. She is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory at Science at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, N.Y.

Alexandra Harrington, MD, FASCP, MT(ASCP) was elected as an ASCP Fellow Representative to the Board of Governors. Prior to being elected to the Board, Dr. Harrington was active on the ASCP Fellow Council, the Commission on Membership and the ASCP Annual Meeting Steering Committee. Dr. Harrington is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wis.

Susan Johnson, MT(ASCP)SBB was elected as the AABB Representative to the Board. Ms. Johnson is the Director of Clinical Education at the BloodCenter of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wis.. In 2013 Ms. Johnson was elected to the AAB Board of Directors.



Susan S. Graham, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM}



Alexandra Harrington, MD, FASCP, MT(ASCP)



Susan Johnson, MSTM, MT(ASCP)SBB

2014-2015 BOG Executive Committee



Front (left to right): Helen Bixenman, MBA/HCM, CHC, CG(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}; Kathleen Hansen, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Karen A. Brown, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Sui Zee, MD, FASCP; and Susan M. Harrington, PhD, D(ABMM), MLS(ASCP)^{CM}.
Back row (left to right): Perthena A. Latchaw, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Scott E. Aikey, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}; and Susan Beck, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}

2014-2015 BOC Board of Governors



Back Row (left to right): Susan S. Graham, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM}; Amy R. Groszbach, MEd, MLT(ASCP)MB^{CM}; Lena Spencer, HTL(ASCP); David Chhieng, MD, FASCP; Michael Sovocool, MHS, PA(ASCP)^{CM}; Patty J. Eschliman, MHA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}; Scott E. Aikey, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}; Susan Beck, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Susan E. Morris, MPH, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Deanna K. Iverson, MHS, MLT(ASCP)SCT^{CM}, HTL; Alexandra Harrington, MD, FASCP, MT(ASCP); and Mary-Elizabeth O'Brien.

Front row (left to right): Helen Bixenman, MBA/HCM, CHC, CG(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}; Perthena A. Latchaw, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Kathleen Hansen, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Laura Lynn Bilodeau, MD, FASCP; Kathleen Finnegan, MS, MT(ASCP)SH^{CM}; Karen A. Brown, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}; Sui Zee, MD, FASCP; Susan Johnson, MSTM, MT(ASCP)SBB; and Susan M. Harrington, PhD, D(ABMM), MLS(ASCP)^{CM}.

Not pictured Lee H. Hilborne, MD, MPH, DLM(ASCP)^{CM}, FASCP and Ross J. Molinaro, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}.

2014-2015 ASCP Board of Certification Board of Governors

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2014-2015 BOC Examination Committees and Work Groups

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Consultant

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BOC Professional Partners' Meeting Calendar December 2014 – November 2015

DECEMBER - 2014

American Society of Hematology (ASH)
[56th ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition](#)
San Francisco, CA
December 6 – 9, 2014

FEBRUARY - 2015

American Society for Clinical Laboratory
Science (ASCLS)
[2015 Clinical Laboratory Educators
Conference \(CLEC\)](#)
Cincinnati, OH
February 19 – 21, 2015

MARCH - 2015

American Association of Pathologists'
Assistants (AAPA)
[2015 Spring Meeting](#)
Charleston, SC
March 9 – 11, 2015

Clinical Laboratory Management Association
(CLMA)
[KnowledgeLab 2015](#)
Orlando, FL
March 29 – April 1, 2015

MAY - 2015

American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
[asm2015](#)
New Orleans, LA
May 30 – June 2, 2015

JUNE - 2015

Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT)
[AGT 40th Annual Meeting](#)
Savannah, GA
June 4 – 6, 2015

JULY - 2015

American Association for Clinical Chemistry
(AACC)
[2015 AACC Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab
Expo](#)
Atlanta, GA
July 26 – 30, 2015

JULY - 2015

American Society for Clinical Laboratory
Science (ASCLS)
[2015 Annual Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo](#)
Atlanta, GA
July 28 – August 1, 2015

AUGUST - 2015

National Society for Histotechnology (NSH)
[2015 NSH Symposium /Convention](#)
Washington, DC
August 28 – September 2, 2015

American Association of Pathologists'
Assistants (AAPA)
[41st Annual Continuing Education
Conference](#)
Toronto, Ontario
August 29 – September 4, 2015

OCTOBER - 2015

AABB
[AABB Annual Meeting](#)
Anaheim, CA
October 24 – 27, 2015

American Society for Clinical Pathology
(ASCP)
[2015 ASCP Annual Meeting](#)
Long Beach, CA
October 28 – 30, 2015

NOVEMBER - 2015

American Society of Cytopathology (ASC)
[ASC 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
Chicago, IL
November 13 – 16, 2015

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Shantina Williams

If you ever met Shantina Williams in person, you'd notice her big smile and warm tone. With her friendly and professional manner, you wouldn't be surprised to learn that she came to the BOC from ASCP Customer Service. However, you might be surprised to hear that at one time Ms. Williams dream was to be a mortician!

Ms. Williams, who goes by "Tina," joined the BOC in 2014 as Administrative Assistant in Certification Activities. She is responsible for third-party verification of ASCP certification for certifiants, employers, and background search firms. Verification of certification is an important step in the state licensure and employment processes.

She spent two years in the ASCP Customer Service Department where she fielded inquiries on everything from membership to publications to certification.

A Chicago native, Ms. Williams studied mortuary science and business management at Malcolm X College and National Louis University. While studying Mortuary Science she worked for the Cook County Medical Examiner, where she joked that there never was a dull day.

A mother of two, Ms. Williams has daughters ages 16 and 10 and a frisky poodle named Kyng. When not verifying certification, Ms. Williams enjoys spending time with family, going to the theater and seeing live shows.

When asked the key to working with the BOC, she responds, "Never stop learning or being open to change."

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