



# Clinical Laboratory Science



## From the Director

In past newsletters, I reported on the changes in the Division of CLS in response to budget cuts and I am very grateful for the support of our alumni and friends that enabled us to maintain the excellence of the program during these challenging times. In this newsletter, I want to share with you the changes in the Division of CLS due to faculty turnover.

Dr. Rebecca Laudicina will be retiring in July after teaching in the UNC Chapel Hill CLS program for 22 years. She has an impressive record at UNC including:

- Teaching over 400 students
- Authoring 8 book chapters and over 20 scientific articles
- Giving over 35 presentations at state and national meetings
- Receiving numerous professional awards including a Distinguished Author Award and the Kleiner Award for publications in the journal *Clinical Laboratory Science*

In 2000, Dr. Laudicina secured funding for and began the Hemochromatosis Education and Screening Project (HESP), which served to detect hereditary hemochromatosis in low-income residents of a medically underserved region of North Carolina through free screening and confirmatory laboratory testing. This project not only raised awareness of hemochromatosis, but represented a significant landmark for the Division of Clinical Laboratory Science in research and funding. In 2009, Dr. Laudicina obtained funding for a second project that involved working with the community health system to establish screening for colorectal cancer in an underserved population. It is always hard to say goodbye to faculty, but we are fortunate that Dr. Laudicina will stay involved with the CLS program. She has grant funding to work on a project related to hematology.

In January, Dr. Susan Orton left the CLS faculty for a position as the Clinical Laboratory Director of Metabolon, Inc., in Research Triangle Park. Dr. Orton was instrumental in the development and success of the Molecular Diagnostic Science program. She was involved in every aspect of the program including developing courses, establishing clinical sites, teaching on-line and on-campus courses, and guiding student research projects. Thanks to Dr. Orton's efforts the MDS program received initial accreditation from NAACLS in 2011. The accreditation team was so impressed with Dr. Orton's work that they asked her to serve on the committee that reviews other MDS programs. Dr. Orton is excited about the new opportunity she will have as a laboratory director and she is also maintaining her connection to the CLS program. She will be back next fall to teach the Immunology lecture course.

The Division of CLS is excited to welcome Lisa Cremeans, MCLS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> SM<sup>CM</sup> MB<sup>CM</sup> to the faculty. She has 14 years of experience in the clinical laboratory and an additional three years of experience as a safety specialist in the pharmaceutical industry. Her clinical skills and knowledge in microbiology and molecular diagnostics, her generalist and specialist certifications in these areas, and her experience teaching on-line courses made her a perfect fit for the Division. Lisa was a "star" student in the MDS program and was awarded the MDS Corporate Partner Schol-

arship as well as awards for her continuing education presentation and capstone presentation. In the Spring of 2013, Lisa served as an adjunct faculty member in the division, teaching two courses in the MDS program. Lisa will be responsible for the microbiology component of the CLS program and many courses in the MDS program.

The Division of CLS is also delighted to add Shauna Hay, MPH, MT(ASCP), to the faculty. She graduated from the UNC CLS program in 1996 and worked as a Medical Technologist at UNC Hospitals, serving as the TMS Student Rotation Coordinator. She has experience as a Technical Service Associate (Organon Teknika), a Scientific Affairs Liaison (BD Diagnostics, Women's Health and Cancer), and Senior Medical Writer (BeaconLBS-subsi-dary of LabCorp). She worked as a Research Associate for Dr. Mark Brecher from 2001-09 and published numerous articles on blood bank issues including bacterial contamination of platelets. In addition to her experience in the clinical laboratory, industry, and research, Shauna has extensive teaching experience. She has served as an adjunct faculty member in the Division of CLS teaching immunology, chemistry, urinalysis, and basic skills laboratories. She also served as a teaching assistant for two on-line Public Health courses. Shauna's broad range of experiences, continued interest in research, and strong commitment to the education of laboratory professionals make her a wonderful addition to the program.

The Division of CLS is currently looking for a third new faculty member to advance the research mission of the Division. This faculty member will be responsible for teaching and directing student research projects. Other teaching responsibilities in CLS or MDS courses will be based on the individual's expertise. The faculty member will be expected to establish a funded research program and collaborate with other researchers in the UNC School of Medicine. If you are interested in this position, please contact Dr. Vicky LeGrys ([vlcgrys@med.unc.edu](mailto:vlcgrys@med.unc.edu)) or view the job posting at: <http://unc.peopleadmin.com/postings/23897>.

Susan J. Beck  
Director, Division of Clinical Laboratory Science



*CLS Celebrates 2013 Graduates (See page 3)*

# Students and Donors Recognized at Annual Ceremony

The sixth annual awards ceremony for scholarship recipients in the Department of Allied Health Sciences (AHS) was held on November 3, 2012, at the Rizzo Center in Chapel Hill. At this event, each Division in the Department of AHS recognized the accomplishments of scholarship winners and thanked the generous scholarship donors. The Division of CLS was proud to recognize 16 scholarship winners and the donors who made the scholarships possible.



Jesse Alphin, Allene Alphin, Shelby Pavan (Jesse Alphin Scholarship recipient), Marvin Johnson, Carla Molestina (Allene Alphin Scholarship recipient), and Kay Alphin Johnson ('68).

## Allene W. Alphin and Jesse C. Alphin Clinical Laboratory Annual Scholarships

Two scholarships were established by Kay Alphin Johnson ('68) and her husband Marvin in honor of Kay's mother and father. Students were selected based on their academic and professional performance. The recipients of these scholarships are:

**Carla E. Molestina**, CLS Class of 2014, Mooresville, NC  
**Shelby Lynn Pavan**, CLS Class of 2013, Pen Argyl, Penn.



Brenda Mitchell, Crystal McCullough, Allison Santana, AHS Chair Lee McLean, and Dr. James H. Scatliff.

## Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Award

The Thorpe / Mitchell Diversity Leadership Development Award honors Dr. Robert Thorpe and Mrs. Brenda Mitchell, who founded this award to encourage students to excel and achieve their highest goals. CLS students who received this award are:

**Crystal Lynnette McCullough**, CLS Class of 2014, Greensboro, NC  
**Allison Santana**, CLS Class of 2014, San Antonio, Texas

## Molecular Diagnostic Science Corporate Partner Program Scholarships

Three Molecular Diagnostic Science (MDS) Corporate Partner Program Scholarships were awarded in the 2012-13 academic year thanks to the generosity of our Platinum and Gold partners in the MDS Corporate Partners Program. Scholarships were awarded to:

**Lisa Kay Cremeans**, MDS Class of 2012, Chapel Hill, NC

**José Constantino Sevilla**, MDS Class of 2012, Durham, NC

**Tatyana Zhuravleva**, MDS Class of 2013, Asheville, NC

*Lisa and José are pictured on page 4 at the MDS graduation celebration.*



Tatyana Zhuravleva

## Raleigh Pathology Laboratory Associates and WakeMed Health and Hospitals CLS Annual Scholarships

The Raleigh Pathology Laboratory Associates/ WakeMed Health and Hospitals CLS Annual Scholarships were established to support the education of future laboratory professionals. By helping current CLS students with the financial burden of higher education, these generous donors seek to increase the number of highly qualified laboratory practitioners in the future. The scholarships were awarded to:



Alex Lawler



Melissa Mauney

**Alexander McLean Lawler**, CLS Class of 2013, Blowing Rock, NC  
**Melissa Ann Mauney**, CLS Class of 2014, Sherrills Ford, NC

## Louise M. Ward Scholarships

With a generous bequest from the estate of Louise M. Ward, a former director of the UNC Chapel Hill Division of Clinical Laboratory Science



Amy Zhan, Helen Bui, and Blythe Butler.

(then Medical Technology), the Division of CLS was able to award scholarships to three students. These students are chosen based on their potential for contributing to the CLS profession, academic excellence, and personal characteristics. The Louise Ward scholars are:

**Helen Bui**, CLS Class of 2013, Charlotte, NC

**Blythe Nicole Butler**, CLS Class of 2013, Shallotte, NC

**Amy Zhan**, CLS Class of 2014, Jamestown, NC

## Lanning-Taylor Loyalty Fund Annual Scholarship

A gift from Susan ('85) and Steve Taylor provides funds to assist and reward a second-year CLS student. The Lanning-Taylor scholar was



Susan Lanning Taylor ('85), Jessica Clemmons, and Steve Taylor.

chosen by the CLS faculty based on potential for contributing to the CLS profession, academic excellence, personal characteristics, and financial need. The Lanning-Taylor scholarship was awarded to:

**Jessica Chanell Clemmons**, CLS Class of 2013, Williamston, NC

## UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association's Allied Health Sciences Fellowships

Supported through a generous gift from the UNC Hospitals Volunteer Association, fellowships are awarded to deserving allied health students who, in addition to having financial need and scholastic ability, exhibit characteristics of emerging professional excellence. The fellowship was awarded to:



Leanda Donaie

**Leanda Donaie**, CLS Class of 2013,

Choiseul, St. Lucia

*In addition to receiving an AHS Fellowship, Leanda served as the awards ceremony's student speaker.*



Jerrica Snow, Anne McLendon, William McLendon, and Lauren Britt.

### McLendon Labs Scholarships for UNC CLS Students

The McLendon Laboratories of UNC Hospitals established scholarships to fund tuition and books for UNC CLS students who would agree to work in the McLendon Labs for two years post-graduation. The current McLendon scholars are:

**Teresa Lauren Britt**, CLS Class of 2013, Concord, NC

**Jerrica Rae Snow**, CLS Class of 2013, McLeansville, NC

Each of these students is profoundly grateful to the scholarship donors for supporting their education. Many thanks to the donors who made these scholarships possible!

## CLS Celebrates 2013 Graduates

The Division of CLS hosted a reception for the 2013 graduates in Wilson Library on May 12. Graduates were given a certificate from the Division of CLS, a CLS pin, and a copy of the CLS Review CD to help them prepare for the certification examination. The CLS faculty believe that our proudest accomplishment is the work that we do to pass on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the clinical laboratory profession to new practitioners and we are very proud of this group of new laboratory professionals. The graduates had jobs lined up at UNC, Duke, Vidant in Greenville, the VA in Durham, Southern Regional Medical Center in Lumberton, Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, and Sloan Kettering in New York.

The CLS class of 2013 pledged to contribute a record amount of \$7,250 to the CLS program over the next five years. Jerrica Snow and Alex Lawler were the co-chairs of the Senior Class Campaign and they inspired 100% of the Class of 2013 to contribute. The co-chairs presented the CLS faculty with a check at the graduation ceremony.



Alex Lawler and Jerrica Snow present a check for the Class of 2013 pledge total.

**The Outstanding Senior Student Award** was given to **Lauren Britt**. She was recognized as a student who was hardworking, prepared, helpful, always willing to learn, a great team player, and a dedicated student. Lauren will join the Transfusion Medicine Service at UNC this summer.

**Dr. Rebecca Laudicina** was presented with the **Louise M. Ward Excellence in Teaching Award** at the graduation reception. The award is based on multiple years of service and represents a consistently high standard of teaching in the Division of CLS. Dr. Laudicina was recognized for her enthusiasm, her knowledge of hematology, and her ability to communicate that knowledge to students at just the right level. A hallmark of Dr. Laudicina's teaching has been her ability to mentor students. She has worked with current and past students over the years to publish articles in state and national journals. She has also invited graduates of the program to be co-presenters with her in continuing education presentations. Dr. Laudicina shared her passion for hematology and for the laboratory profession with 22 classes of CLS students and is richly deserving of this award.

## GIFT FROM BOB AND VANGI CLARK ('62)

We are very happy to announce a generous gift of \$50,000 to the UNC CLS program from Bob and Vangi Clark. Evangeline "Vangi" Clark was a member of the first class of freshman women to attend Carolina and she is a 1962 graduate of the CLS (then Medical Technology) program. "Having the chance to obtain my degree in medical technology from the University of North Carolina opened many doors for me," Vangi said. "I'm very proud to have been a Med Tech student at UNC." Vangi worked in the microbiology laboratory at UNC and at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte before she and Bob moved to Los Angeles in 1974.



Susan Beck and Vangi Clark in 2010.

The Clarks' gift has enabled the CLS program to pay for all the remaining microscopes for the CLS student laboratory and purchase several scopes needed for demonstrations. Vangi says that she is "especially proud to have been a part in helping the CLS program supply the students with such wonderful tools. They are so superior to the ones we used in 1960." The students and the faculty are very grateful to the Clarks for their generosity and their commitment to the education of future laboratory professionals.

## Alumni Updates

**Linda Pearce Furness ('65)** worked as generalist in a small county hospital in Ohio for 10 years and then obtained her certification in Cytotechnology. She retired in 2001 and now divides her time between Seattle, WA, and Christchurch, New Zealand.

**AnnieScott Rogers ('66)** is retired, has moved to San Francisco, and is pursuing a career as a professional film actor.

**Susan Stilwell ('69)** has been in the historic real estate business in Danville, VA, for 35 years.

**Camille Brown Williams ('77)** is working full time at Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital and as a contract employee for Roche Diagnostics assisting with Accucheck Inform II glucose meter installations and staff training. Camille obtained an MEd from Curry College in 2009 focusing on adult education.

**Lesa Banks ('82)** has been named Dean of the School of Medicine and Human Services at Paul M. Dorman High School in Roebuck, SC.

**Caroline Caudill Immel ('93)** has been elected President of NCABB (North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers) for 2014.

**Andrew W. Lukonis ('99)** combined his passion for entrepreneurship and his love of the violin to form Lukonis Violins (lukonisviolins.com), located in the Brier Creek Area of Raleigh. The success principles he learned from the CLS staff served as a foundation in building a successful business.

**Tonya Heatherly Bartley ('03)** and husband Kyle are parents to four handsome boys: Logan (6), Avery (3), and twins Levi and Silas (1). Tonya works PRN on weekends in microbiology at a small community hospital.

**Rebecca Perry ('03)** is in the Johns Hopkins Hospital Specialist in Blood Banking Program and will sit for the SBB exam in September. She is looking forward to her next professional opportunity!

**Danny Fu ('07)** and Annie Yee Fu welcomed Tessa Fu into the world on June 25, 2012. Tessa is expecting a little sister in early September 2013.



Annie Yee, Tessa, and Danny Fu.

Updates continue on back page

# MDS GRADUATION AND CORPORATE PARTNER RECOGNITION

On December 13, 2012, the Division of CLS hosted a reception to recognize the graduating Molecular Diagnostic Science students and the MDS Corporate Partners. Dr. Margaret Gulley, Director of Molecular Pathology in the UNC Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, congratulated the graduates and thanked the Corporate Partners for their commitment to the education of future laboratory professionals. Representatives from the Corporate Partners were recognized for their important role in supporting the MDS program.

In 2012, the MDS Corporate Partner program added a Platinum level, which allowed the MDS program to present students with additional awards. The Platinum level awards were given to Lisa Cremeans and José Sevilla for the best Capstone projects. In addition, Lisa Cremeans was awarded a Platinum level award for her continuing education presentation.

The MDS Class of 2012 presented the results of their Capstone research projects on December 14. Many of the clinical instructors and Corporate Partners attended the session and were impressed with the students' work and presentations:

**Lisa Kay Cremeans:** Evaluation of an Automated Extraction Method for Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) Purification Using the Promega Maxwell® 16 Instrument

**José Constantino Sevilla:** Validation of Focus Diagnostics Analyte



From left, Jose Sevilla (MDS Class of 2012), Paul Marr (Gen-Probe), Lisa Cremeans (MDS Class of 2012), Anurekha Vedaiyan (MDS Class of 2012), Ken Friedman (LabCorp), Thomas Huard (Quest Diagnostics), Dana Collins (Solstas Lab Partners), Frank Dalli (Abbott Molecular), Dev Patel and Many Li (MDS Class of 2012).

**Specific Reagents in a Parvovirus B19 Qualitative Detection Laboratory-Developed Test Using the 3M Integrated Cycler**

**Dev Bharat Patel:** Correlagen Serine Protease Inhibitor Kazal-type I Sequencing Assay Evaluation

**Manyu Li:** Evaluation of T Cell Receptor Gamma Gene Rearrangement Single Tube Assay on Leukemia or Lymphoma Patients

**Anurekha Vedaiyan:** Validation Report for Influenza A, B, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus RNA, Polymerase Chain Reaction

## 2012 PLATINUM PARTNERS



**Gen-Probe, Inc.,**

Paul Marr, Director of Corporate Accounts



**Roche Diagnostics Corporation**

Dr. Johnnie A. Lee, MD, MPH, FACP,  
Medical Director, Medical & Scientific Affairs



**Quest Diagnostics**

Thomas Huard, PhD, Scientific Director  
of Molecular Diagnostics

## 2012 GOLD PARTNERS



**Abbott Molecular**

Frank Dalli, MHA, Molecular  
Account Executive, North  
Carolina and Virginia



**BD Molecular Diagnostics**

Douglas Malinowski, PhD, Vice President  
and Chief Scientific Officer, BD Women's  
Health and Cancer

Helping all people  
live healthy lives



**Laboratory Corporation of America**

Steven M. Anderson, PhD, Chief  
Scientific Officer for Oncology and  
Genetics, Senior Vice President



**ZeptoMetrix Corporation**

Gregory R. Chiklis PhD,  
Vice President of Research  
and Development

## 2012 SILVER PARTNER Solstas Lab Partners, Dana Collins, Molecular Laboratory Director

## Alumni Updates (Continued from page 3)

**Aaron Sermons ('09)** will be entering the Duke University Physician Assistant Program this fall as a member of the Class of 2015.

**Maddie Knier ('10)** has been working in Transfusion Services at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin since June 2012 and was recently offered a new position to transfer into BloodCenter Wisconsin's Immunohematology Reference Lab. She is also working on her MS in Transfusion Medicine through Marquette University.

**Alumni: We want to hear from you!** Alumni updates in the newsletter and online keep your classmates informed and help us recruit new students. A recent applicant told us that she decided to apply to the CLS program after reading all the interesting things that our alumni were doing. So please send us your information! **Regular mail:** Send a note in the return envelope included with this newsletter (even if you are not sending a donation). The Development Officer will be sure to get that information to the Division of CLS. **E-mail:** Send an e-mail message to: [sbeck@med.unc.edu](mailto:sbeck@med.unc.edu). **Web site:** Visit [www.med.unc.edu/ahs/clinical](http://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/clinical) and go to the alumni section. Please include your year of graduation and where you are living. If you are working, tell us what you are doing and please share any advice for current CLS students.



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