

Clinical Laboratory Scientists of Alaska
Board of Director's Meeting
September 24, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m.

Roll call indicated the following individuals were present:

President	Gloria Kragness
Past-President	Mary Lashinski
President-Elect	Marcia Souser
Secretary	Sue Myers
Treasurer	Not Present
District Director-Arctic/Interior	Teresa Johnson
District Director-Central	Not Present
District Director-South-Central	Jodi Johnson
District Director-Southeast	Liz Bacom
UAA Representative	Heidi Mannion
CLSA Webmaster	Karen Martin
TAT Editor	Marcia Souser
Industrial Liaison	Sharlane Donaldson
Student Member	Not Present
Legislative Liaison	Not Present
Historian/Awards	Not Present
P.A.CE. Coordinator	Jill Jeffson
POL	BJ Anderson
National Medical lab Week	Mako Mizobe
Professional Affairs	Sheri Kulhanek

Gloria Kragness called for additional items for the agenda:

- Mary suggested a 2005 Conference committee report be added to the agenda.

Minutes from the Spring meeting: Sue Myers

- A motion was made by Teresa Johnson to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Jill Jefson. All in favor.

Treasurer's report: Lana Assyd

- Current balances:

○ CHECKING:	\$5363.60
○ SAVINGS:	\$1.04
○ SUPER MONEY MARKET:	\$26,175.68

- The books for FY 2005 will close at the end of September.

- Records indicate a discrepancy of \$12.29, which can be corrected with an adjustment of the beginning balance for the fiscal year.
- We also have \$1.04 in savings, which was closed 1/19/05 per board motion but must have accumulated some interest.
- Preparing books for CPA audit and filing of taxes for fiscal year 2004.
- Closed saving account as per board motion, currently showing balance of \$1.04.
- Paid reimbursements to members as directed by board and appropriate documentation.
- Appropriate destruction of old records as approved by board motion will cost about \$65.00.
- Attached are spreadsheets of the checking account register and money market account register. They are self-explanatory but if you have questions please email me and I will answer them upon my return in October.
- Please send requests for reimbursements to me with **appropriate documentation** and I will write checks upon my return in October.
 - A motion was made by Mary Lashinski to accept the Spring Treasurer's report. Sharlane Donaldson seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Budget issues:
 - \$500.00 to NWMLS (Region IX) will be added back to the budget.
 - Is the CE money to the Region District Directors still needed? Consensus was that this money is still needed.

Board Reports:

President Elect: Marcia Souser

- Marcia was not able to attend the national ASCLS and will not be able to attend the Northwest seminar.
- Marcia is looking for all suggestions and information regarding her new position.

Past President: Mary Lashinski

- With great pleasure, Mary nominated Sheri Kulhanek for the ASCLS Member of the Year. This nomination is a result of Sheri's enthusiastic activity in ASCLS at the state, regional and national level.
- Awards bestowed to CLSA members this year include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Member of the Year ○ Volunteer of the Year ○ Key to the Future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheri Kulhanek Sheri Kulhanek Marcia Souser Ryan Carroll 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ryan Carroll
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Omicron Sigma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheri Kulhanek Lana Assyd Karen Martin Vivian Donaldson Shelli Smith Heidi Mannion Catherine Price James Whitecavage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Lashinski Jean Krupa Jody Johnson Gloria Kragness Susan Myers Marcia Souser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gold Nugget Award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Alaska 	

- Mary led the Alaska delegation to the ASCLS National Conference in Orlando with Gloria Kragness, Jeanne Otter, and Sheri Kulhanek. Mary encourages everyone to try to attend a national conference for the experience. The 2006 conference will be in Chicago on July 25-29.
- Mary has updated the CLSA Leadership list and has sent it to the national office and to the CLSA Board of directors.
- Mary sent the annual CLSA report to Regional and the CLSA report to the House of Delegates.
- Mary sent leadership manuals to the newly elected and appointed and to the CLSA Board of Directors.
- Mary plans to attend the NWMLS in Seattle in October.
- Mary has made herself available to assist Gloria in the office of President.
- Mary would like to see CLSA make ourselves known to the public and other healthcare professionals.

Arctic/Interior District: Teresa Johnson

- Teresa received the manual for the Arctic Interior Board and has been working to get it updated.
- Teresa is excited about the conference in the spring and the educational sessions we are working to provide.

Central District: Jim Whitecavage

- No report.

Southeast District: Liz Bacom

South Central District: Jody Johnson

- CLMA is trying to get started up again. They may want to do a joint endeavor with CLSA for the conference.

Western District: Deanna Everett

- No report
- Deanna is unavailable for at least 3 months. Gloria will look into finding an interim.

Region IX Director: Donna Reinbold

- Donna put together a new Region IX Directory and has sent out Region IX Guidelines to review and revise.
- Donna is working to get a Region IX MDC Chair to replace Sharon Morey.
- Donna attended ASCLS-WA Leadership meeting.
- National is encouraging each state to select a First Year Professional to represent the interests of those entering the field.
- We are also trying to gather thoughts and ideas to increase Patient Safety this year at national – so any ideas would be welcome.

Committee Reports:

Membership Chair: Mary Lashinski

- Mary attended several Membership Development sessions at the ASCLS national conference.
- Alaska received the first place award for the Greatest Percent Increase in non-Student Membership. Mary believes the “Member-Get a Member” campaign and handing out applications at the CLSA Spring Conference had something to do with the increase.
- We currently have 133 members, but only 87 of these have renewed so far this year.
- Mary reminds everyone to go online with ASCLS to update demographic information.

Professional/Public Affairs: Sheri Kulhanek

- Sheri attended the session for Professional/Public Affairs at the national conference in Orlando. The goal is to make ASCLS more visible in the public eye.
- CLSA donated \$1240.00 to CMN this year. National will be determining how much money is donated per/member. This way, some of the states with lower member numbers may get recognized for their fundraising efforts.
- Sheri recommends changing the format for our fund raising event. She feels that we raised more money when we had the silent auction.
- National is no longer choosing the charity we give our fund raising money. The states can now choose our own charity. Gloria asked the board to give thought to this and bring suggestions to the winter board meeting.
- Sheri received a lot of positive feedback regarding the spring conference.

Student Member:

- No report

UAA Representative: Heidi Mannion

- A new two year term began in August for UAA’s MLT Advisory Board. Many of the members will be continuing for another term. Cathy Price is the new chair of the advisory board.
- The MLT club will be active again this year; students will be raising funds to help with registration and transportation for the state conference in Fairbanks.
- All of our classes are at or over capacity. Many of the students already have bachelors’ degrees in biology, chemistry and microbiology. Beginning in the summer of 2006 we will have more students needing practicum sites than sites available in Anchorage. We are currently looking for scholarships and other funding sources to help students with housing costs so that we can assign them to our affiliates in Juneau and Fairbanks.
- We continue to receive donations from clinical facilities throughout the state. We appreciate all the donations.
- Heidi would like to thank Marcia Souser and Providence Alaska Medical Center for putting together student slides sets for hematology and body fluids.
- I would also like to thank Judy Cope and Alaska Regional Hospital for sponsoring Janet Vincent for Capstone Seminar.
- The Capstone Seminar Schedule for Fall 2005 is attached.

Education Coordinator/Web Master: Karen Martin

- Karen recently updated the CLSA website upon receiving current information via e-mail
- Karen is still working on the Region IX website.
- There are some unusual entries on the discussion section of the website-Karen may just delete the discussion area and start again.
- Karen is requesting the new ASCLS mission statement developed in Orlando for posting on the website.
- There is a new draft on CLIA waived amendments. Jill Jeffson may submit this to the website.

Turn Around Times: Marcia Souser

- No newsletter has been published since the April Spring Meeting.
- An e-mail was sent out to lab managers within the state to get articles for the TAT regarding the activities that took place during National Medical Lab Week. Marcia received no responses. She would like suggestions on how we can get labs involved in the newsletter so that it gives members ownership.
- Marcia received many ideas from the board on articles that can be or should be printed in the upcoming newsletter.
- The next newsletter will be published near the end of October-deadline for articles in October 10.
- Marcia asked about the efficacy of sending the newsletter by e-mail rather than by postal service. The board response was that e-mails change too frequently and the paper newsletter is more easily posted in labs for larger readership.

Industrial Liaison: Sharlane Donaldson

- There are numerous opening around the state.
- Inverness Medical continues toward its goal of becoming the leader in Rapid Diagnostics. They are a force worth watching as they buy and/or leverage control against, many of the companies that we have known for years.

Awards/Historian: Alicia Morgan

- Alicia has had no activity to report for this meeting.

National Medical Laboratory Week: Mako

- Mako is learning from Gloria all the duties associated with the duties for this position.

P.A.C.E.: Jill Jefson

- Web casting technology is being used by UAA for distance learning and are available for CE. This technology can be used for Capstone Seminars and can be webcasted to 14 sites.

Bylaws: Shellie Smith

- Shellie is waiting direction from the board of directors on whether CLSA has decided to elect the nominations committee chair or have the president appoint his position. Once this decision has been made, Shellie will submit the by-law changes to ASCLS for review and approval.

Government Liaison: Catherine Price

- Catherine will be attending the Lab Institute in October.
- HR 1175, Medical Laboratory Professional Shortage Act of 2005: to date there are 38 co-sponsors. Don Young is not one of them. Catherine believes this bill will die in committee.

- HR215, Allied Health Professional Reinvestment Act, is another bill to amend Title VII to provide education and training for allied health professionals including laboratory professionals. It currently has 30 co-sponsors; Don Young is not one of them.
- The Senate appears to have no activity that complement the House Bills.
- Mary recommended that Catherine develop a letter to the congressmen regarding these issues.

POL: B.J. Anderson

- BJ is a laboratory consultant for the Iliuliuk Family and Health Services laboratory in Dutch Harbor. She was on site for their CLIA inspection on September 12. The staff is inquiring about educational opportunities that would allow them to become nationally credentialed.
- BJ would like to survey Alaska POL's to assess their concerns, introduce them to CLSA and provide them with educational opportunity information. BJ submitted a survey draft.
- BJ is Safety officer at Anchorage Neighborhood health Center and has been looking for web based safety training that provides safety training, tests participants, and manages participant's progress, all by computer. She has found Healthstream, Inc that provides all of the above at a reasonable cost, \$15/person. She recommends that we invite them to be a vendor at our conference.
- BJ has requested funding for printing and mailing costs incurred by this committee. A proposed line item of \$300 was recommended.
- BJ will be initially contacting all POL's, waived and moderate.

Nominations and Elections: Mary Lashinski

- Nominees are needed for President-Elect, Treasurer, Central District Director, South Central District Director, Nominations/elections committee, 2 members at large.
- All names for nominations should be forwarded to any of the nominations/elections committee members.

Conference Committee: Mary Lashinski

- Mary incorporated the help of Lana Assyd and Jean Krupa as well as the Fairbanks Convention and Visitor's Bureau during her search for a conference site.
- The conference will be held on May 11-13 at the Westmark Fairbanks Hotel. There is no minimum room commitment, no minimum food commitment. The total of rooms rented and food purchased by CLSA will be use toward credit for the lecture rooms. In the end, we should have no fees for conference rooms and will only have to pay for the food purchased by CLSA.
- Announcement cards were printed and handed out during the ASCLS national convention and will be available at the NWMLS.
- Mary is looking for volunteers for the conference in any capacity. She plans to have a conference committee together by mid October.
- Possible speakers at this time include, David Plaut, Shelley Overman, Lynn Ingram and Eileen Nickoloff.

Unfinished Business

- Change in By-Laws to create a separate committee for Nominations and Elections.
 - Recommendation from the board that this position not be appointed.
 - Suggestion that the District Director who is in their 3rd year of the term should fill this position.

- Suggestion that this should be an elected position.
- Balloting issues were also addressed. We are currently not in compliance with our SOP's, which call for mail in ballots.
 - We will conduct elections as written in the SOP's
 - Motion made at the Spring Meeting regarding the change in the Nominations and Elections Chair position did not pass due to the lack of a quorum
 - Past President will continue as Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee but more duties will be expected from the two elected Nominations and Elections positions.

New Business

- First year professional
 - Need info from Region IX.
- Licensure
 - Eleven states have licensure, twenty states have been working on licensure
 - ASCLS would like all states to develop a licensure bill.
 - Rad Techs are currently working on licensure in the state of Alaska
 - It is recommended to develop the original licensure bill including only one or two job descriptions, and then amend the bill as additional job descriptions are added. The bill we develop needs to be tailored to the needs of our state and the rural aspects of many laboratory personnel in Alaska.
 - Gloria is currently looking for feedback on the ASCLS licensure bill.
 - A workshop may be offered during the spring conference to promote discussion of licensure in the state.
- Goals and objectives for CLSA
 - The following goals have been proposed to be included in any strategic plans for clinical laboratory scientists:
 - Licensure
 - Membership
 - Aging population
 - Patient Safety.
- Budget items:
 - Our budgeted expenses exceed our income. Gloria is concerned about this shortfall. National suggest that we have at least one year of operating expenses in reserve.
 - Membership, which is a source of revenue, is an issue.
 - It has been suggested that the large supporters of the conference, donate at a specified time far in advance of the conference, to help bolster the coffers.
 - It was suggested that we try to increase revenue during the conference by sales of things like coffee (lattes), gift baskets, t-shirts, or charging admission to the vendors for individuals that have not registered for the conference.
 - It was recommended that we use a teleconference situation for some speakers that cannot attend the conference, to be set up like the Capstone seminars.

- Legislative Day-budget for 2 people to go this year so the mentor, Jodi Johnson, can go with Catherine Price.
- Computer, printer for CLSA-Gloria proposes to have this purchase made-this item to follow the current president so that a laptop would be available for registration, secretarial duties, etc.
- ASCLS committee appointments from Region IX. Sheri Kulhanek volunteered for the Professional and Public affairs position.

President's report: Gloria Kragness

- Gloria attended the ASCLS annual conference in Orlando, Florida as a CLSA delegate and President-Elect and attended several governance meetings, scientific sessions, and the House of Delegates as a voting delegate.
- Gloria drafted a letter that will go to all Alaska legislators asking them to look into licensure for our profession as part of their law making duties. The letter and model bill has been sent to CLSA BOD and Committee Chairs requesting input prior to sending the letter sometime this fall.
- ASCLS membership has declined at the national level. What can be done to encourage our members to maintain membership and encourage others to join?
- CLSA needs a new Treasurer to replace Lana SOON!

Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Sue Myers to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Teresa Johnson. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 1540.

Respectfully submitted:
Sue Myers, CLS (NCA)
CLSA Secretary