



Clinical Science Trumpet

Newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists

Henry Oh, Ph.D., FACSc, Editor

Vol. 42, No. 1—January 2022

Details: 2022 Annual Meeting in Louisville



Louisville, Kentucky skyline along the Ohio River



Dr. Craig James McClain



Dr. Kenneth Palmer

We are Back!
A chance to reunite with friends and colleagues!

143rd Meeting
May 11-14, 2022

Embassy Suites Louisville
Downtown Hotel, Louisville, KY

The Association of Clinical Scientists is holding its usual in-person Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky May 11-14, 2022 (a revisit to Louisville of 11 years ago). The University of Louisville Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine will be hosting this year's ACS Annual Meeting. The theme is "Analytical Demands and Informatics in Precision Medicine" with a subtitle of "Environment, Pandemics and Informatics in Health and Disease." The Program Committee (see below) has developed a full line-up of invited speakers in this January Newsletter.

ABSTRACTS AND UL REUNION

Elsewhere in the newsletter is an invitation for members and other scientists to submit abstracts for oral or poster presentation. We are also linking this Annual Meeting to a reunion of all of the Fellows trained over the past 32+ years in the University of Louisville Clinical Chemistry Postdoctoral Fellowship and affiliated programs.

KEYNOTE TALKS

There will be two keynote talks on Thursday, May 12: the Claude P. Brown Memorial Lecture, "The Many Roads to Steatohepatitis and its Treatment", by **Craig James McClain, M.D.**, Professor and Distinguished University Scholar, University of Louisville School of Medicine, and the Abraham J. Gitlitz Memorial Lecture, "Drug Development in Academia During a Pandemic", by **Kenneth E. Palmer, Ph.D.**, Professor and

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Also, click any green text to jump to more information.

2022 in Louisville...

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Helmley Chair in Pharmaceutical Plant-based Research, University of Louisville. Preliminary plans for the Annual Meeting also include a visit to the world-famous Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby, the Annual Reception and Awards Banquet and the Musicale and Art Show.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM THEMES

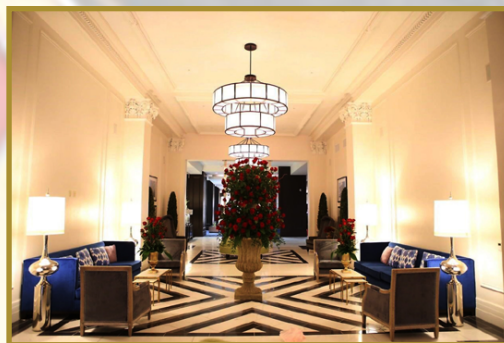
The scientific program brings a focus on personalized and precision medicine and how pathology and the laboratory provide the required support. Precision medicine is driven by both our knowledge of the underlying pathology (diagnosis) and how effective are the treatments (therapy). These require a fundamental understanding of the molecular basis of health and disease, how we interact with the environment and the development of novel methods of analysis. We will tackle these areas with topics ranging from fighting pandemics to understanding how the environment affects health and disease and how “informatics” approaches drive the application of new technologies. The meeting will be highlighted with superb presentations by medical, pathology and laboratory experts in their fields. Please join us for what promises to be a knowledgeable and fabulous gathering!!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

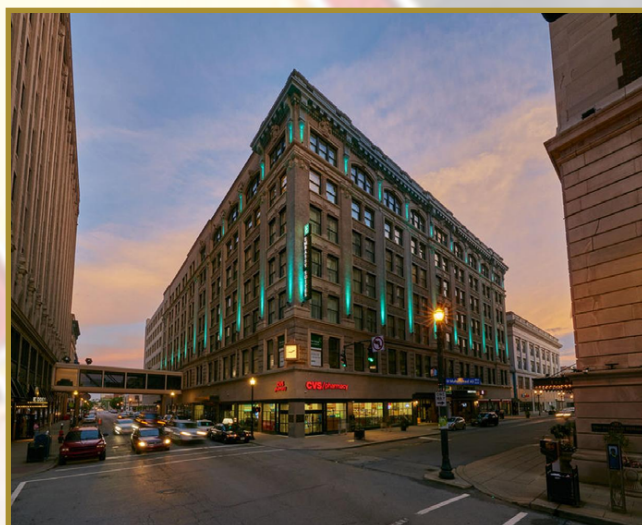
The full roster of the Program Committee includes: **Roland Valdes, Jr., Ph.D., Chair, Mustafa Namir Ghani Al-Kawaaz, M.D., Chris Crutchfield, Ph.D., Philip R. Foulis, M.D., M.P.H., Dibson Dibe Gondim, M.D., Joshua Hayden, Ph.D., Jonathan B. Hoyne, Ph.D., Mark W. Linder, Ph.D., Tiffany Bratton, Ph.D., and Yusheng Zhu, Ph.D..**

ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION

The host hotel will be the Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown Hotel, 501 S. Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202 (telephone 502-813-3800) which is immediately adjacent to Louisville's famed Fourth Street Live entertainment and restaurant district. ACS has negotiated an excellent room rate of \$199 plus taxes (currently 16.07%). ***The deadline to register at this rate is April 12, 2022.*** The Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown Hotel provides a complimentary shuttle to and from the Louisville International Airport. ACS attendees and guests will enjoy many features including a complimentary made-to-order breakfast each morning, complimentary evening receptions, and other amenities including the opportunity to make new professional colleagues and unite with those we know.



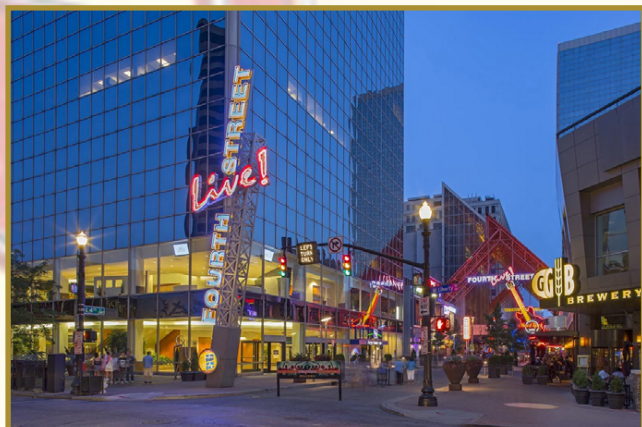
Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown Hotel will be the Meeting accommodations; hotel lobby pictured above



Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby



On West Main Street: 30-ft. tall statue of David not far from the world's largest Louisville Slugger bat; also paddle wheel boats on the Ohio River



Fourth Street Live is nearby the Annual Meeting hotel

Among the Speakers to Present in Louisville

Other speakers and their information may be found at www.clinicalscience.org

Abraham J Gitlitz Memorial Lecture

“Drug Development in Academia During a Pandemic”

KENNETH E. PALMER, PHD

Dr. Palmer was trained in molecular virology and biotechnology, first at the University of Cape Town, and then at Cornell University. His research program is focused on developing broad-spectrum antivirals for prevention and treatment of emerging and re-emerging viral infections. He started his career in the biotechnology industry, returning to academia at the University of Louisville in 2006 to grow a translational research program. He is a Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology and Helmsley Endowed Chair in Plant-based Pharmaceutical Research in the University of Louisville School of Medicine. He is also Director of the University of Louisville Center for Predictive Medicine for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases, where he oversees the scientific operations of the University of Louisville Regional Biocontainment Laboratory.



Dr. Kenneth Palmer

Claude P Brown Memorial Lecture

“The Many Roads to Steatohepatitis and Its Treatment”

CRAIG JAMES MCCLAIN, MD, FAGG, FAASLN, FACN

Dr. McClain is a widely recognized expert in liver injury/disease, nutrition, and cytokine research, as well as hepatic drug metabolism. His laboratory currently focuses on nutrition and the gut:liver axis, especially as it relates to alcohol-associated liver disease and environmental liver disease. He has had continuous federal funding as PI for his research since 1977. Dr. McClain is a Past President of the American College of Nutrition, has served on several NIH and VA Study Sections and has published over 460 peer-reviewed articles and 110 book chapters/reviews. He has mentored over 125 Residents and Fellows including over 30 junior faculty members with K-type career development awards. Dr. McClain is currently leading the effort to develop ACG guidelines for nutrition in liver disease.



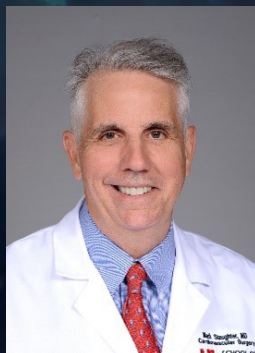
Dr. James McClain

Thursday Luncheon Speaker

“Recent Advances in Artificial Heart Technology & Applications”

MARK S. SLAUGHTER, MD, FABS, FABTSC

Dr. Slaughter is a clinician-scientist whose broad research focus is to understand the mechanisms of cardiac dysfunction and pathological remodeling in heart failure. He also has a particular interest in device-based therapy for cardiac disease, including mechanical circulatory support (MCS) devices, ventricular assist devices (VAD), and total artificial hearts (TAH). He is the Editor-in-Chief of the ASAIO Journal. In August, 2021, Dr. Slaughter and the cardiothoracic surgical team at UofL Health – Jewish Hospital implanted the Aeson® bioprosthetic total artificial heart into the first female patient in the world. The new device is intended as a bridge to a heart organ transplant, which is part of an Early Feasibility Study (EFS) sponsored by CARMAT, a French medical device company.



Dr. Norah Alghamdi

Other Confirmed Speakers

“Drug Development in Academia During a Pandemic”

DIBSON DIBE-GONDIM, MD

Dr. Gondim has 12 peer-reviewed publications and is the winner of the 2019 Surgical Pathology Award for a poster that demonstrated, for the first time, an artificial intelligence model that can correctly classify the majority of the most common types of kidney neoplasms, presented at the 108th Annual Meeting of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology.

“Application of Circulating Tumor DNA for Monitoring Response to Immune Check Point Inhibitors”

MARK W. LINDER, PH.D., DABCC

Dr. Linder's specialty is Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology. He has numerous publications and has developed the discipline of pharmacogenetics and its application to guide therapeutics. His research emphasis is now focused on circulating DNA analysis and applications to oncology.

Go to <https://www.clinicalscience.org/meetings.html#SpeakerProfiles> for additional speaker profiles.

2022 ACS Awards to be Presented in Louisville

Clinical Scientist of the Year

JONATHAN B. HOYNE, PHD, DABCC, FAACC

Jonathan B. Hoyne, Ph.D., DABCC, FAACC has served in the ACS Executive Committee as its secretary since 2019 and presently chairs the Virtual and Hybrid Meetings Oversight Committee. **Dr. Hoyne** currently serves as the director of clinical chemistry at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. He obtained his Ph.D. in Biomedical Research–Molecular Biology in 2006 from the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. **Jonathan** is a Fellow of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (FAACC), a Diplomate of the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (DABCC), and a Fellow of the Association of Clinical Scientists (FACSc). He received the AACC Outstanding Speaker Award in 2012 for his presentation on “Neuron Specific Enolase Quantification: Utility and Caveats for Prognosis in Post Anoxic Coma.” **Jonathan** also received the Distinguished Abstract Award in 2007 from the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry.



Dr. Jonathan Hoyne

Young Clinical Scientist Award

NORAH ALGHAMDI, PHD, NRCC

Norah Alghamdi, Ph.D., NRCC, is a clinical chemistry fellow at the University of Louisville, School of Medicine, Louisville, Kentucky. **Dr. Alghamdi** received her master's degree in chemistry and earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Bioanalytical Chemistry from Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio. She received several grants including the Young Investigator Educational Grant, Mass Spectrometry: Applications to the Clinical Laboratory (MSACL) in 2019 at the 11th Annual Conference & Exhibits, Palm Springs, CA; and the Society for Young Clinical Laboratorians (SYCL) Travel Grant in 2018 at the 70th AACC Annual Scientific Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo in Chicago, IL. **Norah's** primary research focus is discovering biomarkers and developing rapid, accurate and cost-efficient diagnostic methods to improve patient health outcomes.



Dr. Norah Alghamdi

F.W. Sunderman, Jr. Diploma of Honor

CONSOLATO M. SERGI, MD, PHD

Consolato M. Sergi, M.D., Ph.D. is the Chief of the Anatomic Pathology Division at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Professor of Pediatrics and Pathology, University of Alberta and Ottawa, Canada. **Dr. Sergi** is Canadian, born in Rome (Italy), obtained his M.D. degree with honors, qualification in Pediatrics, and Pediatric Pathology Fellowship at the University of Genoa, Italy. **Dr. Sergi** obtained his qualification in Pathology at the Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg, Germany, the Clinical Reader title at the University of Bristol, UK, Ph.D./Habilitation at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, M.P.H. in Austria, and FRCPC from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. In his research, he established his Canadian laboratory in August 2008. He welcomed more than 100 graduate M.Sc./Ph.D. students, fellows, undergraduate and summer students with on-going teaching in Genetics and Pathology.



Dr. Consolato Sergi

Young Clinical Scientist Award

DEBLINA MUKHERJEE

Deblina Mukherjee is a second-year medical student at St. George's University School of Medicine in St. Georges, Grenada. She earned her B.A. in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey in 2018 after which she pursued her career in education at the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School in Perth Amboy, New Jersey from 2018 to 2020. **Deblina** has always found it difficult to choose between her two passions: education and medicine. With the advent and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, she decided to pursue medicine with the hope of becoming an academic physician in the future. **Deblina** has taken the opportunity to conduct epidemiological research at St. Joseph's University Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey. She joined the NeuroPharmacoGenetics Lab at the Rutgers Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies, and the Tycko Lab at the Center for Discovery & Innovation in New Jersey.



Deblina Mukherjee

Preliminary Program Schedule for May 11-14, 2022

Tentative, subject to change. All events, unless otherwise noted, are held at:
Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown Hotel, Louisville, KY

Wednesday, May 11

- 2:30–5:00 p.m. Registration
3:00–5:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting
5:30–7:30 p.m. Opening Reception
6:30 p.m. Musicales Rehearsal

Theme: Precision Medicine and Pharmacotherapy in Health and Disease

1:00 p.m. **Claude P. Brown Memorial Lecture**
Craig McClain
The Many Roads to Steatohepatitis and Its Treatment

1:45 p.m. **Irina A. Kirpich**
Bioactive Lipid Metabolites: Novel Therapeutic Targets and Potential Treatment Strategies in Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease

2:15 p.m. **Josiah E. Hardesty**
Proteomic and Phospho-proteomic Signatures of Alcohol-Associated Hepatitis

2:35 p.m. **Jeff B. Warner**
Beneficial Effects of Soluble Epoxide Hydrolase Inhibition in Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease: Application of a Novel Liver-Specific Drug Delivery Platform

2:55 p.m. Afternoon Break and Poster Session

Thursday, May 12

- 7:00 a.m. Registration
7:00 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Welcome—ACS President and Meeting Chair

Theme: Precision Medicine in Health and Disease

8:15 a.m. **Abraham J. Gitlitz Memorial Lecture**
Kenneth E. Palmer
Drug Development in Academia During a Pandemic

9:00 a.m. **Allen Helm**
Rolling with the Punches: A Biosafety Program at a Research University Addresses COVID-19

9:30 a.m. **Saeed Jortani**
An Interdisciplinary Post-Operative Personalized Pain Management Clinical Trial

10:00 a.m. Morning Break and Poster Session

11:00 a.m. **David Hien**
Acetylation Pharmacogenomics: Paradigm for Informed Individual Risk Assessment Following Exposure to Environmental Carcinogens

11:50 a.m. Session concludes

12:00 p.m. **Luncheon Seminar**
Mark Slaughter
Recent Advances in Artificial Heart Technology & Applications

Theme: Molecular Genomics in Precision Medicine

3:30 p.m. **Mark W. Linder**
Tumor ctDNA for Monitoring Response to Immune Check Point Inhibitors

4:00 p.m. **Evan Alexander**
Quantitative Methods of Monitoring Circulating Tumor DNA

4:30 p.m. **Mustafa Al-Kawaaz**
Value of Next Generation Sequencing in Myeloid Neoplasia

5:00 p.m. Session concludes

Evening

6:00–7:30 p.m. Open Reception

7:30–10:00 p.m. CCFP Reunion Event

7:30–10:00 p.m. Young Fellows Section Event

Friday, May 13

Theme: Advanced Technologies in Clinical Sciences

- 7:00 a.m. Registration
- 7:00 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. **Yusheng Zhu**
Imaging Mass Spectrometry: Applications in Biomedical Research and Clinical Diagnosis
- 8:30 a.m. **Kavitha Yaddanapudi**
Immune Landscape in Sentinel Lymph Nodes from Melanoma Patients by Single-Cell Mass Cytometry (CyTOF) Analysis
- 8:55 a.m. **Speaker T.B.D.**
Topic in: Mass Spectrometry in General Surgery
- 9:20 a.m. **Speaker T.B.D.**
Topic is: Mass Spectrometry in Molecular Diagnostics
- 9:20 a.m. Morning Break
- 10:15 a.m. Submitted Abstracts
- 11:30 a.m.–
4:30 p.m. **Afternoon Tour (registration required):**
Churchill Downs, includes museum movie, lunch, and horse racing
- 6:00 p.m. Annual Reception and Awards Banquet (ticket required)
Speaker T.B.D.

Saturday, May 14

- 7:30 a.m. Registration
- 7:30 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast

Morning Split Sessions: A & B run concurrent

- 8:30 a.m.–
9:45 a.m. **Session A:**
Clinical Pathology in Practice, part 1
[sponsored by the Scientific Section on Therapeutics and Toxicology]

- 8:30 a.m. **Joshua Hayden**
Triggered MRM for Untargeted Urine Drug Testing: Finding What You Aren't Looking For
- 8:50 a.m. **Joshua Bornhorst**
Advances in the Assessment of Orexin-A (hypocretin-1) Deficiency in the Diagnosis of Type 1 Narcolepsy
- 9:10 a.m. Submitted Abstracts
- 9:45 a.m. Morning Break
- 10:15 a.m.–
12:00 p.m. **Session A:**
Clinical Pathology in Practice, part 2
[sponsored by the Scientific Section on Hematology and Transfusion Medicine]
- 10:15 a.m. **Oksana Volod**
Measure Directly, Treat Efficiently. Critical Bleeding Management at the Speed of Sound
- 10:40 a.m. **Claire Mena-Leist**
Managing the Challenges of Running a Transfusion Service During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 11:05 a.m. **Laurel Bowen**
It's Just Not My Type: Cases of Incompatible Blood Transfusions
- 11:30 a.m. Submitted Abstracts
- 12:00 p.m. Session concludes

- 8:30 a.m.–
12:00 p.m. **Session B:**
Anatomic Pathology in Practice
[sponsored by the Scientific Section on Cell and Tissue Pathology]
- 8:30 a.m. **Neda Zarrin-Khameh**
How to be a Better Surgical Pathology Consultant
- 9:00 a.m. **Speaker T.B.D.**
Topic T.B.D.
- 9:20 a.m. Submitted Abstracts
- 9:45 a.m. Morning Break
- 10:15 a.m. Submitted Abstracts
- 12:00 p.m. Session concludes

12:00 p.m.–
1:30 p.m. Annual Luncheon Business Meeting
of the Association (all registrants
invited to attend)

Afternoon Combined Session

1:30 p.m.–
3:00 p.m. **Combined Session, part 1**
[sponsored by the Scientific Section on
Clinical Informatics]

1:30 p.m. **Dibson Dibe-Gondim**
*Implementing Digital Pathology and
AI in an Academic Health System*

2:00 p.m. **Andrew Borkowski**
*Establishing a Hospital AI Committee:
Enhancing Precision Medicine*

2:30 p.m. Submitted Abstracts

3:00 p.m. Afternoon Break

3:30 p.m.–
5:00 p.m. **Combined Session, part 2**
[sponsored by the Scientific Section on
Clinical Chemistry & Biotechnology]

3:30 p.m. **Tiffany Bratton**
*Evolution of HLA Testing from
Beginnings to Current and Future
Developments*

4:00 p.m. Submitted Abstracts

5:00 p.m. Session concludes

Evening

5:00–7:30 p.m. Dinner on your own, if desired
(see below)

7:30–10:00 p.m. Association Musicale and Art Show,
with wine and “heavy” hors d’oeuvres
reception at Intermission

Last Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are welcome in all areas of clinical laboratory science and anatomic pathology. You may indicate your preference of an oral or poster presentation.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is Friday, February 11, 2022.

Abstracts and financial disclosures should be emailed together in a single email to Stephanie Cox (stephanie.cox.1@louisville.edu).

Please submit your abstract as soon as possible. The Abstract Submission Form and two Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Forms can be found on the Association’s website at “Abstract Instructions.”



Embassy Suites
Atrium Lobby



Louisville skyline in early evening fronts the Ohio River

Association of Clinical Scientists

Registration for 143rd Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky, May 11–14, 2022

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Initial	Degree(s)
Institution		Street Address	
City	State	Postal/Zip Code	Country
Telephone Number	Fax Number	Email Address	

Please record number of persons for all No Charge (NC) items	Unit Price (\$ US)	Number of Persons	Amount Charged
Full Meeting Registration, Regular For all Fellows of the Association and non-members attending the full Meeting; includes luncheons, one banquet ticket and continuing education credits, if desired	\$475	_____	_____
Full Meeting Registration, Emeritus, Assoc. Fellows & Trainees For all Emeritus or Associate Fellows of the Association and all trainees, residents, and Fellows attending the full Meeting; includes luncheons, one banquet ticket and CE credits, if desired	\$200	_____	_____
Meeting Registration, Complimentary For all speakers only attending the meeting for the day of their lecture; excludes banquet and continuing education	NC	_____	NC
Single Day Registration For either Thursday or Saturday; includes luncheon and continuing education credits if desired	\$200	_____	_____
Registration for On-Line Attendance If you intend to only attend the Annual Meeting virtually through our ZOOM link, please visit our website (https://www.clinicalscience.org/meetings.html#Registration) where you will find information on how to register for the meeting as an on-line attendee. The cost is US\$200. Do not register as an on-line attendee if you will be attending in person in Louisville.	\$200	paid through Zoom	paid through Zoom
Thursday, May 12			
Welcome Reception Open to all meeting registrants and accompanying persons. Indicate attendance for headcount.	NC	_____	NC
Friday, May 13			
Tour Churchill Downs, including the bus, lunch, museum movie, and racing	\$60	_____	_____
Extra tickets to Awards Banquet and Reception	\$95	_____	_____
Saturday, May 14			
Luncheon, presentation of travel grant awards Reserved seating for all Young Scientists, age 45 and under; included with full or single day registration (please indicate attendance for headcount estimation)	NC	_____	NC
Musicale, with Wine and hors d'oeuvres Intermission Complimentary for all attendees (please indicate attendance for headcount estimation)	NC	_____	NC
Include Renewal of Dues (Fellows)	\$225	_____	_____
Renewal of Dues (Assoc. Fellows)	\$50	_____	_____
Total Payment Enclosed (in USD)			=====

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Association of Clinical Scientists

Registration for 143rd Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky, May 11–14, 2022

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Cancellation with full refund will be accepted until **May 3, 2022**.

1. Register securely on-line at <http://www.clinicalscience.org/annualmeeting.html#Registration>.
2. Complete and mail this form (**print both pages 8-9 of form**) with a check, payable to Association of Clinical Scientists, or with credit card information, to Association of Clinical Scientists, 6431 Fannin Street, MSB2.292, Houston, TX 77030
3. To charge using American Express, Visa, or MasterCard, call the ACS office at (713) 500-5381, Mon–Fri, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Central Time. You may also fax this form with your credit card information to our secure Fax at (713) 500-0732.

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Credit card type
(check only one) Visa MasterCard American Express

Card number _____

Expiration (mo/yr) _____ **Security Code (CVV) No.** _____

Name on the card _____

Billing Address _____

City _____ **State (Province)** _____

Country _____ **Postal (Zip) Code** _____

Signature _____



President's Corner

"All new news is old news happening to new people" - Malcolm Muggeridge

This past year has seen our profession thrust into the spotlight in a number of ways both good and bad. The pathology and laboratory related topics that has foremost captured public attention this past year include "accuracy," applicability, and availability of COVID-19 testing. Another example is the surprisingly in-depth New York Times report on positive predictive values in rare disease screening by genetic testing. While positive predictive values are old news to us, to many patients they come as an unwelcome surprise (see "When They Warn of Rare Disorders, These Prenatal Tests Are Usually Wrong")



Dr. Joshua Bornhorst

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/01/upshot/pregnancy-birth-genetic-testing.html>

More ominously, other related news stories include: distrust of testing, the conviction of Elizabeth Holmes founder of Theranos (this one hits close to home, I met with her in 2012 but did not establish any professional relationship with Theranos), and the criminal conviction (involuntary manslaughter) of a pathologist due to misdiagnosis involving anatomic specimens.

See:

1. "Conflicting Covid test results leave Britons suspicious of PCR tests"

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/15/conflicting-covid-test-results-leave-britons-suspicious-of-pcr-tests>

2. "The Elizabeth Holmes Verdict: Theranos Founder is guilty on four of 11 charges in Fraud Trial"

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-elizabeth-holmes-verdict-theranos-founder-is-guilty-on-four-of-11-charges-in-fraud-trial-11641255705>

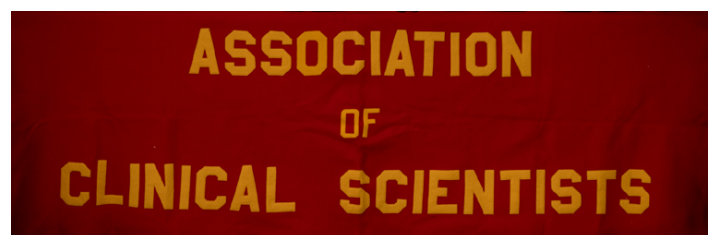
3. "VA allowed impaired pathologist to harm hundreds of veterans, IG report finds - The Washington Post"

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/va-inspector-general-pathologist/2021/06/02/cbcf2272-c333-11eb-9a8d-f95d7724967c_story.html

Fortunately, our professional organization, among many others, can provide a place of measured education and discussion both within pathology/laboratory medicine, and to other medical professionals and potentially interested parties. To that end, in the past year or so, the Association has given online platforms to experts on COVID testing, and on integrated diagnostic management teams. Like it or not, our field is increasingly intersecting with social and political issues. To what degree should we be involved in the discussion? For example, in this past year we have added our organization's name to the "Coalition to Improve Diagnosis" letter to Congress asking for a "dedicated increase in funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) patient safety portfolio specifically to expand and accelerate the agency's work to improve diagnostic safety and quality."

Should we try to be more cognizant of supporting our members and their staff in navigating their increasingly visible roles, and engaging in education to that end? Should we consider editorials in our journal, or encourage reviews on topics pertaining to the use of our diagnostic "product?" I'm sure that future presidents will be further addressing these conversations. I look forward to discussion at our annual meeting in Louisville in May 2022.

Josh Bornhorst, Ph.D., DABCC, FACSc



Financial Support Thank You

The Association wishes to thank

Beckman Coulter Corporation

for its financial support of our November 2021 Virtual Symposium on Diagnostic Management Teams.

The support was greatly appreciated.

Interview: Dr. Myra Wilkerson

The Young Fellows Section arranges interviews between Young Fellows and more senior Fellows. Young Fellows can obtain scientific and career advice from a senior member who may offer valuable guidance. Below is an interview between Alex Feldman, M.D., FACSc, Young Fellow and Myra Wilkerson, M.D., FACSc.

Alex Feldman: Please tell me a little bit about yourself. Where did you grow up? Where did you go to school?

Myra Wilkerson: I grew up in Nitro, WV. Nitro was a town founded in World War I when the government built a nitroglycerin plant there and had to construct a town as well so the workers would have a place to live. Our part of the state had a very heavy chemical industry presence (Union Carbide, Monsanto, DuPont, FMC, Kodak) and was on the USSR's top 10 list of places to bomb during the Cold War era. I went to undergraduate school at Marshall University, worked in the clinical laboratories at Charleston Area Medical Center for 4 years, and then went back to medical school at Marshall.

Feldman: How did you develop an interest in science and medicine?

Wilkerson: I always loved science. I asked for a telescope for my 7th birthday and a microscope for my 9th birthday. I could not decide which science to study, but I job shadowed our neighbor's niece who was a medical technologist on semester break when I was a college freshman, and I fell in love with clinical laboratory science. I also worked for the microbiology department in college and did a lot of work with environmental testing for them, which was fascinating and a lot of fun for me. The decision between med school and grad school was really hard. I decided to work for a few years and took a few graduate classes to help. I was torn between medical microbiology and going to med school for infectious diseases.

Feldman: Tell me about your career progression. Did your career progression exceed your expectations?

Wilkerson: I have always tried to seize opportunities when they came along. I enjoy stretching myself and seeing if I like something different. Dr. Bob Brown asked me to be the director of pathology informatics shortly after joining our group, and I was right out of training—he had a lot of faith in me for some reason. Pathology informatics was an emerging subspecialty then, so it was a great time to get into the field and literally be a pioneer. Informatics gave me so many opportunities to work with others across the country who were experts and happy to include me on committees and workgroups.

Feldman: How did mentorship influence your professional career? How did you get involved with the Association?

Wilkerson: Dr. Bob Brown, who was an incredible mentor to have when I was a resident, invited me to present a case of Menetrier's Disease at an Association meeting. It was 1997 in Atlanta, and I was going to get to tour the CDC with the Association. What an incredible opportunity for a resident! Everyone at the meeting was so warm and welcoming, and very interested in my career. It was also Nina Tatevian's first meeting, and she was a resident too, and I loved meeting



Dr. Myra Wilkerson

her and learning her life story. I just met so many amazing people at that meeting, and loved the Musicale, so it was a great fit for me.

Feldman: What unexpected turns did you have in your career?

Wilkerson: I never expected to stay at Geisinger for my entire medical career, so I have been very fortunate in that respect. Geisinger acquired a medical school 4 years ago, and I was appointed chair of the diagnostic medical institute there, in addition to already being a clinical chair. I never set out to be an academic chair and I'm still figuring that one out. I also have had radiology reporting to me for the last 5 years, which was also a big surprise, and very different from running a laboratory and pathology practice.

continued on page 12

Interview cont. continued from page 11

Feldman: How has ACS helped you in your career?

Wilkerson: There are always members interested in your career and in collaborating and exchanging ideas and information. I also know when I see publications from members that they are based on solid scientific principles and that I can use the data and findings in my own practice. I also held several leadership positions in the Association, so it has provided me opportunities to develop new skills and learn things like program planning that have carried over into other organizations and in my own lab. Hearing the life stories of some members over the years sometimes helps you put things into perspective. One of the most interesting conversations I ever had at a meeting was with Imre Fischer and Steven Hajdu when they told me how they met in a concentration camp in WWII and became lifelong friends. We also have had so many great musicians over the years that were a joy to play with and that keeps me coming back.


Feldman: Describe the importance for faculty to be involved in National/International organizations and to have administrative responsibilities outside of your current institution.

Wilkerson: If you want to influence your profession, it is essential to be involved in professional societies. This keeps you interested in the science, in the political and regulatory aspects, and helps you develop a network of contacts and resources that are invaluable.

Feldman: How did you develop your network of colleagues over the years? How critical has this been towards success in your career?

Wilkerson: I have enjoyed serving on committees in several organizations, some administrative and some related to actual medical practice. This enables you to meet and collaborate with some of the brightest people in subspecialty areas within laboratory medicine and pathology. They become great resources to reach out to when you need help solving a problem or need expertise that doesn't exist in your own lab.

Feldman: What advice would you give to someone starting out in their career in clinical chemistry/laboratory medicine? What advice would you give someone at the Assistant/Associate Professor level in their career?

Wilkerson: Always look for opportunities, especially ones that stretch you and push you out of your comfort zone. Take advantage of the ones that will connect you with new groups of people. 

The Young Fellows Section

The Young Fellows Section aims to foster career growth by providing opportunities to network and build relationships with other professionals in the field, give presentations and receive awards at our annual meeting and receive mentorship from more experienced members. If you are interested in establishing a mentor from within our organization, please contact me via email.




Dr. Alex Feldman

We encourage young fellows to submit case reports and review articles or original research manuscripts for publication to the Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science, the journal for ACS. The instructions for authors can be found at: www.annclinlabsci.org. It would be great to see a young fellow or trainee submit an article each quarter for publication. The editorial board also encourages trainees to serve as reviewers for the journal, wherein you can be paired with senior reviewers to receive hands-on guidance in the reviewing process. If you are interested in serving as a reviewer, please contact me via email.

The Young Fellows Section will also be holding a social event during our upcoming Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. This will be a great opportunity to meet up with your peers in a relaxed atmosphere, have some fun, and also learn about other ways to get involved with ACS. Senior members will be present to answer questions and offer suggestions. I'll be sharing more details about this as we get closer to the conference. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to me via email (see below) at any time.

Sincerely,

Alex Feldman, M.D.

Chair, Young Fellows Section, Association of Clinical Scientists
Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham
email: afeldman@uabmc.edu 



The Young Fellows Section is a great opportunity to network and meet other young scientists.

ACS Announces 2023 Annual Meeting: May 3-6, Rochester, MN

The Association's 2023 Annual Meeting will be co-hosted by the Departments of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology of the three Mayo Clinic campuses (Minnesota, Florida and Arizona).

Joshua Bornhorst, Ph.D., (Mayo Rochester) and **Jonathan Hoynes, Ph.D.** (Mayo Jacksonville) will serve as the Program Co-chairs.

The meeting will take place May 3rd-6th, 2023 at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota which is the original and largest Mayo Clinic campus.

The campus is located in the heart of Rochester, Minnesota — a dynamic city and medical center, which is 70 miles south of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.



Part of the Mayo Clinic campus in Rochester, Minnesota (courtesy the Mayo Clinic, <https://www.mayoclinic.org>)



Newsletter Trivia Question

Edited by Stephen M. Roper, Ph.D., FACSc

The first person to email the correct answer will have their name mentioned in the following newsletter and the satisfaction of knowing they won. Please respond to, or if you *have a trivia question you would like to submit*, please email to Stephen M. Roper at: smroper@wustl.edu.

PREVIOUS QUESTION

Which toxin was responsible for a large number of hemodialysis patients succumbing to a fatal neurological disease as well as metabolic bone disease in the 1970s and early 1980s?

ANSWER

Aluminium (answered correctly by **Dr. Roger Bertholf** and **Dr. David Bruns**).

CURRENT QUESTION

(SUBMITTED BY DR. ROGER BERTHOLF.)

Three photographic film manufacturers have, at various times, used their technology to develop dry chemistry applications for clinical laboratory diagnostics. What were the three companies, and what dry chemistry instrument platforms did they develop?

ANSWER

The answer will appear in the next *Clinical Science Trumpet*. The person submitting the first correct answer will have a chance to write the trivia question for the subsequent newsletter.

Submit your answer by email to Stephen M. Roper, Ph.D., FACSc, at: smroper@wustl.edu.

New Members

NEW MEMBERS SINCE FEBRUARY, 2021 CLINICAL SCIENCE TRUMPET

FELLOWS

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Middlesex University
London, United Kingdom

Abdul-Mohsen G. Al Hejaily, Ph.D.

Basic Medical Sciences
King Fahad Medical City, Alsuliymanyh
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Farah Aziz, Ph.D.

Department of Public Health
King Khalid University
College of Applied Medical Sciences
Abha, Asir, Saudi Arabia

Sulman Basit, Ph.D.

Department of Pathology
Center for Genetics and Inherited Diseases (CGID)
Taibah University Almadinah Almunwarah
Madinah, Saudi Arabia

Shicheng Chen, Ph.D.

Clinical & Diagnostics Department
Oakland University
Rochester, MI

Padippurayil Faizal, M.Sc., Ph.D.

Laboratory Medicine
Sankars Health Care Scans & Diagnostics
Nearch MCH Main Gate
Alleppey, Kerala, India

Yuying Liu, M.S., M.Ed., Ph.D.

Department of Pediatrics
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

Donovan A. McGrowder, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.A. Ph.D, FIBMS, FRSPH

Department of Pathology
The University of the West Indies
Mona Campus, Kingston, Jamaica

Karan Saluja, M.B.B.S., M.D.

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
McGovern Medical School
UT Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

P.M. Sunil, M.D.S., Ph.D., M.B.B.S., MFDS RCPS.

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Sri Anjaneya Institute of Dental Sciences (SAIDS)
MMC Hospital Campus, Ulliyeri
Calicut, Kerala, India

Reka Szigeti, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine
Houston Methodist Hospital
Houston, TX

Sojit Tomo, M.B.B.S., M.D., D.N.B.

Department of Biochemistry
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, India
GRA-12, Behind V.H.S. School, Vattiyorkavu P.O.,
Trivandrum, Kerala, India

The Grapevine: Member News

AWARDS, NEWS, PROMOTIONS...?

Please send your news of job changes, transfers, promotions, awards, etc. to:

Henry Oh, Ph.D., Newsletter Editor, at:
henry.oh@msn.com.



ASSOCIATE FELLOWS

Norah Alghamdi, Ph.D.

Department of Pathology
University of Louisville Hospital
Louisville, KY

Veni Bharti, Ph.D.

Department of Community Health and Epidemiology
Dalhousie University
Halifax, NS, Canada

Erica M. Fatica, Ph.D.

Department of Laboratory and Pathology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

MEMBER

Deblina Mukherjee, B.A.

St. George's University School of Medicine
Plainsboro, NJ

ALSO, TWO CORRECTIONS

In the February, 2021 newsletter, we inadvertently misspelled the names of two new Fellows, **Sanjay Bhatt, M.Sc., Ph.D.**, and **Sukhes Mukherjee, Ph.D.**. We apologize for these errors.



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Clinical Science Trumpet

Newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists

The Clinical Science Trumpet Newsletter is the official newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists and is published three times per year. Back issues may be viewed at <http://clinicalscience.org/news.html>

Announcements, commentaries, and news/photos of members are welcome. Please send to the Editor at: henryoh@isu.edu.

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Editor: Henry Oh, PhD, FACSC
Graphic Editor: Michael Hawker, MArch, MS, Adobe Cert. Associate

143rd Meeting of the Association of Clinical Scientists

Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown
Louisville, Kentucky

May 11-14, 2022

Make a great bet to win, place or show and hit your targets. Learn the latest in informatics and analytics for both accuracy and precision in clinical medicine.

Save the dates for this exceptional meeting for the Association to be hosted by the University of Louisville Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. The theme is “Analytical Demands and Informatics in Precision Medicine” with a subtitle theme “Environment, Pandemics and Informatics in Health and Disease.”

The Program Committee also invites you to submit abstracts following the instructions on our website. Plans for the Annual Meeting also include a visit to world-famous Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby, the Annual Reception and Awards Banquet, and the annual Musicale and Art Show.

Continuing Education credits are available, including: AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] through the University of Louisville Department of Continuing Medical Education & Professional Development and ACCENT[®] credits through the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC).



THE CLAUDE P. BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE:

The Many Roads to Steatohepatitis and its Treatment

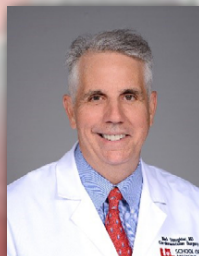
Craig James McClain, M.D., FACG, FAASLN, FACN
Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology & Toxicology, Distinguished University Scholar, Associate VP for Health Affairs and Translational Research, Director, Clinical Trials Unit / Liver Research Program, University of Louisville School of Medicine



THE ABRAHAM J. GITLITZ MEMORIAL LECTURE:

Drug Development in Academia During a Pandemic

Kenneth E. Palmer, Ph.D.
Professor; Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Helmsley Chair in Pharmaceutical Plant-based Research, Director of the University of Louisville Center for Predictive Medicine for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases



THURSDAY LUNCHEON SEMINAR:

Recent Advances in Artificial Heart Technology and Applications

Mark S. Slaughter, M.D., FABS, FABTS
Professor and Chair, Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery, Medical Director and Jewish Hospital Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Surgery, University of Louisville School of Medicine

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Clinical Scientist of the Year

Jonathan B. Hoyne, Ph.D., DABCC, FAACC

F.W. Sunderman Jr. Diploma of Honor

Consolato M. Sergi, Ph.D., M.D.

Young Clinical Scientist

Norah Alghamdi, Ph.D., NRCC

Young Clinical Scientist

Deblina Mukherjee

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