

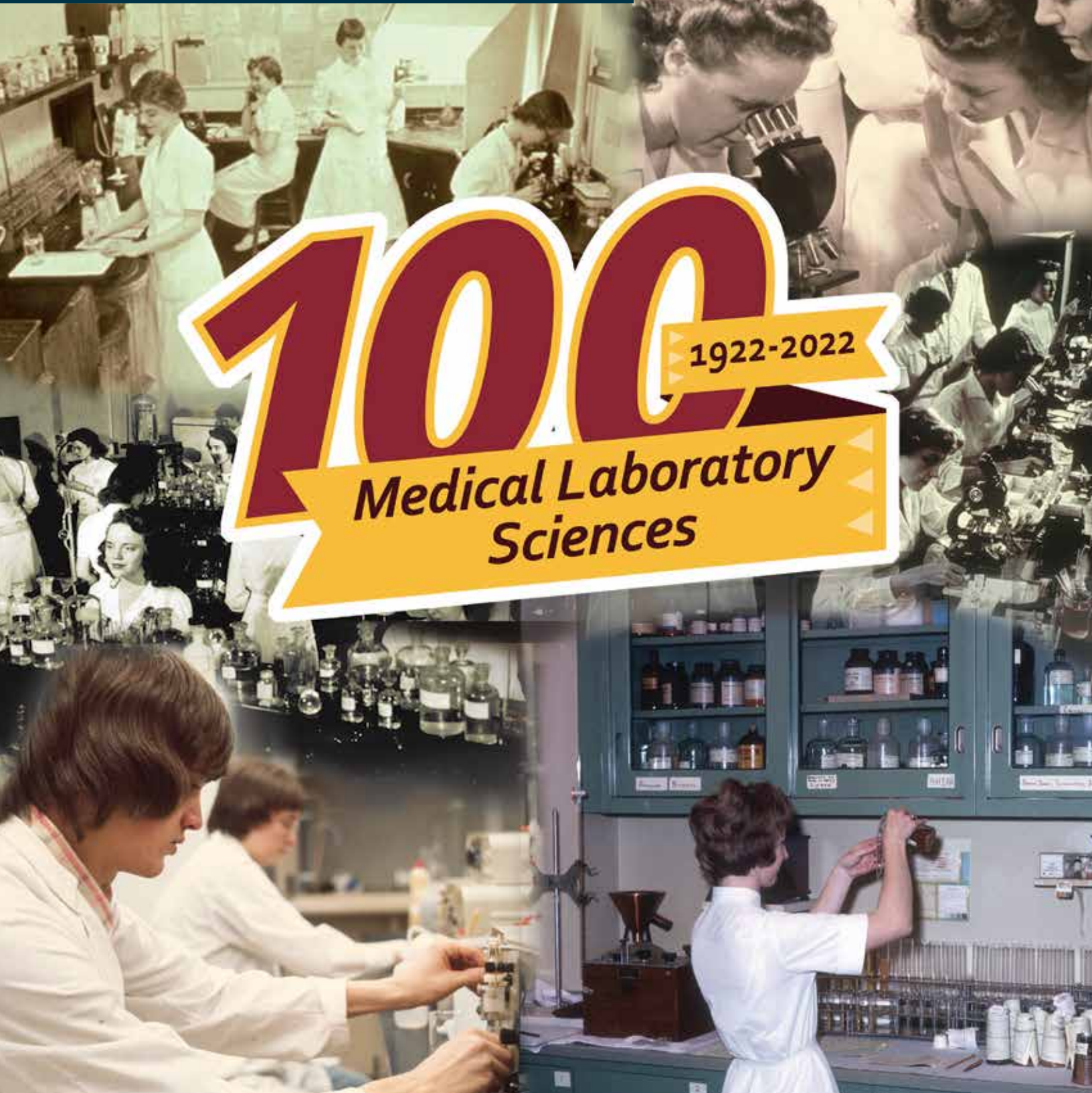


# Tech's Talk

Spring 2022



**100**  
1922-2022  
Medical Laboratory  
Sciences



# Director's Notes

For those of you who may not know, or may not remember, I came to the University of Minnesota in July, 2001 to serve as Program Director of the Medical Technology Program. During my five years



in that role, the program moved from the Medical School and into the newly created Center for Allied Health Programs. In 2009, I found myself in the role of Interim Program Director of the Clinical Laboratory Sciences Program for a little over a year.

Well, as they say, the third time is a charm. I am now in the role of Program Director of the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program again, which makes me the only Program Director to have been in that role for all three of our

name changes. My take away from this is that while our program continues to evolve, one thing remains the same – excellence. That is why we choose it as our theme for our anniversary year: **“A Century of Excellence in Medical Laboratory Education.”**

I am honored to be the Program Director during this anniversary year. I know some of you are thinking “Didn’t you celebrate the 75th anniversary in 1998?” Yes, we did, and while 2023 celebrates the anniversary of the first graduate of the program, the first classes were offered in 1922, so we decided to celebrate the entire academic year! We will be kicking off our anniversary year at the Alumni Banquet on April 30th. Throughout the year, we will have free monthly continuing education webinars, some virtual happy hours, a remake of Verna Rausch’s 1984 “History of Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota” presentation, and we’ll finish our celebration at the 2023 Alumni Banquet.

We would also like to hear from you with your memories of your time in the program, and/or stories of what laboratory testing was like when you first started working in the clinical laboratory. We are in the process of setting up a link on our web page for you to enter your stories that we can share during the course of our anniversary year. So watch for our new quarterly e-newsletter to find out more about the events we are planning and other program news.

As I begin in the Program Director role this year, I must also express my appreciation for the previous Program Director, Dr. Janice Conway-Klaassen. Jan is leaving the MLS Program in a wonderful position as it begins its second hundred years.

This past year, the program received a ten-year renewal of our accreditation, the maximum time given by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS). In the fall, we will be starting an online Master of Science in Biomedical Laboratory Science degree. We are also looking forward to developing articulation agreements with the University of Minnesota’s Duluth and Morris campuses. We can credit all of these new accomplishments to Jan’s leadership over the past several years.

But our evolution is not complete; you can expect more changes in our future. We will be adding some new faculty to the program as we begin our online master’s degree and replace faculty that are nearing retirement. You can also expect to hear more about a reorganization of our administrative structure because the University of Minnesota Provost is recommending the Center for Allied Health Programs be moved into a college home. Faculty are excited about the possibilities that come with this reorganization, as it will mean more support for research, grant writing, and new collaborations. Watch for more information regarding this reorganization in our upcoming e-newsletters.

As we look back on our last one hundred years, we have much to be proud of. Many things have changed in medical laboratory sciences and MLS education since Kathryn Francis, our first graduate, entered the University of Minnesota’s Medical Technology Program in 1922, but as I stated in the beginning, some things haven’t change. I will end with this quote from Ruth Hovde, Medical Technology Program Director from 1950-1984, from her address at a staff meeting of the University of Minnesota Hospitals on January 11, 1957:

“The Course here has always been planned with the objective of teaching our students in such a way that, as graduates, they will be prepared to train other students and will be capable of accepting the responsibility for reliability of work and keeping up with advances in laboratory sciences.”

Yes, some things never change.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna".

Donna Spannaus-Martin, PhD, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
Professor and Program Director, Medical  
Laboratory Sciences ■

# MLS Program Annual Report

NAACLS accreditation requires that each program report three key outcomes and provide this information to the public. We host this information on our website, in our student brochures, and now here in our alumni newsletter. In addition, the University requests that we report student demographics and other statistics related to program effectiveness.

NAACLS accredited programs must demonstrate the quality of their educational plan by meeting certain minimum student performance outcomes including student graduation (program completion) rates; performance on the American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC) Exam; and ability to obtain employment. We are proud to say that the outcomes for graduates of our MLS program consistently exceed the minimum requirements. ■

NAACLS Graduate Outcomes	2018	2019	2020
Graduation Rate (% on time)	94%	93%	97%
ASCP BOC pass rate (Nat'l Mean = 80%)	98%	100%	95%*
Employment Rate % (6 months after grad)	100%	100%	100%

\*= final results pending

Clinical Experience Rotations	2019	2020	2021
Number of Rotations	169	40*	154
Number in Minnesota	144	23**	152
Number in Rural Areas	25	0	15

*\*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, clinical rotations were suspended at all clinical affiliates. To prevent delays in graduation, clinicals for 2020 were pivoted to an alternative format of a hybrid simulation experience (refer to articles on page 6.)*

Demographics of Incoming Students	2019	2020	2021
Average Age (years)	26	24	24
Gender (F/M/O)%	75/24/1	65/25/0	66/34/0
Cum GPA	3.34	3.32	3.32
MN resident %	87	84	86
Ethnicity %			
Asian	20	27	35
Black/African American	8	11	14
Native American	--	--	--
Hispanic	3	3	8
White	69	62	46

*\*\*Students were provided the opportunity to complete a 4-day shadowing experience at Allina Health System to spend 1 day in each major rotation area (microbiology, transfusion medicine, chemistry/urinalysis, hematology/coagulation). Not all students engaged in this opportunity, but 23 of the 40 students participated.*

<https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/medical-laboratory-sciences>

## Mixed Blessings – a Program Director’s Farewell

This is a somewhat difficult passage for me to write. On one hand, I am sad to be leaving so many colleagues and friends here in the MLS Program and in Minnesota, while at the same time, I’m excited to begin this next chapter in my life. In 2020, after 10 years at UMN, I planned to retire from my position as Program Director. But then as we all know, the COVID pandemic changed everyone’s plans. Conducting a search for a new program director was difficult at best during such restrictive times and we were not able to find an outside person to fill the role. I went forward with part of my plans to move to Oregon to be with my adult kids and their families, but I continued to work remotely, supporting the program during this time, and beginning a phased retirement contract.

At that time, Associate Program Director, Donna Spannaus-Martin, became the in-person

presence on campus. It’s been so strange working from 2,000 miles away, but with many UMN faculty working remotely, it was a good temporary option. I have been working at 50% for the 2021- 2022 academic year and then plan to work only 25% next year. This January, I stepped down as Program Director and Dr. Spannaus-Martin took on the role full time. I know I am leaving the program in good hands.

We have some of the best faculty I have ever worked with in my 35-year academic career. We’ve faced a lot of challenges, but through it all, the program faculty have always given 110%. Their dedication has made significant contributions to the quality of our graduates and the success of the program. The community has also been a strong and steady support for our program and we could not have been

*(continued on page 7)*



# Faculty & Students at MLS Conferences

Although 2020 brought the cancellation of conferences, by 2021 many of the professional conferences that MLS faculty attend had found ways to go virtual. Several of our faculty attended and presented at the completely virtual Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference held February 25-27. **Tami Alpaugh** and **Lorna Ruskin** presented their poster titled "MLS Student Outcomes after Hybrid Simulation Clinical Experience due to COVID-19" that described the development and delivery of the hybrid simulation clinical experience due to closures of clinical sites during 2020. **Christine Maleck** presented her talk during a speed learning session titled "Wellbeing and Resiliency for MLS students" in which she discussed the course module she developed to support MLS students in discovering techniques and skills to enhance their wellbeing and resilience as a student, which will also benefit them as they transition into their professional role.



The Minnesota Clinical Laboratory Collaborative (CLC), held April 12-13, 2021 was also held completely virtually. At the CLC, **Dr. Janice Conway-Klaassen** gave a presentation titled 'Interprofessional Education and Practice for Laboratorians' and **Dr. Donna Spannaus-Martin** presented 'Driving and Marijuana: Testing for Impairment' with recent graduate MLS MS graduate **Megan Kellner**. On Student Day, **Dr. Lorna Ruskin** delivered a session on 'Supporting Students through the BOC Examination Process' with St. Cloud State University MLS Program Director, **Louise Millis**.

By the time the summer rolled around, the pandemic seemed to be subsiding, so ASCLS offered both an in-person and a virtual option to attend the Joint Annual Meeting (JAM), held jointly with the Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists and the Association of Genetic Technologists. **Dr. Spannaus-Martin** attended the meeting held in Louisville, KY on June 28-30, and several faculty attended virtually. Two recent MMLS graduates, **Julie Rivera** and **Robin Thomas** and **Dr. Conway-Klaassen** gave a virtual poster presentation titled "Motivations and Learning Strategies of MLS Students."

By October, people were feeling more comfortable with in-person meetings again, so the ASCLS Region V meeting held on October 7-8 was completely in person. **Dr. Spannaus-Martin** and **Tammy McNish** attended in person to promote the MLS Program's new Master of Science in Biomedical Laboratory Science degree that will be starting in Fall, 2022. The Legislative Symposium was also offered in online and in-person formats on October 25-26. **Dr. Spannaus-Martin**, attending in person, and graduate student **Mariah Witt**, attending virtually, were able to meet virtually with legislative representatives to talk about the workforce shortage and the need to fund medical laboratory educational programs. ■

A photograph of two women standing behind a booth at a conference. The booth has a red tablecloth and a sign that reads "Medical Laboratory Sciences" and "Center for Allied Health Programs". The women are wearing name tags and are smiling at the camera.

# Celebrating Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

Each year, laboratory professionals celebrate during a week in their honor known as Medical Laboratory Professionals Week or Lab Week for short. This week provides the laboratory profession an opportunity to increase public understanding of and appreciation for clinical laboratory personnel. During this week, the MLS Program joins in by celebrating our students, the future of our profession. Lab Week is celebrated the last full week of April every year and in 2021, was celebrated the week of April 18-24. Because not all of the MLS Students were on campus during that time, the celebration was moved to a virtual environment for the second year in a row.

A special Lab Week Canvas course site was created for the students to help celebrate. The Canvas site was a place for students to connect with each other, have some fun, and play some games during the week. The Canvas site had daily videos that highlighted the importance of the laboratory profession, a daily question, and discussion board where



students were able to share their favorite memory of their time in the program.

In addition to the Canvas site, each student received a gift bag or lab week kit to help them celebrate during the week. Some of the items included in their gift bag were snacks and treats, including personalized M&Ms with "Happy Lab Week" and "U of M MLS" printed on each candy, a Lab Week cup, a syringe pen, post-its, and laboratory themed coloring pages, crossword puzzle and word search. The UMN Faculty enjoy celebrating Lab Week each year with the students and are so proud of our students' hard work and dedication! ■



# Students in Action

## MMLS Graduates Receive Internships,

This past summer, 2021 MMLS student **Mariah Witt** interned with the Office of Academic Clinical Affairs (OACA) along with other health sciences students (IPE). Witt and three other interns helped to develop student-driven interprofessional experiences within Greater Minnesota using virtual technology to provide a toolkit and structure for students interested in being part of interprofessional experiences. “I learned an incredible and life changing amount of information about not only health care IPE, but also training, which can impact areas such as teamwork, leadership, presenting skills, personalities, communication, and professionalism,” said Witt. “This work has made me a lifelong advocate for interprofessionalism.”

**Lynn Risser**, a 2012 MMLS graduate received an Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)—US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Infectious Disease Fellowship! Lynn will work at the Alaska State Virology Laboratory in Fairbanks, AK. Her project will focus on next-generation sequencing and the development of an assay to simultaneously determine patient hepatitis C viral load and viral genotype. ■

## NXT GEN MED Summer Quest

Rising high school seniors had a unique opportunity to attend a week long residential summer program at no cost on the UMN Rochester campus. This program targeted students who are dedicated to becoming the future of health care leaders and problems solvers. The program posed questions like: Want to discover cures? End hunger and health care disparities? Ensure the planet gets healthier?

Thirty five students attended the program (32 from Minnesota, and one each from Utah, New Jersey, and Connecticut). Students were able to attend sessions that looked at food insecurity and health disparities, environmental health, exercise medicine, and health journeys. MLS played a big role in the health journeys session. Throughout the week, students were given case studies and followed the journey of three patients with the following medical conditions; pediatric diabetic ketoacidosis and Down Syndrome, drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and sickle cell disease. Students were able to follow these patients from when they entered the emergency room to the final diagnosis.

The MLS program had two 4-hour sessions where they introduced the students to hands-on experiences for each of the patients to help rule in (or out) each disease state. For the ketoacidosis

with Down Syndrome case, students looked at the chemistry laboratory results that diagnose ketoacidosis and worked through a karyotype to help

learn about Down Syndrome. Students took to the microscopes for the sickle cell disease case. They first looked at normal blood slides to get a reference of normal, and then they viewed a sickle cell slide. Students received more explanation to help them understand why the patient was hypoxic and experiencing joint pain. Test results were also provided to help rule out other disease states, such as gout and arthritis.

For the last case, students looked at gram stains, agar plates, and susceptibilities to see how microorganisms are identified, and determine the best antibiotic to treat the infection. This was followed up with a discussion on drug resistant microorganisms. All the students were very engaged, asking all sorts of questions. The importance of the MLS profession was highlighted, and hopefully they will consider a career in the MLS field! ■



# 2022 Medical Laboratory Sciences Program Snapshot

As we begin the celebration of our program's 100th Anniversary, we thought it would be a good idea to provide a brief overview of what the program is like today. You can also visit our website at <https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/mls> to learn more.

## NAACLS and Program Outcomes:

We are happy to announce that we were awarded a 10-year accreditation renewal from NAACLS! The program continues to excel in all areas. We have a 96% on-time graduation rate; a 98% ASCP BOC exam pass rate, and virtually 100% of our graduates find employment within six months of graduation. Our next accreditation review will occur in 2030-2031.

## We Have Four Academic Programs:

- **Bachelors of Science in MLS:** The BS in MLS is the degree plan for students who are earning their first (or second) bachelor's degree, and who are seeking eligibility for the ASCP BOC exam. Students can enter the program as juniors or as seniors.
- **Certificate in MLS:** This certificate program is designed for students who have already earned a BS/BA degree (or higher) and want to become eligible for the ASCP BOC exam. The certificate program is also an option for students who are enrolled at one of the program's academic affiliate schools. These students can earn their first bachelor's degree at their home institution, while earning a certificate through the MLS program.
- **Professional Master's in MLS (MMLS):** The MMLS degree meets the needs of students who already have a BS/BA degree (or higher) and are seeking the Medical Laboratory Science professional credential for employment in hospital laboratories. The MMLS plan provides the necessary coursework for ASCP BOC eligibility, as well as additional graduate coursework in molecular diagnostics and laboratory operations management.
- **NEW! Starting in Fall 2022 - Master of Science in Biomedical Laboratory Science (MS - BLS):** The newest degree option is for individuals who already have a Medical Laboratory Science professional credential. This master's program provides additional theory, research and practice knowledge in the field, and prepares candidates for specialty certifications in areas

like Molecular Biology or Microbiology. Because the individuals wanting to take this degree are working individuals, the degree plan is entirely online. Students can enroll on a full-time or part-time basis. To read more about this degree please check out our website: <https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/mls/how-to-apply/ms-bls-requirements> or email [cahpinfo@umn.edu](mailto:cahpinfo@umn.edu).

## Our Students:

The program currently has an active enrollment of 35-40 students per cohort year in the BS, Certificate, and MMLS degree plans, totally about 65 students. Our students are one of the most ethnically diverse

undergraduate programs on the Twin Cities campus, with a student body that also consists of more than 50 percent first generation students.

Our student diversity is aided in part by

the Pathways Scholarship program, funded from a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), which helps provide financial support to students from economically disadvantaged, or historically underrepresented/underserved populations. The grant helps provide a pathway to a stable and well-paying career in healthcare, as well as help to add socio-economic and cultural diversity to the medical laboratory workforce.



## Program Faculty:

We currently have 10 faculty with one position open and one person who is retiring soon. This means we have one open faculty search and one that will open soon (for a total of 11 full-time faculty). We also hire a number of part-time MLS to help teach in our laboratory courses each semester. If you are interested in helping teach in one of our laboratory courses, please apply for the Medical Laboratory Sciences Teaching Specialist position located on our website: <https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/mls/employment-opportunities> ■



# MLS Moves to Hybrid Clinical Experience Model

In 2021, the MLS program moved to a hybrid clinical experience model due to the ongoing challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, workforce shortage, and limited placements at clinical sites. Based on the experiences and learning from 2020, the clinical experience model was updated to a hybrid format.

During the summer and fall 2021 clinical semesters, students began with a week of online modules to prepare for their clinical semester, reviewing safety, quality control, workplace expectations, and some online case studies. Following the virtual week, students completed a one-week on-campus simulation experience in the areas of microbiology, transfusion medicine, and the core laboratory.



The last day of the simulation week was reserved for a networking event where preceptors and laboratory leadership were invited to campus to present about their laboratory and network with the clinical students.



After the simulation was complete, students went out for their clinical experience rotations for eight weeks in the areas of microbiology, transfusion medicine, chemistry/urinalysis, and hematology/coagulation. The final phase of the clinical semester included the completion of the advanced practicum experiences and final exams. ■

## Phillips Neighborhood Clinic

In the fall of 2021, the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic (PNC) recruited 22 new laboratory volunteers, including 4 MLS students. Carly Taschner, an MMLS student from the Class of 2021, developed and delivered the training for the new PNC volunteers for her MMLS Capstone project with oversight by Tami Alpaugh and with the help of several volunteers. Training for the new PNC volunteers was conducted on November 2, 2021 at the PNC location where they learned venipuncture, capillary collection, and basic laboratory safety. The PNC operates two days per week. More information about the PNC can be found at <http://phillipsneighborhoodclinic.com/>. ■



## Mixed Blessings – a Program Director’s Farewell (continued from p. 3)

successful without them. We have worked hard to modernize the academic curriculum to meet the needs of an ever-advancing practice field. We’ve launched a professional Master’s degree (MMLS) and a Certificate in MLS option for students who have their Bachelor’s degree but need the MLS credential, and later this year we will launch our completely online post-credential MS degree program.

We have reestablished our national and international leadership role in laboratory education as one of the first programs to develop a hybrid teaching model and a writing-enriched curriculum. Our program faculty are known for their innovative teaching methods such as active

learning and online course development, as well as for being leaders in campus-based clinical simulations. We accomplished a lot during my time as Program Director and as always, there is plenty more to do.

As we begin the celebration of our 100th year anniversary and I transition to retirement, I know the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program is on a good path for the next 100 years.

I will miss you all.

Janice Conway-Klaassen  
PhD, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>/SM<sup>CM</sup>, FACSc ■

# Spotlight on Students

**CHRISTINA WASELK** is from Hibbing, a small mining community in northeastern Minnesota also known as the “Iron Range”. Christina comes from an outdoorsy family and she grew up recreating in the woods and on the lakes of Minnesota.



Winter for her is a time for snowshoeing, skiing, and snowmobiling while summers are for fishing and gardening. Christina says that if she has learned anything from her family, it is to take time to enjoy nature.

Christina describes herself as an avid gardener and often finds herself up to her elbows in the dirt! Whether it is indoor or outdoor plants, she tries her best to grow them all. In addition to her green thumb, she is an animal lover and even has her own rescue dog, Koda, a Husky-Corgi mix.

Christina earned a Bachelor of Science degree from UND in Forensic Science with minors in Chemistry and Biology. During college, she shadowed at a clinic and was able to visit their laboratory. She met some of the medical laboratory scientists on staff and learned about their role in healthcare. She always knew she wanted to work in a laboratory setting, and after learning more about the MLS profession, she looked into programs and found the MMLS program at the University of Minnesota. The program aligned with her desire to work in a laboratory and also provided more opportunity due to the certification process. Christina felt the MMLS degree would enhance her marketability in the laboratory profession without limiting her to one specific area. She has a great appreciation for the variety of career paths available to her upon graduation.

Christina plans to move back up north to find a job in a hospital or clinic setting, hopefully to serve in one of a number of medically underrepresented rural communities in the area. She plans to keep an open mind as she expands her work experience in the core areas of MLS once she enters the workforce perhaps combining this with her interest in Forensic Science down the road. ■

**DAWIT (DAVE) GURMU** was born and raised in Addis Ababa. He moved to the United States in 2015 at the age of 18 after graduation from high school. He comes from a big family with six older siblings including five sisters and one brother. He currently lives with his mom, two of his sisters and his brother in White Bear Lake. Dave loves his family and they are very supportive, caring, and always there for him when needed.

Dave likes to take long walks when the weather allows. He enjoys reading, watching movies, and spending time with his family. He spends his weekends in one of the Ethiopian Orthodox Churches in the Twin Cities.

Dave has an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from Normandale Community College and looks forward to achieving his Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences. He has always been interested in the details of science, but struggled to find a major that fit his interests. He heard about MLS from his TRIO advisor at Normandale and began to research the field himself. He chose MLS because he saw it as the hidden backbone of the health care profession.

He believes that now is the time to join the profession with the shortage of laboratory professionals and the challenges of the COVID pandemic. After graduation, Dave plans to join the medical laboratory community to meet the healthcare needs of patients. Eventually, he would like to advance his education further with a Masters and/or PhD degree.

Dave says applying to the UMN MLS Program is one of the best life decisions he has made and wishes to thank faculty members, students, friends, and family for their support. ■



*(continued on the next page)*



## Spotlight on Students (continued)

**AN PHAM** was born in Vietnam and raised there until the age of nine. When she first moved to the United States with her family, they lived in California but eventually they moved to Minnesota and have been living in Burnsville since



An was in Middle School. She has an older brother who is going to school for computer science. Her dad works at a commercial printing company and her mom works as a nail specialist.

An doesn't have specific hobbies, but she appreciates spending time with her friends and family and always enjoys herself when she is with the people she knows.

An has an Associate of Arts degree from Normandale Community College. She was initially planning to major in Chemistry because she enjoyed the laboratory work, but she had always had an interest in health care. She heard about Medical Laboratory Sciences, and specifically the UMN program, from alumnus Phuoc Thai, as well as from some friends from church who graduated from the program. The information shared by Phuoc caught her interest, especially the core areas of specialization and the variety of career paths that are available with an MLS degree.

An describes herself as an introvert and likes the idea of not having patient contact or talking to other people while working independently and still contributing to patient care. Her mindset has changed since joining the program and participating in the laboratory courses with a cohort of students. An found that she really likes the hands on work in the teaching lab and has gained a lot of confidence around others. She now talks to everyone in the program and is comfortable asking questions.

An hopes to find a job as soon as she graduates and she is interested in the Cytotechnology Program at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She also has an interest in raising awareness about the Medical Laboratory Sciences profession. ■

**JOHN JIMINEZ** was born and raised in San Diego California where he graduated from San Diego State University in 2016 with a BS in Biology, an emphasis in Cellular and Molecular Biology and a Minor in Psychology with an emphasis in Neuropsychology. He is the first in his family to graduate from college.



John was raised mostly by his mother who worked as an Office Services Supervisor for the California Highway Patrol (CHP). His father is a truck driver and his brother is working on entering the CHP as a police officer. Shortly after graduation, John was looking for a change of scenery, which he definitely found in his move to Minneapolis.

John enjoys listening to all kinds of music and enjoyed shows and concerts before COVID shut down those kinds of events. He watches movies and plays video games when he can find the time, and he appreciates walking, hiking, biking and visiting the lakes around town. He also has two cats, Miguel and Tulio, who are always there to greet him at the door when he returns home.

John's first job in Minneapolis was at the University of Minnesota working as lab assistant/senior laboratory technician doing pre-analytical work like aliquotting whole blood, plasma, serum, and urine for testing and analysis. His interest soon turned to the testing being performed in the lab by the laboratory scientists as well as the instrumentation and the science behind it all. That is when he learned about ASCP and the training needed to do laboratory testing. John took advantage of the UMN Regent's Scholarship to help pay his tuition as he finished up the pre-requisite classes required to begin his journey to the advanced degree of MMLS. He feels that the laboratory sciences profession is a great fit for him and he is enjoying the program, as well as the valuable insight and advice from his instructors and professors.

John is looking forward to his upcoming clinical experiences to help him decide where to utilize the skills he has learned in the program to treat patients and educate others. He and his girlfriend are looking into purchasing a home soon after graduation, moving onto the next stage in their lives, and building a family together. ■

# The Power of Giving

Alumni play a huge role in supporting our students through generous donations to our program. Each year donations to our scholarships make it possible for students to afford textbooks needed for classroom success, meet the increasing cost of tuition, or to find temporary housing during clinical rotations in rural Minnesota. Many students would find it difficult to begin their new careers as medical laboratory scientists without such support. We want to thank everyone who generously donated in 2021 and continue to ask for your help in 2022 – no matter the size of the donation. *Below is a listing of the students you have helped through your scholarship donations in 2021.* ■



## **Alumni Fund Scholarships**

- Farah Hashim
- Farha Ismail
- Seonmi Park
- Sarah Pham
- Kaylee Renstrom
- Marina Richter
- Lynn Risser
- Lidiya Tadesse

## **Constance Bakken Scholarship**

- Danielle Gannon

## **Grace A. Byers Scholarship**

- Joshua Glass
- Alexandra Moldenhauer
- Ghalya Qasem
- Sarra Suphavong

## **Yvonne Chenoweth Cooke Scholarship Fund**

- Alex Dougherty

## **Gonyea-Stewart Scholarship Fund**

- Sarah Asif
- Danielle Gannon

## **Karen R. Karni Scholarship Fund**

- Sarah Asif
- Jared Heinsch
- Kaylee Renstrom

## **Audrey Lapeyrouse Scholarship Fund**

- Jared Heinsch
- Sarah Pham

## **Betty Rae McConnell Scholarship**

- Lidiya Tadesse

## **Abner M. Neeley Scholarship**

- Alex Dougherty
- Farha Ismail
- Taylor Janssen
- Adrianna Martinez
- Brittany Mingo
- Isabelle Nguyen
- Tam Nguyen
- An Pham
- Jarome Smith
- Ghalya Qasem
- Christina Waselk

## **Hovde O'Brien Scholarship Fund**

- Claire Wilmesmeier

## **William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund**

- Alison Davis
- Cassidy Flanagan
- Danielle Gannon
- Taylor Janssen

## **Clarice J. Olson Scholarship Fund**

- Lidiya Tadesse

## **Ruth Stavitsky Scholarship**

- Sarah Asif

## **Elizabeth Stone Scholarship Fund**

- Kaylee Renstrom

# ASCLS-MN 2021 Scholarship Winner

Annually, the Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS-MN) Scholarship Committee reviews and selects scholarship recipients based on academic scholarship and financial need. The funds for these scholarships are generously provided by the United Hospital Foundation, the Minnesota Society of Pathologists, and the Elizabeth Panning Silent Auction held during the Clinical Laboratory Collaborative meeting.

The number of scholarships given vary depending on the funds available and the number of well qualified MLS and MLT applicants. This year, Kaylee Renstrom, a 2021 graduate of the University of Minnesota's MMLS Program, was granted an award. Kaylee is currently working at the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. Congratulations, Kaylee! ■



# Thank You for Your Generous Contributions to the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program in 2021

## **\$2,000 and up**

- Ann D. Claesgens
- Mary J. Colson-Burns
- Beckman Coulter Foundation

## **\$1,000 to \$1,999**

- Anonymous Donor
- Joanne S. Arvid
- Brian T. & Miriam H. Ebeling
- Stephen J. & Susan K. Fautsch
- David R. Jacobson
- Todd C. & Mary E. Jacobson
- Todd C and Mary E Jacobson Charitable Fund
- Billie Anne & Howard A. Juni
- Karin J. Libby
- Clareyse E. Nelson
- Clareyse Nelson Fund of the Mpls Foundation
- John C. Okada
- Toni D. Okada
- Debra C. Rodahl
- Ella M. Spanjers

## **\$500 to \$999**

- 3M Foundation Inc
- Jenna Amundson
- Anonymous Donor
- Sheila M. Clough
- Mardie G. Geiser
- Marilyn J. Halonen
- Robert P. Hirte
- Karen K. & Richard L. Huff
- Judy T. Kingsberg
- Michael L. Melstad
- David H. & Barbara J. Moser
- James H. & Elberta L. Prestegard
- Todd A. & Anne M. Ringgenberg
- Laura G. Rude
- Verne E. Weiss
- Andrew R. Yue

## **\$100 to \$499**

- Patricia A. Ackerman
- Melissa L. Aitken
- Karen E. Bowman
- Marilyn T. Budge

- Kimberly A. & David W. Butler
- Janice M. Conway-Klaassen
- Robert A. Dahl
- Robin L. Donner
- Deborah A. Evans
- David J. & Julie M. Fanger
- Claudine E. Fasching
- Richard J. & Susan K. Feist
- Catherine L. & John W. Foster
- Linda L. Fredrickson
- Reggie L. Gausman
- Kathryn H. Glen
- Joyce A. Gunderson
- Jacquelin A. Heggernes
- Henry V. & Mary L. Holec
- Julie A. Jacobs
- Phyllis M. Jacobs
- Cheryl A. Kaup
- Barbara M. Koblinski
- Koblinski Family Fund
- Douglas C. & Patricia J. Kriesel
- Carol J. Lahti & C D. Becker
- Vickie L. Larson
- Brian L. Lauber
- Mary H. Lazarus
- Connie J. Luebke
- Marilyn J. Lueck
- Jane F. Mayer
- Betty L. McMartin
- Brian J. Meline
- Diane M. & John J. Michalik
- Russell A. & Mary Lou G. Mohn
- Donald M. & Kathleen W. Nadreau
- Beverly R. & Eric M. Ness
- Alicia C. Nguyen
- Patricia L. Norgren
- James R. & Sheryl F. Olson
- Rick L. Panning
- David J. & Mary Jo Pennington
- Ronald A. & Jennifer L. Prasek
- Thelma J. Purcelli
- Joan A. & Donald E. Radtke
- Barbara J. Reinhardt
- Karen L. Ringsrud
- Gregory P. Rynders
- Michael A. & Rita J. Tischler
- Nicole A. Trites Wiering

- Aija K. Vikmanis
- Kent D. & Marcia K. Wall
- Nettie M. Warwood
- Marilee M. & William H. Welliver
- Kristi L. Werdin & Ronald T. Marchese
- Donna J. Wieb
- Anthony B. Williams
- Nancy A. Witstine
- Xcel Energy Foundation

## **Up to \$100**

- Lenore J. Bolfig
- Yuqing Chen
- Wanda E. Clark
- Timothy E. & Carolyn E. Donovan
- Donna E. Dzubay
- Lorilee B. Echternach
- Arthur T. & Kay E. Emmons
- Leanna L. Erickson
- John W. & Carol I. Evans
- Naomi M. & James M. Hanson
- Michelle J. Henry-Stanley & Michael W. Stanley
- Mark C. Hove & Leslie A. MacKichan
- Marlys J. Jensen
- Phillip M. Korkowski
- Carol A. Ladwig
- Janice C. Lohman
- Steven G. & Patricia L. Miles
- Rene A. Nelson
- Dorothy L. Ness-Everett\*
- Patricia A. Nistico
- Jack W. & Sandra V. Pearson
- Marilyn J. Plummer
- Diane K. & Thomas Rappe
- Sandra L. Sauer
- Lois J. & Peter M. Smith
- Patricia L. & Allan B. Solum
- Donna J. Spannaus-Martin & Bruce L. Martin
- Nancy A. Stanaway
- Pamela D. Swanson
- Constance C. Verre
- Judith A. & Dale D. Winter
- Sharon E. Wurst
- Nicole E. Zahnle

\*Deceased

If you wish to make a contribution, please visit: <https://www.alliedhealth.umn.edu/medical-laboratory-sciences> or call: UMN Foundation at 800-775-2187

# Focus on Faculty & Staff

## Christine Maleck Completes M.S. Degree

**C**hristine Maleck, Teaching Laboratory Manager, earned her Master of Science degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Western Governors University in June 2021. Christine's final capstone project title was "The Impact of Utilizing Virtual Microscopy to Teach Body Fluid Cell Identification to Medical Laboratory Sciences Students." Christine will now be taking over more responsibility in the student hematology and body fluid laboratory courses. Congratulations, Christine! ■



## Wiesner Wins ASCLS 2021 Theriot Award

**C**ongratulations to Dr. Stephen Wiesner, PhD, MT(ASCP), FACSc, Associate Professor, Medical Laboratory Sciences, for receiving the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) Theriot Award for Online Digital Media!

Dr. Wiesner was recognized for offering free subscriptions to his Digital Pathology Virtual Microscope Slide Database. Because the COVID-19 pandemic caused the closure of clinical training sites and forced laboratory science educational programs into a distance education format last spring, access to this database was critical as an instruction aid for students who were continuing their training from home. Over 350 subscribers representing the 50 states, Samoa and Puerto Rico, as well as 34 international subscribers spanning across six continents, took advantage of this generous offer.



## Alpaugh Awarded ASCP Grant for LIS

**M**LS faculty, Dr. Tami Alpaugh was awarded a \$10,000 Program Director Educational Grant from the American Society of Clinical Pathology Foundation to develop a Laboratory Information System (LIS) for the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program's student training laboratory. The LIS will allow faculty to

simulate the clinical laboratory environment on campus by providing hands-on experience in the pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical phases of specimen management and laboratory testing. Integration of the LIS system will enhance simulation and provide beneficial experiences to students to support their development as future medical laboratory scientists. ■



The Theriot Award "recognizes and encourages the development of significant creative innovations and materials that contribute to the quality of laboratory testing, improved patient care, or enhance teaching." Numerous subscribers stated they could not have continued teaching without access to this critical resource preventing delays in graduation for numerous laboratory science students in a time of great need and was certainly worthy of this prestigious award. ■

# Focus on Faculty & Staff

## Donna Spannaus-Martin Named MLS Program Director

Starting in January, 2022, MLS Professor Donna Spannaus-Martin has taken on the role of Program Director for the UMN MLS Program. This is not a new role for Donna, as she served as Program Director from 2001 to 2006, and again from 2009 to 2010.

Originally from St. Paul, Minnesota, Donna held positions at several other universities after she received her PhD in biochemistry from Iowa State University. She did post-doctoral work in immunology and lipoprotein metabolism at Brown University, and worked as a research scientist at Iowa State University studying vitamin A marginal deficiency in preschool children. She taught in the Medical Technology Program at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, where she also served as Director of the Medical Laboratory Sciences Graduate Program.

As faculty in the UMN MLS Program, Donna has taught clinical chemistry, body fluid analysis, immunology, and laboratory operations. She also serves as the Faculty Legislative Liaison for the UMN, so in the spring, she spends a portion of her time at the Minnesota Capitol meeting with legislators. This year, Donna also keeps busy as the President of ASCLS-MN and the ASCLS Region V representative on the ASCLS Government Affairs Committee. Donna lives with her husband Bruce and her dog Bailey, and spends her free time crocheting and singing in her church choir. She says she feels honored to be Program Director as the UMN MLS program begins its 100th year of providing quality laboratory education. ■



## Conway-Klaassen Joins NAACLS Workgroup on Future and Emerging Professions

MLS Program Director Janice Conway-Klaassen was invited to join the NAACLS Future and Emerging Professions work group, which is developing accreditation processes and standards for new disciplines or programs that would receive NAACLS accreditation. ■



## Tami Alpaugh Earns PhD

Tami Alpaugh, Director of Clinical Education, earned her PhD in Higher Education Leadership, Policy, and Management from Walden University in September, 2021. Her dissertation was titled “Medical Laboratory Scientists’ Perceptions of their Affective Domain Development.” Tami previously earned her Master’s at Walden University and returned to Walden’s Doctoral Program because she wanted a program that focused on program evaluation and leadership in higher education. Congratulations, Dr. Alpaugh! ■



# Focus on Faculty & Staff

## Staff Changes at the Center for Allied Health Programs

### New CAHP Staff

**CHRISTINE MOLLEN** is the new Academic Advisor for CAHP, and will work with students in both the MLS and OT programs. Christine has 10 years of experience working in student services at the University of Minnesota, first with the College of Pharmacy and then the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She earned her Bachelor's degree through the College of Liberal Arts and Master's degree through the College of Continuing and Professional Studies both at the UMN Twin Cities. Outside of work, Christine enjoys hiking, biking, sailing, traveling, cooking, and exploring the Twin Cities with her husband Joe.



**JOSETTE FONTANA** has been providing administrative and program support in higher education settings since 2012, first at the University of Chicago and then the University of Minnesota. Most recently, she served as the college coordinator for the School of Dentistry advanced education and clinical residency programs. She enjoys working in higher education because of the environment of continuous learning. "I continue to serve learners and educators because I love contributing to the commitments of professional growth and sharing of knowledge," she said. "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the Center for Allied Health Programs and serve the CAHP community."



Josette earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences from East Carolina University. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with family, especially her young son. Other lifelong interests include cooking and music. She also loves to travel, and has visited Mexico, Morocco, and Scotland. Future plans include taking a food tour of Italy. ■

### New MLS Faculty

**ALLYSON (ALLY) FOLEY, MA, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, SMC<sup>CM</sup>** joined the MLS program as an Instructor in January, 2022. A 2014 graduate of our program, she comes to us from the Allina Health Central Microbiology Laboratory where she worked in the areas of bacteriology, mycology, mycobacteriology, molecular microbiology, and parasitology. At Allina, she also led the microbiology clinical rotations for multiple MLT and MLS programs and was the lead parasitologist. Ally earned her Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, where her research project focused on the importance of MLS inclusion in interprofessional education for improved patient safety. She will be helping in the student microbiology laboratory, body fluid analysis, and introductory laboratory methods courses.



In her free time, Ally enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, and caring for her cat and many house plants. ■

# Looking Back at Our History of Advocacy

As the MLS program looks back at the last 100 years, it's clear that many of the profession's current problems have been faced before. The workforce shortage, faculty shortages, and lack of student scholarships have been issues in medical laboratory education for decades.

However, it's also clear that the University of Minnesota's Medical Technology/ Medical Laboratory Sciences Program and faculty have always been advocates for their students and for the profession. One of the documents recently discovered is a copy of the testimony MT Program Director Ruth Hovde (Class of 1938) gave in Washington, DC before the House of Representative's Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in support of the Allied Health Professions Personnel Training Act of 1966.

In her presentation, Ms. Hovde talked about the clinical laboratory workforce shortage,

the need for financial assistance for students, the shortage of medical laboratory faculty, and the need for graduate programs for the profession. The issues she discussed before that Congressional committee over 55 years ago, are the same issues we are facing today.

We continue to stress to our students the importance of advocacy for the profession. Students learn the importance of staying informed about new legislation impacting the clinical laboratory and how to communicate with legislators so they can continue to be advocates for the profession throughout their lifetime. We are proud our graduates become advocates and leaders of the profession, whether it is Ruth Hovde, Class of 1938 testifying before Congress or Alex Shaw, Class of 2021, advocating in ASCLS Today (<https://ascls.org/what-you-your-fellow-laboratorians-and-ascls-can-do-to-promote-an-inclusive-future/>). ■



Ruth Hovde

# Celebrating the Life of Constance Olson Bakken

Constance (Connie) Bakken, University of Minnesota Medical Technology Class of 1946, was a staunch supporter of the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program and of the University of Minnesota. After graduating, she worked in the laboratory at Abbott Northwestern Hospital for six years before stopping to raise her family.

Connie was not one to sit back idly, so once her children grew up, Connie embarked on another career in banking when in 1980 she purchased Citizen's Independent Bank in St. Louis Park. At the time, she didn't know very much about banking, so she completed a three-year course in community bank management at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and additional coursework at the Minnesota School of Banking at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. As with medical technology, she learned the banking profession very well, and under her direction, the bank expanded to five locations, with assets from \$44 million in 1980 to \$300 million today.

However, Connie did not forget her roots. In 2000, the Constance Olson Bakken Scholarship in Medical Technology (MT) was formed. A

year later, Connie wanted to honor her friend and former MT Program Director Dr. Karen Karni, so she issued a challenge grant to alumni and friends of the Medical Technology Program, which resulted in the creation of the Karen Karni Scholarship in Medical Technology. Connie and Karen were both U of MN women's basketball fans and attended many games together, so it came as no surprise when Connie donated significant funds to establish the Connie Bakken Locker Room in Williams arena for the women's basketball team.

Connie was the recipient of many awards for her work in the community, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the MN Chapter of the National Association of Business Owners and a Career Achievement Award from Women in Business. In 2003, the University of Minnesota Medical Technology Alumni Society named her the Alumnus of the Year.

Connie passed away on December 27, 2021. However, the legacy she left for the Medical Laboratory Science Program will live on. We'll miss you, Connie! ■





## Congratulations 2021 MLS Graduates!

The Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) Program held its commencement ceremony for graduates of the Class of 2021 on Friday, September 17 in Memorial Hall at McNamara Alumni Center. MLS Professor, Dr. Lorna Ruskin, led the procession carrying the ceremonial mace of the University of Minnesota. We felt fortunate that family and friends of graduates could attend the ceremony, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



Minnesota State Senator John J. Marty, who represents District 66, delivered the commencement address. Senator Marty spoke eloquently about the important and critical role that MLS plays in the healthcare system and how the policy initiatives and legislation he champions help to improve access and outcomes for patients.



Alexander (Alex) Shaw, president of the MLS student organization, was the MLS student speaker. Alex is the Region V Developing Professional Representative for the American



Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. Alex stated "As laboratory scientists, we know that patients may not see us, and some may not know that we exist, but our role is critical in improving their health outcomes."

He also noted that while the COVID-19 pandemic has brought laboratory testing to the forefront of public health, COVID testing only represents one of the many tests that laboratory professionals perform. He closed by noting "The demand for medical laboratory professionals has never been greater than it is today. With all of the knowledge we have gained during our course of study, it is now our time to use it for the betterment of our community." ■



**Congratulations to the  
MLS Class of 2021!  
We are so proud of you!**



**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES GRADUATES**

Sarah Anschutz	Madison Lyndsley
Katelyn Cegla	Abdirahman Mohamed
Dylan Christensen	Alyssa Olson
Amy Dahlke	Seonmi Park
Ashley Dahlke	Sarah Pham
Kylie Duong	Alexander Shaw
Derek Fall	Kirill Syulyukov
Taylor Harvey	Lidiya Tadesse
Farah Hashim	Sabrina Tobe



**PROFESSIONAL MASTER'S OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES GRADUATES**

Jared Heinsch	Carly Taschner
Helen Risser	Kaylee Renstrom
Jenna Hovind	Mariah Witt
Ellie Shuldes	Kurt Ringwalt
Emily Lorenz	Bing Zhou



## 2021 MLS Alumni Happy to Get Together Virtually!

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the 2020 virtual alumni event and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we held the 2021 MLS alumni event in a virtual happy hour format. In fact, we hosted two virtual events, first on May 13th and again on November 11th. Alumni from each of the decades from the 1950's all the way through the class of 2021 participated in the events. We want to thank everyone who attended and hope you enjoyed the chance to reconnect with faculty, classmates, and friends and hear about the many initiatives, advances, and important work happening in the program today.



Both events kicked off with Christine Maleck demonstrating how to make a signature mocktail/cocktail using laboratory style instructions followed by program updates from Janice Conway-Klaassen, Donna Spannaus-Martin and Tami Alpaugh. Jireh Mabamba recognized the anniversary classes of 1946, 1971, and 1996 and provided an update on planning for the 100-year anniversary in 2022. The events concluded with small group breakout rooms where alumni reconnected with former classmates.

Participants told us they enjoyed seeing familiar faces, including those who live out of town and who aren't normally able to travel to the annual banquet. Others said they liked hearing from current students and recent graduates, hearing how the program has adapted during the pandemic, and the opportunity to connect with class members in small breakout groups. ■

*"It was great to see so many people! I really liked the breakout groups to talk to former classmates. I also enjoyed the interesting information that was presented during the call. Thank you so very much!!"*

*~ Kathryn Young  
class of 1968*

## The MLS 100th Anniversary CELEBRATION

In 1922, the University of Minnesota began offering courses in a new Medical Technology Program. The first graduate, Kathryn Francis, graduate in 1923. Since we couldn't quite decide if we should be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the start of the program or we should celebrate the 100th anniversary of our first graduate, we've decided to make this a year-long celebration over the academic year. Our theme for the year-long celebration is 'A Century of Excellence in Medical Laboratory Education'. As the oldest baccalaureate MLS programs in the United States, we have led the MLS profession nationally and internationally since the first course was offered in 1922 and our first graduate in 1923.

Our goal for the 100th-anniversary celebration is to engage the entire MLS community, including alumni, faculty, staff, students, and community partners in commemorating this significant milestone in our history. We

plan to kick-off the celebration at the 2022 Alumni Banquet which will be held at the McNamara

Alumni Center on the University of Minnesota East Bank Campus on Saturday, April 30th. Cocktail hour (cash bar) will begin at 4:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m. and with a brief program to follow. There will be a special recognition of the Classes of 1947, 1972 and 1997. We encourage all alumni and friends of the MLS Program to attend!

We will be holding events throughout the 2022-2023 academic year. This will include webinars, alumni gatherings, campus tours, fundraising, student celebrations, and so much more. Watch for e-mails, our website, and our Facebook page for updates and announcement of future events.

If you would like to help in the planning of the 100th anniversary celebration, coordinate a class reunion, or make a gift, please contact Jireh Mabamba at [mabam001@umn.edu](mailto:mabam001@umn.edu) or Donna Spannaus-Martin at [spann003@umn.edu](mailto:spann003@umn.edu). Our 100th anniversary is a fantastic opportunity to unite our alumni and supporters to celebrate our rich history and past achievements and look forward to the future with great enthusiasm and promise. We look forward to connecting with you throughout the year! ■

1925 UMN Hospital Laboratory



# Congratulations to the special reunion classes of 1947, 1972 and 1997!

## 75th Anniversary Class of 1947

Grace Anderson (Johnson)*	Audrey H. Engelen (Naas)*	Rosemary B. Krause (Bentson)*	Georgia M. Parker (Rietz)*	Shirley R. Rynda
Elizabeth A. Athens	Esther V. Engstrom (Vanjae)*	Frances G. Larson*	Dorothy D. Peterson	Mildred Schultz (Wicklund)*
Mary J. Bandelin (Anderson)*	Stellamae T. Eriksen (Hart)*	Deborah Lautkin (Juster)	(Dodsworth)*	Betty J. Strong (Crawford)*
Harriet Bickert (Helming)*	Eleanor D. Fowler (Davis)*	Virginia Lee	Carol M. Peterson (Hudy)*	Dr. Barbara H. Subak
Catherine Boudreau (Arens)*	Saranette Frank (Goldman)	Mary R. LeIwica (Welshons)*	Audrey L. Petri (Anderson)	(Hanson)*
Ruth J. Brauer (Bienhoff)*	Avis L. Frethem (Larson)	Jeannette Levich*	Lorraine A. Pumper (Lapic)*	Jane L. Swanson (Soderlind)
Lorna Brown (Roper)	Irene C. Frisch (Chucker)*	Catherine G. Manlove (Gladson)*	Betty A. Rainey (Burnes)*	Joyce S. Swanson (Stolen)*
Rose Bryant*	Lois Gillott (Burgan)*	Meredith R. Melhart (Rieke)*	Jacqueline C. Rayman	Shirley Tennyson (Chapman)
Ruth G. Chamberlain (Minor)*	Olga S. Hamerston (Eklund)*	Shirley A. Michel (Lindquist)*	(Callies)*	Betty E. Tesar (Berry)
Mary E. Chambers (Kauth)*	Kay Hanson	Vivian V. Mulkern (Olson)*	Phyllis Reynolds (Roy)*	Rhoda B. Thorsheim
Mary Clutter (Limond)*	Ruth I. Heinemann*	Mary N. Mullaney (Dudley)*	Norma Robinson (Bowers)*	(Harvey)*
Donna J. Cole (Laker)*	Alyce L. Hellstrom (Hollem)*	Marian F. Natwick (Harbo)*	Margaret Rodewald (Ryan)*	Joan Tregilgas (Rooney)*
Dr. Genevieve E. Currie	Joan Jackson (Lowe)	Maxine J. Nelson-Birss	Mary Rodewald*	Marianne L. Wasnick (Pribble)*
(Swanson)	Virginia A. James (Winkle)	Ellen Newman (Omernik)*	Zona F. Rohs (Swanson)*	Anne R. Welliver (Rothschild)*
Rita M. Curtis*	Dorothy E. Keranen (Tess)	Mildred E. Olson*	Donna C. Rustad (Dahlquist)*	Elizabeth A. Werner (Schierl)
Elizabeth A. Dornbusch*	Harriet R. Kirk (Rollins)*	Clarice J. Olson (Opdahl)*	Jean J. Ryan*	Evelyn Woltjen (Berg)

## 50th Anniversary Class of 1972

Dr. Joan E. Aldrich	Lynn C. Drecktrah	Peggy C. Kohner	Judy A. Olein (Parham)	Katherine A. Smith (Bungum)
Jerilyn A. Bergdahl (Hagberg)	Linda S. Edwins (Janssen)	Gayle A. Lancette (Carlson)	Dr. Darwin D. Olson	Sister M. Carol Snegoski
Coleen Blackberg	Jean M. Elwell-Keir (Elwell)	Yvonne Legler (Novak)	Bonita F. Paetznick (Bouta)	Alana L. Speckman (Ladd)
Bonita Bouta	Eileen S. Emrick (Streufert)*	Anna E. MacCormick (Janssen)	Barbara J. Paulson (Jacobson)*	Liga D. Stark (Semelis)
Patricia J. Brennecke (Johnson)	Pernella M. Erickson (Johnson)*	Anne M. McKay (Cebulla)	Elizabeth A. Plumhoff (Hareid)	Gail K. Stitt
Allynne O. Burg	Patsy E. Greenup	Teresa A. Mitchell (Boyd)	Marba L. Pogue (Sanders)	Patricia R. Tate (Olson)
Katherine A. Calander	Judith E. Grev (Gunnerson)*	Nina G. Mosher (Ipanis)	Kathleen A. Rhode	Dr. Judy A. Thies (Bakke)
Joy Christensen (Yoshikawa)	Laura L. Hastings (Peterson)	Kathleen A. Newell (Dedrick)	Jane E. Richardson (Hansen)	Ruth H. Thon (Melchior)
Mary E. Clay (Burke)	Kristen L. Helleloid (Anderson)	Sylvia L. Newfield (Gilland)	Janice E. Ringer (Koepeke)	Victoria M. Thonvold (Johnson)
Nancy A. Cox	Jean Hengesbaugh (Houger)	Ray H. Oates	Mary A. Riter	Elizabeth C. Tsang (Grabowski)
Teryl R. Crouch (Rudolph)	Donna L. Howard (McCabe)	Marilyn L. Hickman Oborny	Kathleen R. Schweigert	Mary E. Walz (Krogh)
Beverly A. Detore (Nelson)	Linda L. Iverson (Supan)	(Hickman)	(Lewandowski)	Camille E. Wang (Plewacki)
Florence C. Deutsch (Glen)	Ruthann M. Jacobsen (Olsen)	Marilyn J. O'Korn-Owen (O'Korn)	Bernice E. Simmons (Eldred)	Virginia M. Weiss (Maxwell)

## 25th Anniversary Class of 1997

Katherine Waiman Chan	Denise A. Edelstein	Marie L. LaFromboise	Chi T. Nguyen	Hailu Shitaye
Yi Chen	Curtis D. Forehand	Kehan Li	Kim Poirier	Matthew R. Skarohlid
Hoang A. Chuong	Linette M. Grund (Lovett)	Ryan D. Lieske	Andrew R. Sandquist	Timothy D. Snell
Thanh-Hang T. Dang	Yi Ju Hung	Kristine E. Monson-Jobe	Timothy P. Schmidt	Susan J. Sonntag
John B. DeLeon	Margaret J. John	Dr. Lisa K. Mullany (Pierson)	Tara A. Seltz (Quaas)	*Deceased

To register online, go to [z.umn.edu/MLS100Anniversary](http://z.umn.edu/MLS100Anniversary)

To register by mail, please include this form and your check payable to **Regents of the University of Minnesota**. Address to: Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, University of Minnesota, MMC 714, 420 Delaware St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (Attention Todd Gitzlaff)

Please contact Todd Gitzlaff with questions at 612-626-5517 or [gitzl002@umn.edu](mailto:gitzl002@umn.edu).

**Yes! I will attend the 2022 MLS 100th Anniversary Kickoff Event.**

Please check your entrée selection (salad and dessert included):

- Pistachio Crusted Walleye with Red Pepper Cream Sauce .....\$40.00
- Grilled Chicken Breast with Dried Cherry-Rosemary Sauce .....\$45.00
- Braised Pot Roast .....\$45.00
- Mushroom and Vegetable Strudel .....\$40.00

Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for a total of \_\_\_\_\_ dinner/s

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_ Former name \_\_\_\_\_

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