

# **Molecular Scientific Assembly Meeting Minutes**

Wed. June 26<sup>th</sup> 2019

2019 ASCLS Annual Meeting—Charlotte, NC

- **Meeting Commenced 7:10AM**
  - Introduction and Greeting
- **Scientific Assembly:** serve to provide expert consultation and technical review for areas including examinations, conventions, continuing education, mentorship, fellow member support, etc. in Molecular Related areas
  - **Objective:** to be an integral part of the interprofessional team within our companies and within the field at large
- **Chair: Rachel Alexander**      [Rachel.alexander@microgendx.com](mailto:Rachel.alexander@microgendx.com) or [raealexand@gmail.com](mailto:raealexand@gmail.com)
- **Vice-Chair: Maria Rodriguez** (absent)      [mrodriguez@assuritylabs.com](mailto:mrodriguez@assuritylabs.com)

## **TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

### **1. Member Community**

- a. Membership numbers are up and participation in General Open Forum increased
- b. New Membership App created and is being utilized “Member-Centric” available on your phones Play Stores
  - i. Thoughts/ feelings on this App:
    - 1. Most members unaware of App, those who did have thought it is useful. Plans to communicate through APP in 2019 to communicate more effectively with scientific assembly members
  - ii. What would you like to see more of on Website Posts?
    - 1. No responses
  - iii. Anything we can implement to feel like a stronger community or showcase that we are specialists?
    - 1. Discussion and criticisms of Molecular SA
    - 2. Some attendees feel that Molecular is treated as “technique” vs. “field”
      - a. Request for separate Body of Knowledge Document showcasing Molecular based information
      - b. Better representation of lectures at national meeting

### **2. ASLS TODAY NEWSLETTER**

- a. Thank you to Josh Pulido for providing article for last year
- b. Our Submission due date is June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to Sue Stalewski [sstalews@uwm.edu](mailto:sstalews@uwm.edu)
  - i. Guidelines: 900-950 words and should focus on:
    - 1. case studies
    - 2. cases where laboratory played significant role in diagnosis/treatment of patient

3. Molecular based technology/story of your lab
4. Innovations in medical laboratory practice
5. Current event related to Molecular

- a. Interest expressed by Maria Rodriguez and Barbara Kraj to author articles for ASCLS Today Newsletter
- ii. Articles with a research focus will be directed to the CLS Journal instead of being presented in the Newsletter: <http://clsjournal.ascls.org/content/authors>
  1. Submissions sent to Cheryl Caskey at [crcaskey@att.net](mailto:crcaskey@att.net)

### **3. SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY AWARD NOMINEE**

- a. Previously the "BioRad Award"
  - i. Request to post name list of previous winners
- b. Taking suggestions for Nominees (let Rachel/Maria know)
- c. Criteria can be found on the Awards page of website
  - i. ASCLS Member for 4+ years, and current member
  - ii. Part of a Scientific Assembly for 4 consecutive years
  - iii. Active participant in ASCLS
  - iv. Not a current Chair/ Vice-Chair
  - v. May not win a second time until after 10 yrs.
  - vi. Application due by February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- d. Rachel Alexander will represent the Scientific Assemblies on the Awards Committee 2019

### **4. REQUESTS FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION PROPOSALS**

- a. Scientific Assembly to submit ideas, speakers, or suggestions for topics for Annual Meeting
  - i. Submit to me/Maria or directly to Liz Dahlgren
  - ii. Found during discussion that Speaker Information needs to be included before able to submit an idea due to new software implementation
    1. Will follow up on to verify correct entry requirements
- b. SA Chair/ Vice-Chair to participate in submission review due early September
  - i. Ideas: Ethical Topics (finding accidental test data/ PHI/ etc.), Veterinary testing, Medical Billing (Molecular codes)

### **5. OTHER COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. CHOOSEING WISELY ARTICLES
  - i. 3 articles were submitted for approval
- b. COMMUNICATION & MARKETING
  - i. Working to Promote ASCLS Brand
  - ii. Creating Pamphlets/ information sources for Patients and Healthcare Professionals
- c. BODY OF KNOWLEDGE
  - i. Document meant for MLT/MLS within first 5 years of practice
  - ii. Requested help with updating for "General" Level (Lab math/pipetting/etc.)
  - iii. Need: Appoint 5 members from each SA to contribute to reviewing sections this year as a mini-committee

1. Will receive outline and we provide input for things we do/ no longer do/ needs updating
2. Volunteers?
  - a. Barbara Kraj from Old Dominion University

## 6. OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION

- a. Request for Body of Knowledge to be renamed as “ Scope of Knowledge”
  - i. Molecular presences needs heightened, treated as field vs. technique
  - ii. Request for separate document focusing on Molecular by itself since more MLT/CLS are being introduced to testing and MB should have representation also
- b. Request for Workshop type sessions at next national meeting
  - i. Molecular and also Professionalism/Career Skill Building
- c. Create a checklist for techniques/ list of technologies that are currently used
  - i. Showcase what is available to inspire interest in company application
- d. Request for later time for SA Meetings and possibly joining together with Micro or another SA
  - i. Consider making larger SA meeting to include Techs, educators, Phys/nurses to allow discussion among disciplines and employment levels
- e. Criticisms on “joint” meeting w/ AGT
  - i. Felt separated and not well mixed, potential for better blending in future
  - ii. Not enough food/drink options on or around site
  - iii. Vendor show small, Employment posting boards absent

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:40AM**

### **Dates to be aware of:**

#### **2020 ASCLS National Meeting**

-Louisville, Kentucky June 18-22

#### **Upcoming Deadlines**

**-Fall SA Report ( Sept. 27, 19)**

**-Interim Board Report ( Feb. 5, 20)**

**-Annual Meeting Report ( May 6, 20)**