



Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists

Spring 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Grace M. Kroner
Cleveland, Ohio

President's Letter — Christopher Tormey

Dear ACLPS Members and Colleagues:

It is incredible at how quickly a year passes by! It has been nothing short of a privilege to serve our society as its President and continue to further its mission over the past 10-12 months.

We have attained many notable achievements in the past year. The 'crown jewel' of our organization remains our annual meeting and we are excited by what Dr. Jim Gorham and his team at the University of Virginia have in store for us. We look forward to seeing you all live and in person from June 8-10, 2023. The planned program is cutting-edge and represents the very best our field has to offer.

I'm also thrilled to see the work of our young investigators continue to be showcased in Charlottesville. It was another highly successful year of abstract submissions and many thanks to Dr. Jorge Sepulveda and the Abstract Review group for all the work they continue to do for this program. In this regard, and at our most recent Executive Council meeting, members brainstormed about how to create opportunities for platforms for junior faculty to present their work at our annual meeting and stay involved with ACLPS as they transition through the earliest stages of their developing careers. Therefore, I anticipate that in coming years the abstract and investigative presentation aspects of our annual meeting program will only continue to grow and attract the very best basic, translational, and clinical research to the ACLPS annual meeting.

While on the topic of the annual meeting, we have formed a strategic working group consisting of Executive Council members, recent past hosts, and other key personnel to examine opportunities for assistance in planning the meeting and potentially even adding other live education opportunities. While we remain in the initial, exploratory stages, our workgroup has started examining the feasibility of aligning with either a formal association management company or another professional pathology/laboratory medicine society, either of which could provide useful resources for meeting planning and execution. We will keep membership updated as to how the committee's work progresses and also welcome your input on this topic.

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Special points of interest:

- 2023 Lab Medicine meeting is June 8—10
- Remember to submit your vote for 2023 candidates
- ACLPS has always relied heavily on the generous financial contributions of its membership to support programs such as the Young Investigator Awards Program. If you would like to make a donation, the link is <https://aclps.wildapricot.org/Donate>.

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President's Letter (continued)

This has been another exciting year for the organization in its ongoing support of junior physicians and scientists beyond just the annual meeting. We received more than 20 high-quality applications for the 2023 Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Grant Program and will be funding several of those grants, each of which carries diverse, hypothesis-driven questions in laboratory medicine. We also continue to promote the work of our society and its members via other professional groups. As an example, in October 2023, Dr. Ellen Foxman will be presenting her work on virology and immunity at a joint ACLPS-ASCP companion society session in Long Beach, California. Through these efforts, and the goals to further involve junior faculty in annual meeting abstracts and presentations as discussed earlier, we feel strongly that we will continue to engage young physicians & scientists as productive members of our society in the years to come.

As an update to the Fall, 2022 Newsletter and reflecting on our other achievements in the last year, we did finalize the separation of the Secretary/Treasurer position into independent Secretary and Treasurer roles. I am very grateful for all of the work Dr. Tanya Yuzyuk has done for our society and am happy to report that she will continue on as our Treasurer. I am also pleased to note that Dr. Ron Jackups has assumed the role of ACLPS Secretary and has done a great job adjusting to this challenging position in our organization. In the past few months we have 'reloaded' our social media presence, reinvigorating existing platforms such as the ACLPS Twitter account (as a reminder, follow us at https://twitter.com/ACLPS_ if you haven't already), while we continue to pursue new digital means to get the word out about our field and our organization. We also continue to advocate on behalf of laboratory medicine practitioners and the vital work that we do. For instance, ACLPS was a co-signer of a letter to Congress pushing for better support for laboratories in their efforts to develop broad-based, pediatric-specific reference intervals.

Finally, as I did with the Fall update, I will close this letter by giving my sincere thanks to all who have contributed to ACLPS in the past year. With our entirely volunteer-run organization, we would cease to exist if not for the tireless dedication and efforts of the many wonderful folks who constitute our Committees and Executive Council – you all have my gratitude for the work you do.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in person in Virginia very soon!

Christopher A. Tormey, MD
Professor of Laboratory Medicine
Yale University School of Medicine

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Education Committee Update — Amit Gokhale

Strandjord Young Investigator Grant Program

We completed our application cycle for the 2023 Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Grant program. These grants are for research relevant to clinical laboratory science, clinical pathology, and laboratory medicine. Proposed research may be clinical, translational, basic science, quality improvement, and/or regulatory. Grant recipients must either be in training (residency and/or clinical or research fellowship) OR less than 3 years after their first faculty appointment (any level) at the time of application. Funding for individual grants is limited to \$7,500. This year, we had an excellent crop of grant applications and four award winners were selected: Cheryl Maier, M.D, PhD, Kayode Balogun, PhD, Kai Rogers, M.D, PhD, and Nicholas Spies, M.D. Huge congratulations to our four winners! They will be accepting their awards at the 2023 ACLPS Annual Meeting from June 8-10 in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Additional information (including eligibility requirements, applications, and a promotional poster) can be found on the ACLPS website (<https://www.aclps.org/training-grants>). For any further questions regarding the grant program or with the application process, please contact Amit Gokhale (amitgokhale01@gmail.com).

RISE & RISE-First Exams

The ACLPS Education Committee is recruiting volunteers to serve as question writers for the RISE/RISE-First/PRISE Questions. ACLPS is a collaborating society for the RISE examination, and ACLPS members have been outstanding question writing contributors. This is a great way for members to contribute to resident education. For anyone interested in submitting questions, please contact the ASCP RISE staff member Jay Wagner (jay.wagner@ascp.org).

ASCP-ACLPS Companion Session

The ASCP-ACLPS companion session is held at the ASCP Meeting every year. It is usually a one-hour session highlighting educational topics and/or innovative research in the field of laboratory medicine. We have an excellent speaker (Ellen F Foxman, M.D, PhD) lined up for the 2023 ASCP Annual Meeting, which is scheduled from October 18-20 in Long Beach, California. If anyone is interested in being a speaker at the 2024 ASCP-ACLPS session, please contact Amit Gokhale (amitgokhale01@gmail.com).

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2023 Annual Meeting Invitation

The 2023 Annual Meeting will be hosted by the University of Virginia (UVA) Department of Pathology (@UVA_Pathology) from Thursday, June 8 through Saturday, June 10. The department embraces the central role of its discipline at an academic medical center, fully engaging in clinical, educational and research missions. Meet and network with your colleagues who conduct basic research into biological and disease mechanisms, translational research that brings advances in experimental science to clinical utility in diagnostics and therapeutics, and clinical research that refines and advances current medical practice.

The program will feature leading research in laboratory medicine presented by invited speakers and Young Investigators. The meeting organizers have developed a program with presentations in clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, clinical hematology, toxicology, blood banking and transfusion medicine, cellular therapy, clinical informatics, clinical immunology, clinical laboratory genetics and genomics, and laboratory automation. Continuing Medical Education (CME) will be available for physicians. An awards banquet will be held at Montalto, part of Thomas Jefferson's historic estate, Monticello. Jefferson served as the third U.S. President and founded UVA in 1819.

The 2023 ACLPS Meeting will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Charlottesville, Virginia. The hotel is convenient to the Charlottesville Albemarle Airport, dining, shopping, and recreational activities around town. Complimentary transportation to downtown Charlottesville will be available one night of the conference.

Charlottesville is accessible by car, rail, and air. The Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport (CHO) is connected to main hubs by major carriers and is 7 minutes from the Annual Meeting hotel by taxi or rental car. The local Amtrak station is about 20 minutes from the hotel. The Richmond International Airport is approximately 90 minutes from the hotel.



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2023 Annual Meeting Invitation (continued)

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Charlottesville, Virginia, is a prime destination for lovers of history and beautiful scenery. Enjoy your down time with a stroll on the historic pedestrian mall, boutique shopping on “The Corner” near UVA grounds, and a peek into the dorm room of Edgar Allan Poe. Extend your stay to take in a show at the Paramount Theater, tour area wineries and micro breweries, and visit the of historic homes of the three U.S. Presidents.

The University of Virginia (UVA) was founded in 1819 by third U.S. President, Thomas Jefferson, to be an institution “based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind.” It has grown from the original Academical Village (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) to a globally recognized academic research center. The goals of UVA Health are to accelerate innovation and discovery in its labs, transform how care is delivered, and put the best ideas into action every day for every patient. Laboratory Medicine is integral to these goals. UVA grounds are a short taxi or Uber ride from the meeting hotel.

Meeting registration is now open at <https://aclps.wildapricot.org/event-5215415>

Registration includes conference materials, admission to exhibits, participation in conference sessions, continental breakfast, lunches, refreshment breaks, the Welcome Reception and one ticket to the Awards Banquet. One additional banquet ticket can be purchased for \$200 during the registration process.

Registration fees increase after May 8, 2023 and increase again for on-site registration. Rates are available for Active ACLPS Members, Associate ACLPS Members, and non-members.



	Through May 8	May 9 - June 7	June 8 - 10
Active ACLPS Member (Faculty/Scientist)	\$525	\$635	\$745
Associate ACLPS Member (Residents/Fellows/Students)	\$470	\$580	\$745
Non-Member	\$635	\$745	\$745

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2023 Annual Meeting Schedule – Thursday, June 8, 2023

7:30 – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:00 am	Welcome, Introductions , Session 1 Microfluidics– James Landers, PhD, UVA Immunoglobulin free light chains measurement in CSF as a diagnostic test in multiple sclerosis- Maria Willrich, PhD, Mayo
10:00 – 10:25 am	Break
10:25 – 11:50 am	Session 2 Platelet Differentiation- Adam Goldfarb, MD, UVA Building better names for lab tests: the TRUU-Lab initiative- Ila Singh, MD, PhD, Baylor
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 2:25 pm	Session 3 What is metrological traceability and why should you care?- Greg Miller, PhD, VCU VEXAS syndrome and hematological malignancies: the what, the how, and the why- Ifey Obiorah, MD, PhD, UVA
2:25 – 2:50 pm	Break
2:50 – 5:00 pm	Session 4 Health is wealth: Designing equitable clinical laboratories for thriving communities- Octavia Peck-Palmer, PhD, UPMC Chimeric DNA fusions and their implications in cancer- Hui Li, PhD, UVA A winning formula for a medical laboratory formulary- James Harrison, MD, PhD, UVA
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Welcome Reception, DoubleTree Promenade Ballroom and Terrace

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2023 Annual Meeting Schedule – Friday, June 9, 2023

7:30 – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:00 am	Young Investigator Presentations I
10:00 – 10:30 am	Break and Poster Presentations
10:30am – 12:00 pm	Young Investigator Presentations 2
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch and Business Meeting
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Ernest Cotlove Lecture and Award The "next" pandemic - antibacterial resistance. Awardee: Amy Mathers, MD, UVA
2:00 – 2:30 pm	Break and Poster Presentations
2:30 – 3:40 pm	Session 5 Artificial intelligence technology in clinical parasitology- Marc Couturier, PhD, University of Utah Diversity and inclusion in medicine– Greg Townsend, MD, UVA
3:40 – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Standjord Young Investigator Research Grant Lectures
5:20 – 6:00 pm	Shuttles to Montalto for Awards Banquet
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Social Hour at Awards Banquet, Montalto
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Awards Banquet at Montalto
8:45 pm	Shuttles begin returning to hotel

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2023 Annual Meeting Schedule – Saturday, June 10, 2023

7:30 – 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 9:30 am	Ellis Benson Lecture and Award Using Data to Improve Laboratory Medicine for Special Populations Awardee: Sarah Wheeler, PhD, UPMC
9:30 – 9:45 am	Break
9:50 – 11:10 am	Session 6 RBC metabolomics- Angelo D'Alessandro, PhD, University of Colorado Variants of patient IgG genes alter results of laboratory testing- Jim Zimring, MD,
11:10 – 11:20 am	Closing Remarks

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Cotlove Award Announcement

Cotlove Award Winner: Amy Mathers, MD

Cotlove Award Lecture: The "next" pandemic -
antibacterial resistance

Friday, June 9, 1:00 – 2:00 pm



Amy Mathers is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Pathology at the University of Virginia. She is the Clinical Director of the Adult Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, Director of the Microbiology Genomic Sequencing Clinical Laboratory and Associate Director of Clinical Microbiology for the University of Virginia. She is Vice Chair of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee.

She has focused her clinical and research efforts on urgent clinical problem of laboratory detection and hospital transmission of antimicrobial resistant bacteria. Molecular characterization has included analysis of mobile resistance mechanisms with evaluation of plasmid evolution and mobility across species with next generation sequencing paired with more traditional techniques. Her current research also involves development of molecular techniques for detection and tracking of antimicrobial resistance for public health surveillance and response.

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Benson Award Announcement

Benson Award Winner: Sarah Wheeler, PhD

Benson Award Lecture: Using Data to Improve
Laboratory Medicine for Special Populations

Saturday, June 10, 8:30– 9:30 am



Dr. Sarah Wheeler is an Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, Department of Pathology, Medical Director of Clinical Chemistry at UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Medical Director of the Automated Testing Laboratory at UPMC Mercy Hospital, and Associate Medical Director of Clinical Immunopathology at UPMC. Her research interests include infectious disease serology screening assays (SARS CoV2, HIV, syphilis, lyme, hepatitis), rapid point of care diagnostics, effects of viral infections on autoimmunity, machine learning to improve diagnosis, and appropriate serology testing in children with immune dysregulation.

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2023 ACLPS Election Ballot

Electronic voting for ACLPS officers, committee members, and bylaws updates will begin on May 1. Instructions will be sent to Active Members via email. If you are unable to use the membership portal link (aclps.wildapricot.org) for voting, please return the completed ballot shown below by June 1, 2023 to rjackups@wustl.edu or by mail to Ron Jackups, ACLPS Secretary, 660 S. Euclid Ave #8118, St. Louis, MO 63110

President-Elect 2023-2024 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Genzen, MD, PhD (University of Utah) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Treasurer 2023-2026 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tatiana Yuzyuk, PhD (University of Utah) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Executive Council 2023-2026 (Vote for 2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Roger Bertholf, PhD (Houston Methodist Hospital) <input type="checkbox"/> Carey-Ann Burnham, PhD (Washington University in St. Louis) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Education Committee 2023-2026 (Vote for 3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Megan Amerson-Brown, PhD (University of Alabama at Birmingham) <input type="checkbox"/> Yang Cao, PhD (Washington University in St. Louis) <input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas Larkey, PhD (University of Virginia) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Membership Committee 2023-2026 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenna Khan, MD (University of Virginia) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Nominating and Awards Committee 2023-2026 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Khushbu Patel, PhD (University of Pennsylvania) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Website Committee Chair 2023-2026 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Rudolf, MD (University of Utah) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Website Committee 2023-2026 (Vote for 1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Abraham (Abe) Qavi, MD, PhD (University of California, Irvine) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (Nomination from the Membership)
Proposed Bylaws Amendments *See description on page 12	<input type="checkbox"/> For <input type="checkbox"/> Against

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2023 ACLPS Election Ballot—Bylaws Amendments

The full Bylaws with proposed amendments will be attached to the voting instructions email. In brief, there are two planned changes:

1. Update the number of members of the Program and Finance Committee from nine to ten, to reflect the recent division of the Secretary-Treasurer into two positions.

4.6.4 Program and Finance Committee

The Program and Finance Committee shall consist of ~~nine (9)~~ **ten (10)** Active Members with one (1) year terms. The President-Elect shall chair this committee. Each year at the Annual Meeting of the Academy the President shall appoint ~~(8) nine (9)~~ members to this committee: usually this shall consist of one (1) who was the Local Program Chair of the previous meeting, one (1) who is the Local Program Chair of the next meeting, and two (2) who shall be designated Local Program Chair for the following two (2) meetings, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Director of the Young Investigator Awards Program, and two (2) Active Members. The Program and Finance Committee shall advise on and approve the program for the Annual Meeting of the Academy.

2. Specify that the Nominating and Awards Committee is responsible for nominating the Chair and members of the Website Committee, as described elsewhere in the bylaws.

4.6.5 Nominating and Awards Committee

The Nominating and Awards Committee shall consist of three (3) Active Members, one of which shall be elected each year at the Annual Business Meeting for a three (3) year term plus one (1) Active Member who shall be appointed by the President for a one (1) year term and none of which shall be a current member of the Executive Council. The Immediate Past President shall chair this committee. The committee may receive nominations from the membership for each office and committee position to be elected at the next Annual Business Meeting. The slate will include the following positions: President-Elect, two (2) Executive Council members at large, one (1) Membership Committee member, one (1) Nominating and Awards Committee member, ~~and three (3) Education Committee members,~~ **and two (2) Website Committee members.** A nomination for Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Committee Chair, ~~and Education Committee Chair,~~ **and Website Committee Chair** will usually be necessary every three (3) years and a nomination for the Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Award Program Director every four (4) years. The slate will be presented to the Executive Council for approval. Upon approval, these names will be placed on the ballot for election. A copy of the slate, along with any proposed dues and bylaw amendments, shall be sent to each member at least one (1) month preceding the Annual Business Meeting. Additional nominations of any candidate for any office may be made from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting and upon seconding of the nomination, the name will be added to the ballot. All persons who are nominated must indicate their willingness to serve. The Nominating and Awards Committee may receive recommendations from any member for the Academy's awards. The committee shall recognize the recommendation from the Program Chairman of the next Annual Meeting of the Academy for the Cotlove Lectureship. The Nominating and Awards Committee shall present its selections to the Executive Council for approval.

Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists

Our academy was founded in 1966 and currently has active affiliations with 70 of the approximately 150 academic and community training centers that train pathology residents in clinical pathology. From its origin, it has followed the mission statement of being dedicated to the advancement of teaching and scholarship in laboratory medicine.

Email: ACLPS@ARUPLAB.COM
