



# The Pipette Line

Volume 35, Number 2  
January 2006

A Publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Georgia

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

### View from the Desk of Dr. Hassan Aziz



#### Are You a Leader?

Leadership can be defined as the ability to lead and to inspire others in a shared vision. Leaders have clear visions and they communicate these visions to their colleagues. They foster an environment within their environment that encourages risk taking, recognition and rewards, and empowerment

allowing other leaders to emerge. I believe that two qualities in particular characterize a leadership style: the ability to establish a clear vision and the ability to set an example.

Establishing a clear vision up front allows you to convey a sense of purpose and responsibility to every member of your organization. A clear vision also provides a roadmap for setting goals and developing action plans. As each action plan is implemented and each goal is accomplished, project milestones are reached and overall progress is observed. The impression of progress is key to maintaining a motivated and productive team.

Once a clear vision has been established, you should seek to set an example for your colleagues. Specifically, you should work to gain the respect of your team through action. People are more apt to mobilize after they have observed another person in action. When team members realize that you are willing to put in the effort, they feel compelled to act accordingly. In addition, they become more responsive to your leadership and more confident in their own work.

In order to become a more effective leader, take a step back to understand your preferred leadership style, to know how and when to use your strengths, and to further build your competences for greater versatility. (continued page 3)

### Contents

President's message	1
Student report	2
Slate of officers for 2006	3
CLBBTB News	4
Call for awards	5
Microbiology workshop	6
Annual Meeting	
Pre-Registration	7

## Officers and Directors

President, Hassan Aziz	W(912)921-7448
President-Elect, Lisa Anderson	W(912)921-2348
Past President, Anne Ranne	W(678)407-5536
Secretary, Bonnie Gum	W(706)845-3180
Treasurer, Lester Pretlow	W(706)721-7629
District I, Barbara Russell	W(706)721-3046
District II, Michelle Butina	W(912)921-5513
District III, Jill Dennis	W(229)226-1653
District IV, E. Marshall Malone	W(478)633-7315
District V	Vacant
District VI	Catherine Ontko
District VII	Vacant
District VIII, Mi Hui Scales	W(770)535-3553 x1406
District IX, Virginia Roberts	H(770)455-6408 W(404)297-9522
Student Forum Chair, Robert Childers	(334)202-2629
Student Forum Advisor, Barbara Kraj	H(706)721-3046

### Region III Director Lynn Ingram

2610 Lanrich Cove  
Memphis, TN  
lringram@utm.edu

### ASCLS President Bernie Bekken

bbekken@augustamed.com

Other email addresses may be found at  
ASCLS-GA website  
<http://www.asclsgeorgia.org>

## The Pipette Line

**Editor:** *Bonnie Gum*

The Pipette Line is a quarterly Publication of the **American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Georgia** for its members.

Note: Copies of complete board minutes and committee reports are available to members on request from Bonnie Gum, ASCLS-GA secretary. Address all correspondence to

Pipette Line Editor  
135 Huntington Drive  
LaGrange, GA 30240

## STUDENT NEWS

Hello fellow MT and MLT students:

I hope all is well with classes and/or clinicals. I myself have been very busy working towards graduation, and it is finally over. Ahhhh, at last!! I apologize that I have not written a report sooner. October 22-23, I attended the Region III Fall Council Meeting in Amelia Island, FL. I volunteered to attend the meeting both as a representative for us, the students, and as a learning opportunity. For those that may not know, Region III consists of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, and Tennessee. Each state was represented by at least its ASCLS state president and president-elect. The council was lead by Region Director (and very interesting speaker) Ms. Lynn Ingram. Because there were several new faces present, including mine, we started several fun exercises encouraging us to “think outside the box”.

Ms. Ingram also gave a detailed presentation on the roles of various positions within ASCLS. Although this was a bit repetitive for some, I found it an extremely useful tool for understanding how I fit into the organization, and what I can strive for in the future. Over the course of two days, each state shared its report, from state annual meeting plans to financial status to helping victims of Hurricane Katrina. Everyone has been very busy!! There was also discussion of plans for the Triennial Region III Meeting scheduled to take place in 2007 (hopefully at the beach, no less!).

This experience was very worthwhile for me. I learned alot and was able to network with professionals willing to share their expertise. I was received with the warmest of welcomes, and everyone should know that ANYBODY can and is encouraged to attend these council meetings!!! I hope some of you also take the initiative to become more involved with ASCLS. A couple of baby steps will go a long way...

Sincerely,  
Your student forum secretary,  
Mary Nelson

### Student Officers

#### President:

Robert Childers  
2123 Diggs Ave.  
Savannah, Ga 31405  
rlchild5@hotmail.com  
Cell: 334-202-2629

#### Vice President:

Jennifer LeFebvre  
100 Prince Royal Ln. #1103  
Savannah, Ga 31419  
[Jen\\_mt05@yahoo.com](mailto:Jen_mt05@yahoo.com)  
912-481-1935

#### Secretary:

Mary Nelson  
505 Harris Trail Rd. Apt. 2F  
Richmond Hill, Ga 31324  
[Turtlegurl2001@hotmail.com](mailto:Turtlegurl2001@hotmail.com)  
Cell: 423-366-0967

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** continued from (page 1)

All of us possess leadership traits and seek out situations in which we can use them. Find out if you're a true leader. Do you possess any or all of the following leadership traits?

1. Leaders start projects by asking, "What has to be done?" rather than "What do I need?"
2. Leaders next ask "What do I have to do to make a real contribution?" The answer best suits the leader's strengths and the needs of the project.
3. Leaders continually ask "What are my organization's purposes and objectives?" and "What qualifies as acceptable performance and adds to the bottom line?"
4. Leaders don't want clones of themselves as employees. They never ask "Do I like or dislike this employee?" But they won't tolerate poor performance.
5. Others who have strengths leaders lack don't threaten leaders.

Source: Peter Drucker, cited in Forbes, New York, NY.

---

---

## **ASCLS-GA Slate of Officers**

The ASCLS-Georgia Nominations Committee announces the current slate of officers for 2006. Voting will occur at the state business meeting March 9, 2006

President-elect- Jill Dennis

Secretary 2006-2007: Bonnie Gum

District I Director 2006-08: Barbara Russell

District III Director 2006-08: vacant

District V Director 2006-2008: vacant

District VII Director 2006-08: vacant

District IX Director 2006-08: Virginia Roberts

Nominations Committee: Darcell Thaxton  
4th member vacant



## News from the CLBTTB Advisory Committee

The next meeting of the CLBTTB  
committee will be held:

January 12, 2006, 10:00 AM

State Laboratory,

Clairmont Avenue, Atlanta.

One of the topics for discussion is the revision of criteria for education, training, evaluation, experience and competency for the technicians who will be working without an on-site supervisor. This is an open session, all individuals interested in attending are welcome.

---

---

## ASCLS-GA Member receives grant for Health Promotion

Bonnie Gum, CLS, EdM, of West Georgia Health System (WGHS) in collaboration with District Four Health Services will be training and supporting Health Promotion Volunteers. Health Promotion Volunteers (HPV) helps improve the health of people where they live, work, play, and worship. This initiative has proven to help enhance or establish Health Ministry programs in the faith community. Program funding is provided by a grant from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Initiative. The first training session for HPV's will be **January 28, 2006**. A second training session will be **April 29, 2006**. Ms. Gum is looking forward to combating the number one epidemic in the world, cardiovascular disease. Other interesting facts:

- Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Georgia, accounting for 17,529 deaths or approximately 27% of the state's deaths in 2002. (*National Vital Statistics Report 2004;53(5)*).
- Stroke is the third leading cause of death, accounting for 4,261 deaths or approximately 7% of the state's deaths in 2002. (*National Vital Statistics Report 2004;53(5)*).
- According to Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey results in 2003, adults in Georgia reported the following risk factors for heart disease and stroke:
  - o 27.9% had high blood pressure
  - o 32.9% of those screened reported having high blood cholesterol
  - o 7.8% had diabetes
  - o 22.8% were current smokers
  - o 60.6% were overweight or obese (Body Mass Index greater than or equal to 25.0)
  - o 24.5% reported no exercise in the prior 30 days

Approximately 82% had one or more of these six risk factors.

## AWARDS

### SPONSORED BY American Society Clinical Laboratory Science-Georgia Honors Tributes Rewards Recognition

#### CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR

To recognize a ASCLS-GA member for outstanding achievement in the profession

Award: engraved Silver bowl and a certificate suitable for framing.  
Nomination by ASCLS-GA members

---

#### GLORIA F. GILBERT AWARD

To recognize a ASCLS-GA member who demonstrated interest in goals and purposes of ASCLS-GA and made significant contributions to societal activities in current year or over the past years

Award: plaque or plate and a certificate suitable for framing. Nominations by ASCLS-GA members and others

---

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROFESSION AWARD

To recognize ASCLS-GA members for outstanding contributions to the profession as demonstrated in the workplace and/or through one of the following profession activities: providing continuing education, fostering public awareness of the profession, research or other professional activity

Award: professional framed certificated presented at the ASCLS-GA Annual Meeting. Up to one award in each of the following areas may be given: Generalist, Hematology, Chemistry, Immunohematology, Microbiology

---

#### KEYS TO THE FUTURE

To identify, honor and reward newly-active ASCLS-GA members who have demonstrated leadership potential through successful direction of a task force, project, committee, etc, the outcome of which was successful, creative or otherwise of high quality

Nominations are by ASCLS-GA members and others. Award: recognition at the ASCLS-GA annual meeting with a certificate

---

#### OMICRON Sigma

To recognize ASCLS-GA Members for their commitment to the professional growth and development of the society

Award: recognition at the ASCLS-GA Annual meeting with a special ribbon. Nominations are made by ASCLS-GA members

---

Application Deadline is Feb1, 2006. For more information and application forms, contact ASCLS-GA awards committee chair Anne Ranne  
[anne@aranne.com](mailto:anne@aranne.com)

Medical College of Georgia  
Department of Biomedical and Radiological Technologies,  
Department of Pathology and  
ASCLS-GA District I

Presents

**CLINICALLY RELEVANT, “NUTS AND BOLTS”**

**HOSPITAL MICROBIOLOGY**

**January 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> (The same workshop will be given each day)**

**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (6 hours PACE CEU)**

Dr. Dennis Wegner will show how applying the latest microbiology techniques and policies in intermediate and smaller sized clinical laboratories can provide high quality, patient care-oriented microbiology at minimum cost. In fact, you will see how quality microbiology practices will increase prospective payment reimbursements and help improve the hospital's "bottom line."

Participants will receive a copy of the **CLSI(NCCLS) -formatted Procedure Manual\***

**At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to:**

a) describe the importance of Gram stains for preliminary culture reports and correlation with clinical findings; b) list new techniques applicable to small and intermediate-sized hospital microbiology laboratories; c) discuss the medical and financial necessity for microbiology broad spectrum active intervention; d) discuss the insensitivity of throat specimen streptococcal rapid antigen testing; e) improve culture sensitivity and reduce confusion regarding urine cultures from long-term urinary catheter patients; f) understand adverse pregnancy outcomes due to bacterial vaginosis (BV) and quantitatively score BV Gram stains; g) use Gram stains in evaluating mixed flora from wound and sputum cultures; and h) cost effectively diagnose Giardia in-house. Other topics to be covered include:

**v MRSA oral therapy alternatives to vancomycin and linezolid**

- v Presumptive ID of common pathogens
- v Using sputum gram stains to guide culture work-ups, direct pneumonia antibiotic therapy, and optimize reimbursements
- v Urinary tract infections/culture protocol/screening methods
- v Blood culture techniques and optimizing reimbursements for septicemia
- v Genital culture/microscopy for other STD's
- v Wounds, catheters, and anaerobic cultures
- v Stool cultures

**ENROLL NOW! Space is limited, so don't delay!**

Follow this TWO STEP registration procedure!

**1. Mail completed form with payment BEFORE January 13 to receive the discounted fee of \$30.00. This includes lunch and refreshments at breaks! A \$10 late fee will be added to registrations received after January 13.**

**2. Directions to the presentation site will be sent by e-mail once the registration form with payment has been received.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Make check for registration payable to ASCLS-GA. Mail this registration form along with payment to:  
Barbara Russell, Department of Biomedical and Radiological Technologies  
Medical College of Georgia, AL-106  
Augusta, Ga. 30912

**QUESTIONS? CALL Barbara Russell, 706-721-7627**



## ASCLS-GA 2006 Annual Meeting PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)

ASCLS Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-member: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2 day registration includes Lunch and Casino Night  
One day pre-registration includes Lunch and Casino Night  
One day on-site registration includes Lunch only.

*Sessions Exhibits,  
Awards, Registry Review,  
Business Meetings, and  
Casino Night*

American Society for  
Clinical Laboratory Science – Georgia

**March 8-9, 2006**

Holiday Inn Macon Conference Center

Macon, GA

### Preliminary Topics

- Keynote: Collaboration.. Working Together Precedes Wining Together**(Paul Landauer)
- Working Across the Generation Gap(s)** (Linette Granen)
- A Changing of Paradigms: proBNP and Troponin T** (Darryl Harper)
- Clinical Laboratory Response to Public Health Emergency** (Deborah Loveys, Ph.D.)
- Bladder Cancer and the Use of Molecular Diagnostics to Monitor Tumor Recurrence** (Mary Nelson)
- Armed Services Blood Program: Support for Operations IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM** (Brian G. Casleton, LtCol, USAF, BSC)
- Ethical Considerations of Laboratory Testing** (Glen McDaniel)
- Clinical and Diagnostic Considerations in the Interpretation of Hemoglobin A1C** (Richard Miller, Ph.D.)
- Mycology topic** (Barbara Russell)
- The Microbiology Wizard** (Dr. Hassan Aziz)
- Clumps and No Clumps of Immunohematology** (Lisa Anderson)
- The Nitty Gritty of Hematology** (Michelle Butina)
- Chemistry Just for You** (Dr. Lester G. Pretlow)

### Pre Registration Fees (postmarked on or before March 3)

ASCLS Member:	2 days	\$ 120	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 70	_____
Non-Member:	2 days	\$ 150	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 90	_____
Student Member:	2 days	\$ 50	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 25	_____
Student Non-Member:	2 days	\$ 50	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 25	_____

### On-site Registration fees

ASCLS Member:	2 days	\$ 150	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 70*	_____
Non-Member:	2 days	\$ 180	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 90*	_____
Student Member:	2 days	\$ 50	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 25	_____
Student Non-Member:	2 days	\$ 50	_____
	1 day (Wed or Thurs)	\$ 25	_____

\*(One day on-site registration does not include Casino night. Participants may purchase tickets at door for \$20.00)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ASCLS-GA  
PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM.  
Sorry, credit cards are not accepted. Refund requests must be made in writing and postmarked by February 28.

Lester Pretlow, Treasurer  
ASCLS-Georgia  
1059 Hampstead Place  
Augusta, GA 30907  
706-721-3046  
706-721-7631 (fax)  
lpretlow@mcg.edu

<b>March 2-4, 2006</b>	<b>Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference San Antonio, TX</b>
<b>March 8-9, 2006</b>	<b>ASCLS-GA Annual State Meeting, Macon, GA</b>
<b>March 27-28, 2006</b>	<b>Legislative Symposium 2006, Washington, D. C.</b>
<b>July 25-29, 2006</b>	<b>ASCLS Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL</b>



website <http://www.asclsgeorgia.org>

**ASCLS - GA**

135 Huntington Drive

LaGrange, GA 30240