



# ASCLS=Idaho FOCUS



## Wow, What a Great Convention!

Spring 2006

### Inside this issue:



just want to take a moment to congratulate our convention co-chairs, Karen Dixon-Hoskins and Laura Brattain. They did a fantastic job, overcoming some incredible obstacles with grace, to make the whole experience very rewarding! As always, one of the best parts of the weekend is seeing old friends, making new ones, and putting faces to the people I've only

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known through email throughout the year.

Now that the hustle and bustle of the 2006 convention is over, I'd like to share a few things about the 2007 convention! At a short board meeting during the convention, we decided that although Twin Falls is next in our usual rotation of the location of the convention, we're going to skip Twin Falls, and have the 2007 convention in Boise. Unfortunately, we don't currently have very many active members in Twin Falls, so we decided to hold the convention in Boise, and to mentor and encourage our Twin Falls members in the process, so they will be ready and willing to take on the challenge of the 2008 convention.

Sandi Oldenberg

Spring convention held this year in Pocatello, had for it's theme, "Clinical Laboratory Scientists: The Pulse of Today's Healthcare". The presentations that I attended emphasized that point. Doug Crabtree, CEO of Eastern Idaho RMC, was the first presenter and spoke about latest trends that will affect healthcare. Susan Morris led an interactive discussion on how to create a work environment that is healthy, professional, and one in which we can positively impact the lives of those we work with. Other sessions included autoverification, myeloperoxidase, and MRSA. An exceptional General Session talk was given by Dr. Carl Vance on Insulin Resistance and Diabetes.



Especially rewarding was the informal, but very informative, Educator's Forum on Thursday evening moderated by Kathy Spiegel. If ever there was an exciting time for laboratorians to take control of the future of our profession, NOW is that time!

(Continued on page 2)

The ASCLS-Idaho FOCUS is published quarterly and is made available to all ASLCS-Idaho members in electronic format. Rights to edit for content and length of materials are retained by ASCLS-Idaho. Send all inquiries to the Editor at [culberic@peoplepc.com](mailto:culberic@peoplepc.com) All ASCLS-Idaho members are invited to submit articles for publication.



(Continued from page 1)

Again, for me, the highlight is meeting our new young professionals... the ISU CLS students. What a tremendously intelligent, articulate, fun, and energetic group! The poster presentations were well done and initiated many discussions of current science. It provided an opportunity to meet and get to know these students who will soon begin their clinical rotations in our medical facilities.

Lastly, I find the ASCLS-ID conventions invigorating. The opportunity to network and share ideas with other Clinical Laboratory Scientists from across the state (and for me, across town) inspires me very much indeed. What a tremendous membership we have! Our Society is made up of very smart, dynamic people. Every year, I set my personal and professional standards higher as a result of spring convention. This year I will strive to work smarter, listen more closely and continue to support our profession as we participate in and dedicate ourselves to improving the pulse of Idaho's Healthcare.

Mary H. Lay ASCLS-ID Board Member



The 2006 Spring Convention was attended by 23 vendors. The room was pretty full, but we managed to get them all in. The vendors who attended were: Orchard Software, MLS Lab Services, Quest Diagnostics, Cardinal Healthcare, American Red Cross, ARUP Laboratories, Bartels & Stout, LabCorp, Bio-Rad, Beckman Coulter, Fisher, Horiba ABX, Diagnostic Products, Dade Behring, Bureau of Labs, Abbott Diagnostics, Interpath Laboratories, INOVA Diagnostics, Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Corgenix, AG Heinze/Nikon, Ortho/McNiel Pharmaceuticals, Precision In-

struments, and Sebia Electrophoresis. Treasure Valley Lab was signed up but was not able to make it and GenProbe gave us a \$50.00 donation towards a break.

A questionnaire was given to each vendor. Eight were received back. I have also received a few e-mails from some of the vendors in congratulating us on the convention. I felt that all of the vendors thought the convention went really well and most have expressed interest in returning next year. One of the comments for next year would be to have a larger room so that the food for the social and breakfast could be in the same area with them. We just didn't have enough space at ISU to do that.

The success of the exhibits is definitely the result of all who have helped me during the last year. I especially want to thank David Eisentrager for his help in setting up the booths and for being a gracious master of ceremony. I would also like to thank Ray Tanner for his support and suggestions over the last year. Last but not least, I would like to thank all of the attendees who came to the convention this year. I have also offered to do this again next year so, if there is anyone who would like to help or if you have any suggestions for me please feel free to let me know.

Laura Brattain, MT (ASCP) Exhibit Chair  
e-mail: lbrattain@tetonvalleyhospital.com



## President's Message

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Here is a brief overview of what we have accomplished this year and what plans we are working on for the future.

We created a licensure survey and sent it out to all our members, as well as, all non-waived testing CLIA licensed laboratories in the state. Based on the responses received, our plan for the upcoming year is to work on educating our colleagues about what licensure means to our profession. We really need your help to reach out to all areas to accomplish this task. Please let us know if you are willing to volunteer.

Our student mentoring program had several enrollees. This is a great opportunity for connection in both directions. From what I have heard and experienced, both the students and the CLS' benefit from this program.

We held our second annual State Legislative Day in Boise in March. This is a great opportunity to learn how the legislative and lobbying processes work. We really need to let our legislators know who we are and what our profession means. This year we sent 2 representatives to the national Legislative Symposium in Washington, DC. They were very fortunate to meet with our state legislators rather than their assistants.

Our 2006 Spring Convention was held in Pocatello at ISU. It was packed with wonderful presentations. Karen Dixon-Hoskins and Laura Brattain and their planning committee did a tremendous job putting it together. The student poster presentations were beyond expectations!

The board voted in April to hold the 2007 Spring Convention in Boise April 19-21, 2007, with the intention of mentoring some interested Twin Falls area members in the process so they are prepared to plan the 2008 meeting in Twin Falls. Again, we need volunteers to make this a success.

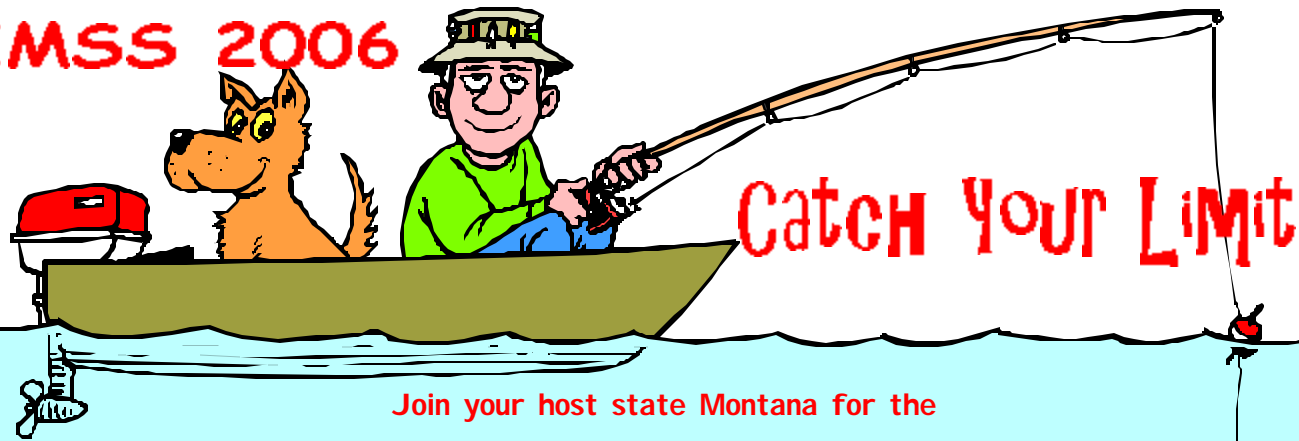
We voted on a new logo design to incorporate our new name of ASCLS-Idaho. We are in the process of refining the graphics and getting new lapel pins produced. We will announce when they are available for purchase.

Our Leadership Retreat is Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hagerman. It will be a great opportunity to meet face to face and to work on a plan for our society for the upcoming year. This is open to all members and we encourage everyone to attend!

What we really would like to see in the upcoming year are more active members willing to volunteer on one of several committees. This would allow members who don't want to dive in to a board position or to chair a committee the opportunity to get involved in a small way, yet make a big impact. If you are interested, please contact me or Sandi Oldenberg and we will find you a role to match your talents and your wishes.

Barb Frankovich

**IMSS 2006**



Join your host state Montana for the  
**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Intermountain States Seminar**  
**September 20-23, 2006**  
**Jackson, Wyoming**

## **Catch Your Limit**

of Learning, Networking, and Fun Times at this exciting  
ASCLS Region VIII Educational Conference and Exhibit Hall.

Keynote Session: What The Future Holds...Vision of the Profession

Sessions in all disciplines will be held including:

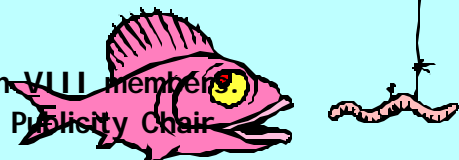
Electronic Medical Record (Kathy Kenyon, Kenyon Law Firm),  
CLIA Update (Judy Yost, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services),  
Human Genomics (Dr. David I Smith),  
Avian Influenza, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (Steve Young, TriCore Labs),  
Tuberculosis - How Informed Lab Professionals are Vital to Disease Management  
(Francis J Curry National TB Center),

Updates on Laboratory Preparedness (Region VIII State Labs)

Don't miss the opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall full of the latest  
advances in laboratory testing, supplies and equipment.

For more information, visit the IMSS website at  
<http://www.imss.8m.com/>

Pre registration material is mailed to all ASCLS Region VIII members.  
To specifically request a mailing, contact Susie Zanto, Publicity Chair  
at [da\\_zzzz@yahoo.com](mailto:da_zzzz@yahoo.com) 406-444-2839 (daytime) or 406-442-5776 (evenings)



# Awards and Recognitions



## **Omicron Sigma** award recipients:

State Level:	Holly Weinberg	Region VIII:	Barbara Frankovich	National:	Debbie Shell
	Mary Lay		Aimee Russell		Keila Poulson
	Karen Dixon-Hoskins				Susan Morris
	Laura Brattain				
	Sonja Nehr-Kanet				
	Lorena Bobinski				
	Jenny Lee				
	Sandy Perotto				

## **Keys to the Future:**

Sandi Oldenberg, Aimee Russell, Kami Pahl

**2005-2006 ASCLS-ID Member of the Year:** Barbara Frankovich

## Elections

President elect: Jennifer Lee  
Secretary: Mary Lay  
Board Member: Scott Bradley



## Electronic Forum? Post a job?

The ASCLS-Idaho web site now has an internet forum available. Also

**ASCLSIDaho.org**

known as a message board or discussion group, you can post questions, comment on a posting, or join in a discussion. Would you like to comment on the licensure article on page 7? Or, maybe, find out how others are doing a task? Register and join us on-line.

Our web site has a number of new features including job postings, page content updating by more than the webmaster, and dynamic database driven pages. For example, an employer can submit a job posting., and once the listing expires, the information no longer appears.

The time now is Fri May 26, 2006 2:54 pm  
ASCLSIDaho.org Forum Index

Forum		Topics	Pos
Test category 1			
	<b>Hematology</b> Discussion regarding Hematology	0	0

## Assistance Requested

The ASCLS Publications Committee is asking for your assistance. We invite you to complete a short survey to help us gather ideas for development of continuing education materials. Your input as a member of ASCLS is very important to us.

Please click on this link (or copy & paste to your web browser), <http://www.ascls.org/survey/survey11.asp>, to go directly to the survey. We ask that you complete this by June 25th. The results will be collated and used by our committee to guide us in our goal to create educational materials that will be useful to laboratory professionals.

Thank you for your participation!

Sincerely,

Cathy Otto, PhD, CLS(NCA)

Chair, ASCLS Publications Committee



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# Mark your calendars and plan to attend!!!!



## ASCLS-Idaho Leadership Retreat Saturday, June 3, 2006

Snake River Grill  
611 Frog's Landing  
Hagerman, Idaho

Earn CEU Credits \*\*\* Make New Friends \*\*\* Learn New Skills

**Make a weekend of it!!!**

**Leadership Seminar, ASCLS-ID Board meeting,  
Mentoring of new officers and committee chairs**

### Attractions in & around the Hagerman Valley

Hagerman National Fish Hatchery	Thousand Springs Preserve	Crystal Springs Lake
Malad Gorge State Park	Thousand Springs Resort	Niagara Springs State Park
Snake River Canyon Scenic Cruises	Clear Lakes Golf Course	Idaho State Fish Hatchery
Clear Springs Trout Co. Visitor Ctr.	Box Canyon State Park	Banbury Hot Springs
Lower Salmon Falls Dam & Park	Oregon Trail Site	Blue Heart Springs
Rafting on the Snake River	Hagerman Fossil Beds & Visitor Ctr	
Fishing, Hiking, Wildlife Viewing and Camping		

### Motels:

Billingsley Creek Lodge & Retreat	Hagerman Valley Inn
17940 US Hwy 30	661 Frog's Landing
Hagerman, ID 83332; 208-837-4822	Hagerman, ID 83332; 208-837-6196

### Campgrounds:

Sportsman River Resort	Miracle Hot Springs	Hagerman RV Village
18678 Hwy 30	Hwy 30	18049 Hwy 30
Hagerman, ID 83332	between Buhl & Hagerman	Hagerman, ID 83332
837-6364	543-6002	837-4906

**Registration Fee \$ 25.00**

**Make checks payable to ASCLS-ID and mail to:**

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## Winners of the ASCLS Idaho Spring Meeting Student Research Poster Competition – Friday April 28, 2006



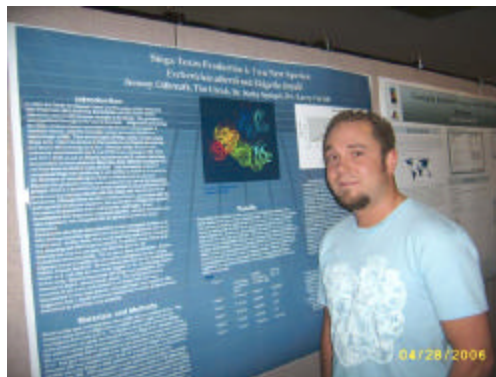
### First Place:

Thyroid Effect on Bone Remodeling,  
A Study of a Healthy Community  
Sample of Postmenopausal Women.

Heidi Hobbs, BS, Mark Crocker, BSc,  
and Laura Tivis, PhD.

This study evaluated the relationship  
between thyroid stimulating hormone  
(TSH) and free thyroxine (FT4), the

most commonly used measurements of thyroid function, and alkaline phosphatase (ALP), a marker of bone turnover. The participants were 47 women between the ages of 50 and 65, nine of whom were on L-thyroxine therapy. The relationship between thyroid function and bone turnover was analyzed using SAS. Overall, a significant positive relationship was noted between TSH and ALP, independent of FT4 level. In addition, ALP differences between those treated with L-thyroxine and non-treated controls suggest that treatment with Lthyroxine therapy may contribute to an increase in bone turnover.



### Second Place

Shiga Toxin Production in Two New  
Species:

Escherichia albertii and Shigella boydii

• Jeremy Gilbreath, Tim Ulrich, Dr.  
Kathy

Spiegel and Dr. Larry Farrell

### Third Place

Expression, Purification, and Refolding  
of Proteins Implicated in Stickler  
Syndrome

Christina M. Blasick, B.S.; Raquel J.  
Brown, M.S.; Lisa R. Warner, B.S.;  
Julia Thom Oxford, Ph.D



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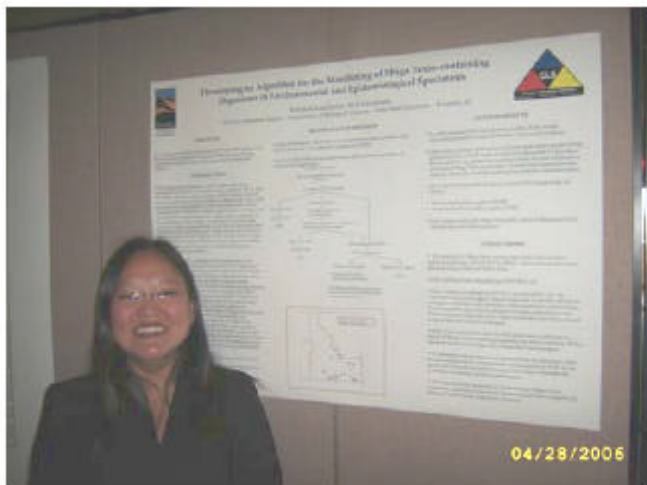
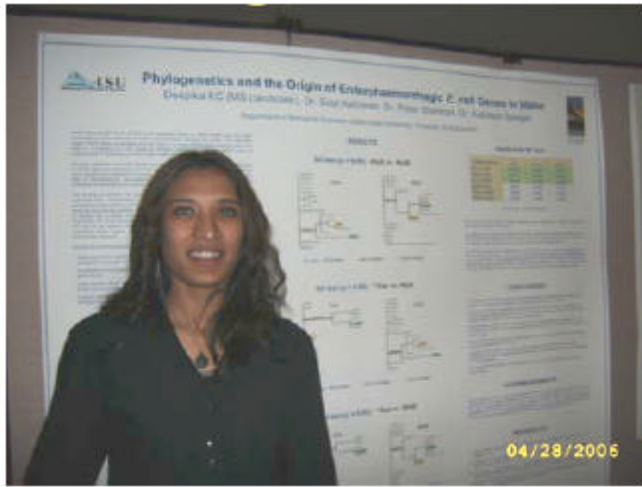
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*Continued on next page*



# Pictures From the Student Posters





# Winners of the ASCLS Idaho Spring Meeting Student Research Poster Competition *Continued*

## We had a very successful event with 16 posters presented.

- Thank you to all that came by to see and discuss the research with the students.
- Thanks to all the students who participated in the Children's Miracle Network Fundraiser where we raised over \$500.
- Special recognition needs to go to Deepika KC; she was the CLS MS student who sold over \$200 worth of Raffle tickets!
- Thanks also to Garth Crouch, who made sure that all the posters were put up and taken down safely.
- Congratulations to all the students for a job well done.

Thanks to Debbie Shell for loaning me her camera to take the attached photographs.

For further information, please contact:

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208-373-1716

## Don't Forget the List Serve!



A great way to communicate with the whole state society. **Don't miss out!**

To subscribe, log on to:

[http://asclsregionviii.org/mailman/listinfo/idscls-connections\\_asclsregionviii.org](http://asclsregionviii.org/mailman/listinfo/idscls-connections_asclsregionviii.org)

All you need to provide is your email address and create a password. You can save the address you receive in your address book or favorites list, then just click on it and write your email message. Your message will be then sent to all who have subscribed to the list serve. I hope to see many people take advantage of this opportunity in the future.

## Recruit a new member



\*Join the  
-G-M Campaign!  
\*Be an ASCLS  
Star!\*

*Every laboratory professional deserves the opportunities of the*

**VOICE-VALUE-VISION**

*of ASCLS membership!*

**We all benefit when ASCLS grows!**

Check our website, [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org), for additional details and rules applying to this campaign



## A Few How's and Why's of State Licensure for Clinical Laboratory Personnel

Did you know.....?

If you are certified by an accepted national agency, you will not have to take an additional test and, you will be eligible to receive a license based on your national certification.

Everyone performing non-waived clinical laboratory tests in a state with licensure is required to have a license, regardless of where they work: this includes hospitals, clinic and physician office laboratories, reference laboratories, etc., etc. (there are exceptions for federal facilities over which the state has no jurisdiction).



*“Everyone performing non-waived clinical laboratory tests in a state with licensure is required to have a license, regardless of where they work: “*

CLIA personnel regulations allow moderate level laboratory testing to be performed by high school graduates (or equivalent) that have no formal education and training, and are minimally trained and supervised. Moderate level tests include the vast majority of non-waived laboratory tests.

*”*

No one will lose a job because of licensure. Licensure laws contain what's called a "grandfather clause" that allows everyone performing laboratory tests at the time licensure is implemented to apply for a license.

Laboratory personnel shortages are no more prevalent in states with licensure than they are in states without licensure.

Concerns about the government having more control are unfounded. State licensure gives the profession a say in establishing the requirements to become licensed, and what laboratorians must do to maintain a license (e.g., required continuing education to renew the license). The government does not establish these standards. The profession does.

There is no requirement for national certification in a state that does not have licensure. Clinical laboratories of any type are allowed to hire personnel and train them "on the job" if they so desire.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Debbie Shell, ASCLS-Idaho Licensure Task Force Chair at [dmssq@allidaho.com](mailto:dmssq@allidaho.com).





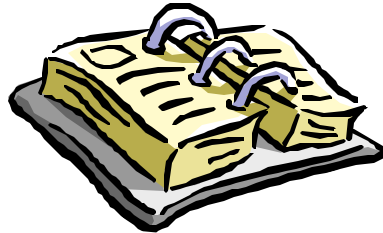
# Mark Your Calendars Today

## Leadership Training Seminar

June 3, 2006

Hagerman, Idaho

Open to All Members of ASCLS-Idaho;  
A Day Of Networking, Learning, And  
Fun!



## Intermountain States Seminar 2006

Sept 20-23 2006 with Montana Hosting.

"Catch your Limit."

[www.imss.8m.org](http://www.imss.8m.org)

## ASCLS-Idaho Spring Convention

April 19-21, 2007

Doubletree Riverside

Boise, ID



The world is like a  
mirror: frown at it, and  
it frowns at you. Smile  
and it smiles, too.

-Herbert Samuels

***Our minds can  
shape the way a  
thing will be because  
we act according to  
our expectations.***

***-Federico Fellini***



**Register Today!**  
*DNA MedED Café Webcast Series*  
**The Reality of Real-Time PCR**  
Webcast Registration URL <https://registration.intercall.com/go/dnamededcafe>

**June 20th**  
3:00 pm EST | 2:00 pm CST  
1:00pm MST | 12:00 pm PST

### Program Goals

*This program is designed to meet the educational needs of healthcare and laboratory professionals who are interested in Real-time PCR for Molecular Diagnostics.*

### Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the evolution of traditional end point PCR to real-time PCR
2. Describe the principles of real-time PCR
3. Identify the available technology for performing real-time PCR
4. Define the advantages of real-time PCR for clinical testing
5. Review issues with implementation of real-time PCR in the clinical laboratory

### P.A.C.E.® (Professional Acknowledgment for Continuing Education)

*Webcast participants can earn 1.0 contact hour of P.A.C.E.® approved continuing education.*

*ASCLS P.A.C.E.®, 6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 300, Bethesda, MD 20817-1574.*

*\*This program is approved for continuing education for NCA, ASCP BOR, and all state licensing bodies including CA and FL.*

**Webcast Registration URL:** <http://registration.intercall.com/go/dnamededcafe>

### Webcast Phone Registration Info:

*US/Canada Toll Free Number: 866-772-2717*



The fall issue deadline is September 1. Please submit articles and pictures to Eric Culbertson at [culberic@peoplepc.com](mailto:culberic@peoplepc.com)

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With the development of our electronic newsletter and our website, we have been able to decrease printing and mailing costs. If you prefer to continue to receive The Focus by mail, please send a written or email request to the editor.

Please post the newsletter