



DEPARTMENT of
ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
UNC CHAPEL HILL



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DIVISION OF

Clinical Laboratory Science

Fall 2012 Newsletter

www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/clinical

Celebrating the CLS Class of 2012

The CLS Class of 2012 reaped the rewards of their hard work on May 13, 2012, at the graduation reception held in the Wilson Library Pleasant Family Assembly Room. All the students who wanted jobs had offers and some had even started working. In addition to the McLendon Labs at UNC and the clinical laboratories at Duke University Medical Center, students accepted positions at WakeMed, Carolinas Medical Center, Alamance Regional Hospital, and Quintiles.

One CLS graduate explained his experience in the program this way:

"When I was selected to be in the CLS program at UNC-Chapel Hill, I was looking for a career change. As a mature student, I felt I was prepared, but found it was a greater challenge than I had expected. Would I do it again? Yes! Definitely. The UNC CLS program keeps students so busy that it's like trying to drink out of a fully open fire hydrant with all the information coming at you. But the program faculty see the big picture of your future and keep you on track, while you pay attention to the next exam, paper, presentation, or project. All that hard work pays off, and I mean it really pays off. I easily got a job and career that I absolutely love--even in the current market in which people in other fields have trouble finding jobs. I am working in the Core Laboratory at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill, NC. I work evening shift in the areas of blood gas analysis, urinalysis, and chemistry providing critical information about patients' medical conditions. It is never boring. I go to work thinking, 'I wonder what will happen

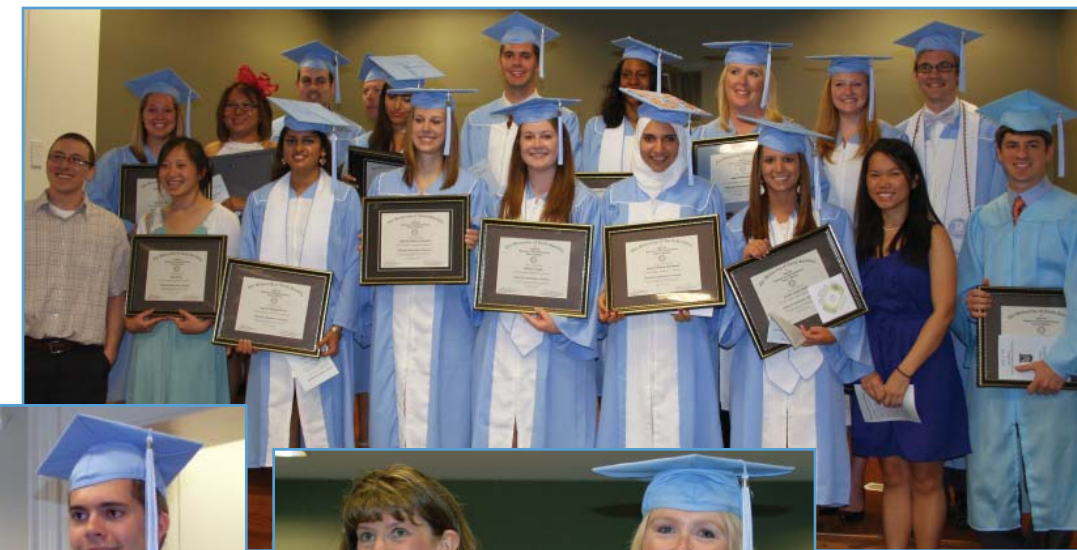
tonight...' I cannot fully express how truly fortunate I am that I found this program and faculty, so I could attain this career."
—Russell Ashley, Class of 2012

To read about other graduates' success stories, please visit the CLS website and click on the Alumni tab.

At the ceremony, Julia Pollard Rice was named as the CLS Outstanding Senior. She was recognized for being hard working, prepared, helpful, and a great team player. Faculty and clinical instructors commented on her dedication, willingness to learn, and positive attitude.

The Louise Ward Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Vicky LeGrys for a consistently high standard of teaching in the Division of CLS. Dr. LeGrys' enthusiasm for Biochemistry and Clinical Chemistry and her ability to present complex concepts in a clear and organized manner has helped students learn and enjoy this subject, often for the first time in their science careers. One student explained that "Dr. LeGrys had a way of presenting challenging material so that everyone could understand. Difficult concepts that I struggled with in previous chemistry courses, became crystal clear once she explained them in our lecture course".

The Class of 2012 had a very successful Senior Class campaign with pledges of \$5,125 over the next five years. Campaign co-chairs, Wesley Rainey and Doug Lange presented the check to the Division of CLS at the graduation reception. THANK YOU, Class of 2012!

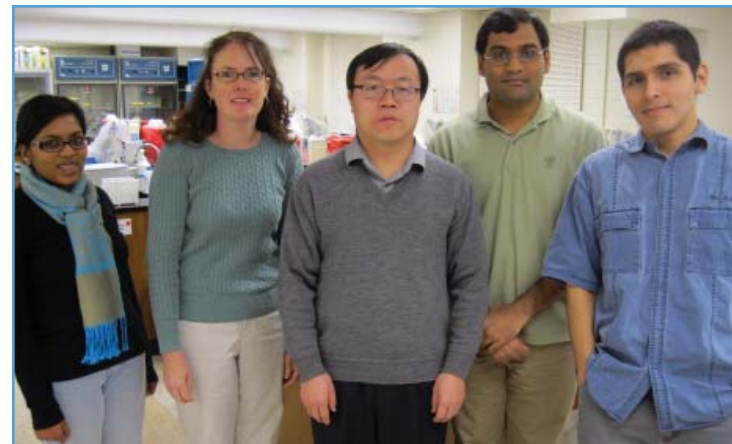


Clockwise from top left: Dr. Vicky LeGrys; the Class of 2012; Division Director Sue Beck and Julia Pollard Rice; Wesley Rainey and Doug Lange.



CLS SPRING PICNIC

The Class of 2013 enjoy the CLS Spring Picnic. These students are now in their senior clinical rotations and courses.



MDS CLASS OF 2012

The MDS Class of 2012 completed their clinical rotations and will present their Capstone projects on December 14.

Alumni, Students, and Faculty Attend NCABB Fall Meeting

UNC CLS alumni, students, and faculty attended the Fall meeting of the North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers (NCABB) in September.

Andrew Barnes (Class of 2013) was the recipient of the Elizabeth "Kizzie" Moore Scholarship that provided funding to attend the meeting. Tara Moon (Class of 1996), Lindsay Suber (Class of 1998), and Caroline Immel (Class of 1993) all serve on the Board of Directors for the NCABB. Susan Beck attended the meeting and enjoyed catching up with alumni including Erin Hester (Class of 2012).



Andrew Barnes and Caroline Immel



Sue Beck and Erin Hester

The following message was sent by Kathryn Steward, Class of 2011, and she gave us permission to share her moving story with you.

Dear CLS Faculty and Staff,

My husband, Shawn, and I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the CLS program and its graduates. On March 18t we welcomed our 7lbs 10oz daughter Lillian into the world at UNC's Women's Hospital. Unfortunately due to a severe hemorrhage prior to her birth, Lily suffered from persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn, which was diagnosed by a Kleihauer-Betke test. She received two blood gases every hour, blood transfusions, antibiotic troughs to determine therapeutic levels, and countless chemistry panels. Because of the outstanding education I received from the program, I was able to make accurate and educated decisions regarding her course of care. Even more so, my classmates in the core lab and transfusion services provided amazing and timely results to Lily's many physicians and nurses. I couldn't be prouder or more thankful.



Despite everyone's best efforts, Lily passed away 13 days after her birth while I held her for the very first time. Even though we never were able to take her home, the outstanding care provided by so many, especially my classmates, has made such a tragic loss easier to bear. Thank you again for everything you've given and everything you continue to give to the future of this profession.

Kathryn Steward, MLS (ASCP) CHT (ABHI)



Tara Moon, Lindsay Suber, and Caroline Immel

On the Cover

Side 1: Astrid Aponte (Class of 2011) and Astrid Aponte (Class of 2011), as well as Shelby Currier (Class of 2011, pictured below) are featured on three advertisements currently posted on buses serving the town of Chapel Hill. The ads are intended to raise awareness of the Division of CLS on campus and to inform prospective students of the wide range of opportunities available to CLS graduates.



"I perform testing to aid in diagnosis and monitoring of people with metabolic diseases all around the world."

I am a medical laboratory scientist.

Side 2: The Class of 2014 in the student laboratory.

Where will your degree take you?

go.unc.edu/cls



Thank You, Donors!

The UNC Chapel Hill CLS Program proudly recognizes our annual donors from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 by the giving levels below. Our donors will also be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the UNC Chapel Hill CLS office suite for all to see.

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We invite you and other alumni to make a gift today using the enclosed gift slip or make a secure online credit card gift to the UNC CLS program at: <https://medicalfoundationofnc.org/givetounccls>.



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