2023 Speaker Guide

Thursday April 27th 2023

G1: 8:30 to 9:30 TBI

Sponsor: Abbott Diagnostics
Speaker: Bobby Shahideh, MD, MBA

Bio:  Bobby is a US and UK clinically trained physician and is the U.S. Associate Medical Director for Abbott Core Diagnostics. He is tasked with providing in-depth clinical information and educational programs both internally and externally, while also lending support to new and ongoing research studies. Prior to joining Abbott, Bobby spent a vast majority of his professional career providing bi-directional consulting to physicians, healthcare workers, and health systems. He worked with these various global entities to help enhance patient care, clinical operations, access, clinical outcomes, and health economics.

G2: 9:45-10:45 Keynote “Unconscious Bias and Me”

Speaker:  Derrick Nelson, MBA, MA HR, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CDE

Bio:  Derrick Nelson is the Senior Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at St. Luke's Health System in Boise, Idaho. He manages the creation, development, and execution of DEI strategies, programs, policies, and metrics aimed at advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workforce and creating a psychologically safe and inclusive environment.

With over 20 years of HR and DEI leadership experience, Derrick has earned an MBA and a Master of Arts in Human Resources Management from Webster University. He is a graduate of the St. Louis Business Diversity Initiatives Fellows program and the Facilitrainer Certification
Program with the National Conference for Community and Justice of Metropolitan St. Louis. He holds the Certified Diversity Executive (CDE)® credentials.

Derrick serves on the boards of several non-profit organizations and is an adjunct professor at a university based in Missouri.


Sponsor: Biomerieux

Speaker: Karen Shanaberger, BSN, RN

Bio: Karen is a Register Nurse with 19 years of experience in a variety of settings and specialties, with a focus on quality improvement and education. As a Medical Education Liaison for bioMerieux, Karen provides clinical consultation and education to hospital staff and other key stakeholders on the implementation and utilization of biomarkers to achieve optimal patient outcomes.

Karen holds bachelor’s degrees in biology from The College of William and Mary and in nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University.

A2: 11:00 – 12:30 "Not Just Another Urine Specimen: Interesting Cases & Conundrums"

Sponsor: Sysmex

Speaker: Jason Anderson, MPH MT(ASCP)

Bio: Jason Anderson, MPH, MT(ASCP) received his B.Sc. degree in Medical Laboratory Science and Master’s of Public Health degree in Epidemiology and Health Administration from the University of Utah. Always looking for new challenges, Jason has enjoyed a variety of roles and experiences in a 25 + year career in the clinical laboratory field. From his first “real” clinical job
as the laboratory, radiology and ultrasound technologist in a 12 bed rural hospital in Kansas, to managing laboratory sections in large reference and hospital laboratory environments, Jason has been blessed to have the opportunities to develop a broad clinical laboratory skill set, which has served him very well to date. Currently Jason has been with Sysmex America for the past 8 years, most of which time has been spent in the marketing department as the Sr. Product Manager for Urinalysis Solutions.

A5: 11:00 - 12:30: "Shining a Freelite on Monoclonal Gammopathies"

Sponsor: Binding Site

Speaker: Aigars Brandts PhD

Bio: Aigars Brandts is a native of the Republic of Latvia. He received his MS and Ph.D. in Biology from Cornell University. Currently, Aigars is Director of Scientific Affairs at Binding Site, Inc, part of Thermo Fisher Scientific, but has held similar positions at Sebia Electrophoresis and Roche Tissue Diagnostics. He resides in Atlanta, GA.

A3: 2:00-3:00 "DAT Overview"

Sponsor: QuidelOrtho

Speaker: Michelle Mullens MT ASCP SI

Bio: 1988 BSMT University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

ASCP 1988

28 years at Baptist Health in Arkansas

During that time worked every shift imaginable, cross trained in most areas including micro and flow cytometry. Core areas Blood Bank and Immunology serving as student coordinator, senior
med tech and supervisor. Responsibilities over the years included writing lectures, objectives, and exams for School of Medical Technology. ASCP Specialist in Immunology in 2000. For 11 years served as BB supervisor for 300 bed satellite hospital. That site was the first in Arkansas to automate TM testing and adopt electronic crossmatching.

2016 time for something new. Moved to Rochester NY to support Ortho Vision 7 states in the Northeast. In the 7 years at Ortho served in a variety of technical roles, currently Clinical Science Liaison for TM in North America.

A2: 2:00 – 3:00 “PCR Testing: Indications Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic”

Sponsor: Biomerieux

Speaker: Rosemary Clement DNP, PHCNS

Bio: Rosemary has been in clinical practice for over 20 years earning her Doctorate in Nursing, Master’s in Public Health, and a certificate in Nursing Education. Her clinical experience in Critical Care, Wound Care, Oncology, Public Health and Academics enhances her role as a Medical Educator with bioMerieux. Rosemary provides clinical consultation and medical education on the BioFire infectious disease panels to physicians and nurses in fields related to infectious diseases; these include Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, Pediatrics, Family Medicine, Quality and Pharmacy.

Rosemary holds her Doctorate in Nursing from The University of Alabama as Clinical Nurse Specialist and a Master’s in Public Health Nursing from the University of North Carolina. As part of the Medical Education team, Rosemary also maintains a certification in Antimicrobial Stewardship from MAD-ID (Making a Difference in Infectious Diseases). She has worked at the local level developing community health care programs, nationally with professional memberships presenting at national congresses and internationally, participating as faculty with the Breast Health Global Initiative.

She currently enjoys living in St Helens, Oregon with her husband and two dogs while restoring a 1915 craftsman home that overlooks the Columbia River with views of Mount St Helens and Mount Hood!

Friday April 28th 2023

E1: Educator’s Forum 8:00 -9:00 “ISU Program Update”

*No PACE Credit Offered
Sponsor: Idaho State University

Speaker: Rachel R. Hulse, EdD, M.S., MLS(ASCP)CM

Bio: Rachel Hulse is an Associate Professor and Program Director of the Medical Laboratory Science program at Idaho State University where she teaches Immunology, Molecular Diagnostics, Hemostasis, Phlebotomy, Critical Analysis, and a number of advanced graduate level courses. Dr. Hulse is passionate about education and the MLS profession and was awarded the Kole McGuffy Award in recognition for her outstanding educational and clinical research.

E2: 8:00 – 9:00 “Life After Graduation”

Speaker: Kate DeAngelo, MLS (ASCP)CM

Bio: Kate is from Boise and attended the MLS program at the Pocatello ISU campus. She graduated in 2016 and completed her internship at the Boise VA. She works at St. Luke’s Magic Valley as a graveyard generalist and has been there for over 6 years. Kate has been involved with ASCLS since graduation and was awarded the National Ascending Professional award last year and the Idaho member of the year in 2020. She enjoys baking, traveling, and running half marathons.

G3: 9:00 – 10:00 "Building Bridges Through Avoiding Conflict in Communication"

Speaker: Chérie V. Petersen, BA

Sponsor: ARUP
Bio: Chérie Petersen has spent over 25 years developing educational programs and resources specifically designed for laboratory professionals by combining her experience and knowledge of the laboratory industry with her passion for patient-centered care. As the Distance Education Program Coordinator for ARUP Laboratories Institute for Learning she is responsible for developing, managing, and delivering educational opportunities to a broad range of industry professionals. She directs ARUP’s rapidly growing educational website that has just over 130,000 unique visitors watching over 150,000 educational videos, while issuing more than 100,000 continuing education credits per year to clinicians, pathologists, and medical laboratory scientists. Chérie’s broad range of experience has been gained through developing multiple business solutions for hospital laboratory outreach programs, managing educational conferences, producing ARUP’s LabMind podcast, and developing web-based educational resources. Throughout her 29 years at ARUP Laboratories, Chérie has been an invited keynote and guest speaker for ARUP clients and at numerous state, regional, and national professional association meetings, including AACC, ASCLS, ASCP, and CLMA conferences. For her efforts, she has been honored with AACC’s Outstanding Speaker Award several times. Through ARUP’s Institute for Learning, Chérie shares her expertise, energy, and passion with ARUP clients and industry professionals using her experience in employee development, training, management coaching, writing, public speaking, customer service, leadership, communication skills, employee engagement, and sales. She works with laboratory organizations and professionals to achieve exceptional outcomes while enhancing their competitive efforts. Chérie has the unique ability to engage, inspire, and cultivate the excellence that exists within individuals and their organizations.

B1: 11:45 - 12:45: TBD

B2: 11:45 – 12:45 "Microbiology Plate Rounding"

Speaker: Kent L Evensen
Bio: Kent is a Medical Microbiologist and Supervisor/Micro specialist at Cassia Hospital, Minidoka Memorial Hospital and North Canyon Medical. MT/CLS ASCLS >30 years of experience. Kent works on the Lab Information Systems Team for Intermountain. Kent also advises Micro Practice council and Antibiotic Stewardship teams at Intermountain. He loves what he does because every day is a new adventure and discovery. Post pandemic has revealed some very interesting cases. He feels at times he is a detective. Kent enjoys targeting organisms/ pathogens /parasites and finding out their mechanism of resistance and providing the best solutions available to help the patients live the healthiest life possible.

B3: 11:45 – 12:45 “Pre-analytical variables and hemostasis testing”

Sponsor: Siemens

Speaker: Dr. Mitsios

Bio: Dr. Mitsios is a Medical Sciences Partner in the Medical Affairs team at Siemens Healthineers. His primary research interest throughout his education and training has been in coagulation, with an emphasis on platelet function and biology. Dr. Mitsios was on the faculty at Weill Cornell University, School of Medicine as an Assistant professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, as well as Assistant Attending Clinical Chemist at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. In addition, Dr. Mitsios served as an Assistant Director of the Special Coagulation Laboratory at BioReference Laboratories, overseeing the day-to-day activities of the lab, and signing out clinical hemostasis cases.

B4: 2:00 – 3:00 "Solving the Syphilis Testing Puzzle"

Sponsor: Bio-Rad

Speaker: David Tomichek MBA, BS, MT(ASCP)

Bio: I have an MBA in Business Administration and a BS in Medical Technology. I have spent more than 20 years in the clinical lab and have worked for BioRad for 25 years. (at the same
My areas of expertise are Immunology, Serology, Chemistry, Diabetes and Hemoglobin Screening.

This is my third time speaking at the Idaho ASCLS Meeting.

**B5: 2:00 – 3:00 "COVID Update"

Speaker: Matthew Burns, MS

Bio: I’m a genetic engineer turned public health scientist turned project manager who is currently serving the people of Idaho as the State Testing Coordinator at the Bureau of Laboratories. My top priorities in this role are establishing a robust COVID wastewater surveillance network and ensuring easy access to testing for vulnerable populations.

When off the clock, I volunteer as a board member for the Idaho Immunization Coalition and serve on the Institutional Biosafety Committee for the VA of the Puget Sound and on the Subcommittee on Research Safety for the Boise VA.

I am simultaneously enthusiastic about and terrified of the potential of modern biotechnology. I have cared deeply about mitigating catastrophic biological risk (especially from synthetic biology) ever since I accidentally designed a bioweapon system.

**B6: 2:00 – 3:00 “NTproBNP: The Past, Present and Future”

Sponsor: Roche

Speaker: Alex Fohl, PharmD

Bio: Alex Fohl is the Roche Core Lab and Point of Care scientific liaison for the west region within Medical and Scientific Affairs. He joined Roche Diagnostics in 2017 as a product manager in
Marketing focusing on the cardiac portfolio for 4 years. Prior to joining Roche, he was a pharmacist at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital and Community South Hospital where he precepted students and residents. Alex is a licensed pharmacist who earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Purdue University and completed a two-year pharmacy practice residency in Critical Care from the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers.