

International

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Chair's Message



Kathleen Finnegan, MS, MT(ASCP)^{SH}^{CM}
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Welcome to the August 2019 edition of the International Certification Newsletter.

The Board of Certification (BOC) spent the last several months working to raise awareness of ASCP BOC international certification in Brazil, India, and Thailand. In the fall, the BOC will continue to raise awareness at events in Japan, Panama, the Philippines, and South Korea. We'll also have the honor of hosting our sixth Japanese Association of Medical Technologists (JAMT) visitor Ms. Mari Kunihiro, MA, this November.

We started our spring 2019 outreach by sponsoring the 2nd National Laboratory Professionals Conference of the Indian Confederation of Medical Laboratory Science (ICMLS) April 27-28, in Bengaluru,

India. The BOC gained visibility in Southern India at this event, which is a huge potential market for international certification.

In May, Dr. Erlo Roth, promoted international certification at the 1st Latin American Congress of Biomedicine and Laboratory Sciences in Florianópolis, Brazil, to more than 1,000 attendees.

During the same month, Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Executive Director, ASCP BOC, met with representatives from a number of Asian medical laboratory organizations and discussed how certification can benefit medical laboratory professionals at the 6th Asia Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (AAMLS) Congress, May 29-31, in Ambassador City Jomtien, Pattaya, Thailand.

Our international activities are moving along at a fast and furious pace. As you read the topics covered in this issue, we hope you will be inspired by our international certification related activities and continue to do your part to advance ASCP^I in your region. Additionally, we would like to encourage you to utilize our [BOC Facebook Page](#) to access news & resources, and to communicate your thoughts to us directly please join our [ASCP BOC International Facebook Group](#). We welcome your comments, and look forward to hearing from you!

ASCP BOC Promotes Certification and Credential Maintenance at AAMLS

The 6th Asia Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (AAMLS) Congress was held in conjunction with the Association of Medical Technologists in Thailand's (AMTT) 43rd Annual Conference May 29-31, in Ambassador City Jomtien, Pattaya, Thailand.

During the Congress, the ASCP BOC met with a number of organizations and individuals from across Asia and staffed an exhibit booth to promote BOC certification and the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP).

Regional organizations, such as the Cambodian Association of Medical Laboratory Development (Cambodia AMLD), the Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Scientists Ltd. (HKIMLS), the Korean Association of Medical Technologists (KAMT), the Malaysian Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences (MIMLS), the Myanmar Medical Technologist Association (MMTA), the Indonesia Medical Laboratory Association (PATELKI), and the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists, Inc. (PAMET), requested to meet with the BOC during AAMLS because they have been impressed with ASCP BOC's growing reputation in Asia.

Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Executive Director, ASCP BOC, met with representatives from each organization

and explained to them how certification will improve the quality of health care for patients and enrich the laboratory profession in their respective countries.

"An increasing number of institutions from around the world are interested in ASCP BOC certification," said Ms. Tanabe. "These organizations recognize ASCP BOC as the world leader in the certification of laboratory professionals because ASCP BOC credentials represent the highest standards for quality and continued competency."

AAMLS's 2019 theme was "Breakthroughs in Medical Technology" and included an impressive number of educational and scientific sessions on topics such as cancer immunotherapy, antimicrobial resistance, precision medicine, and laboratory quality systems. Dr. Salakchit Chutipongvivate, AMTT President, said that the 2019 congress' primary focus is promoting and sharing medical science and medical technology knowledge. For Dr. Chutipongvivate, this means sharing advances in technology in Thailand and throughout Asia towards improved health outcomes for patients. The next congress will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2021, and will be hosted by the Malaysian Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences (MIMLS).



ASCP BOC staff with representatives from Korean Association of Medical Technologists (KAMT). From left to right: Cho In Suk, International Director, KAMT; Gi Seon Song International Manager, KAMT; Lee Jae Jin, Chair, Seoul City Chapter, KAMT; Jennifer R. Young, CT(ASCP)^{CM}, Director, Business Development and International Partnerships, Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Executive Director, ASCP BOC; Dr. Yang Man-Gil, Chair of AAMLS, former President of KAMT; Noh Gyeong Woon, Vice President, Administration, KAMT; Kim Sung Sin, Vice President, KAMT

BOC Reaches Out to Medical Laboratory Scientists in Brazil

Dr. Erlo Roth, MD, MBA, FCAP, FASCP, FAACC, recently attended the 1st Latin American Congress of Biomedicine and Laboratory Sciences, together with the XIII South Brazilian Congress of Biomedicine and IV Santa Catarina Congress of Biomedicine, held May 1 - 4, 2019, at the Governador Luiz Henrique da Silveira Event Center, at Praia de Canasvieiras, in Florianópolis, Brazil.

On May 3, Dr. Roth delivered a presentation, which included some information on ASCP BOC certification, to more than 1,000 attendees at the congress. After his presentation, he said many students came to ask him questions about ASCP BOC certification.

The following day, Dr. Roth, on behalf of the BOC, met with a number of Brazilian medical laboratory science program directors and gifted them copies of the BOC Study Guide Enhanced 6th Edition.



▶ Dr. Erlo Roth

BOC Sponsors the Indian Confederation of Medical Laboratory Science

The 2nd National Laboratory Professionals Conference of the Indian Confederation of Medical Laboratory Science (ICMLS), was held from April 27-28, in the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS) Convention Center Auditorium in Bengaluru, India. More than 300 delegates and faculty attended the conference. The theme of the conference was “the Role of Information Technology in Transforming Clinical Laboratory Practice.”

By sponsoring the event, the BOC gained visibility in Southern India, which is a huge potential market for ASCP international certification. In fact, based on the BOC’s Dec. 31, 2018, Report on International Examinees and Certifications, Indian educated laboratory professionals represent the third largest pool of applicants for ASCP BOC international certifications.

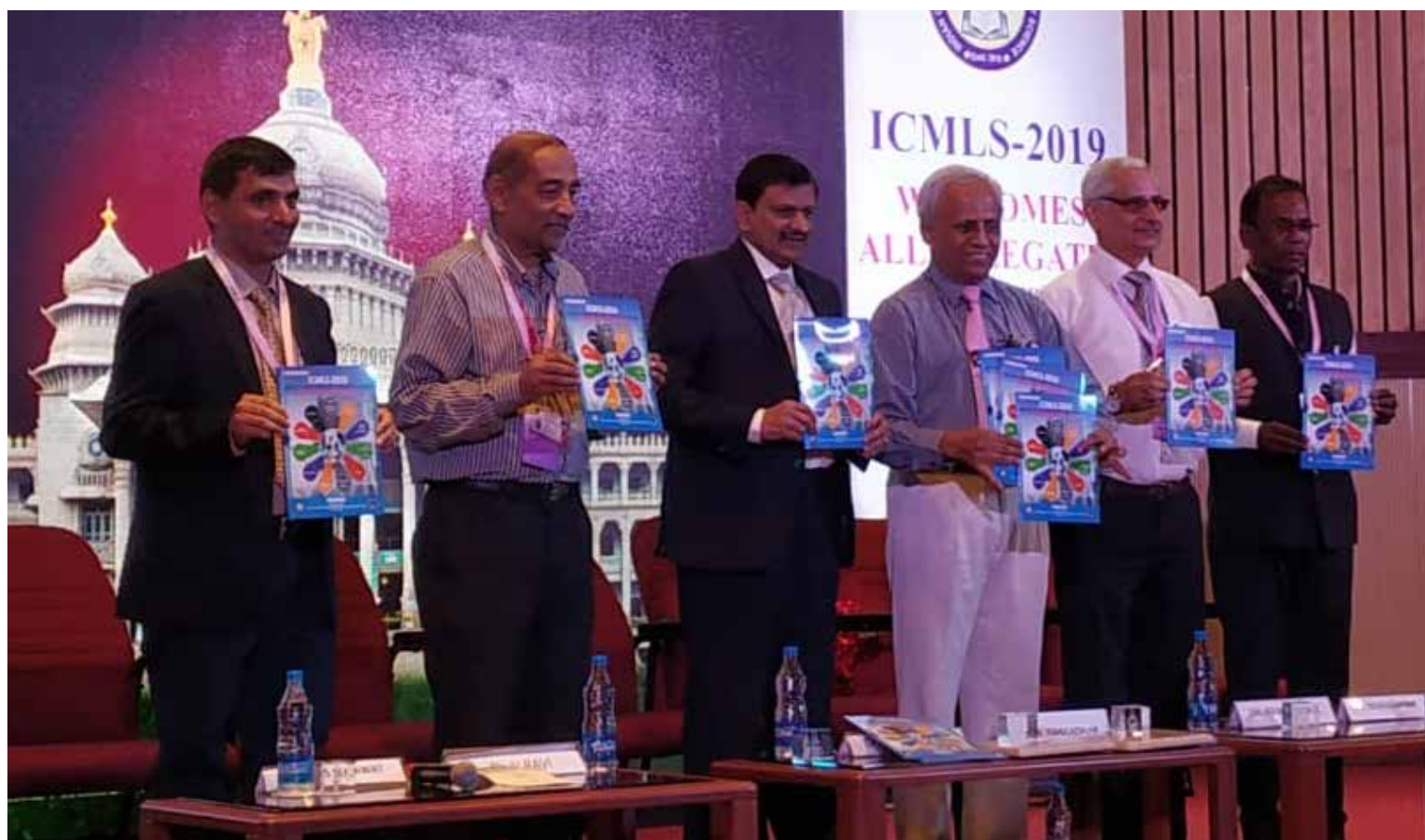
ICMLS General Secretary and member of the BOC India Advisory Board, Dr. Pankaj Kaul, said the event was very successful in raising awareness of the medical laboratory science profession in India. “Recognition of the profession is one of our main goals,” he stated, “because reaching that goal will help us to standardize the profession, empower laboratory professionals, and improve patient care throughout India.”

Dr. Pankaj then added, “ASCP BOC’s sponsorship of events such as ICMLS are greatly appreciated by the Indian medical laboratory profession and will go a long way toward helping us to build that national recognition and standardization.”

And, while ICMLS and other organizations are working towards wider recognition in India, Dr Pankaj said that among international

medical laboratory organizations ICMLS is quite well known. In fact, ICMLS is a member of the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences (IFBLS) and is also affiliated with the Asian Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (AAMLS).

“Our global partnerships and sponsors, like the BOC, are extremely important to us,” said Dr. Pankaj. “Working with partners and organizations from around the world helps us to find the best strategies for staying actively engaged in the standardization, advancement, and improvement in quality of professional education and practices of medical laboratory science in India.”



From left to right: Mr. K.S. Sehrawat, President, ICMLS; Dr. V. Ravi, Professor & Head of Neurovirology, NIMHANS, Bengaluru; Dr. Padamshree Manjunath, Professor, Head of Cardiology, and Director of the Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research Centre, Bengaluru; Dr. B.N. Gangadhar, Director, NIMHANS, Bengaluru; Dr. Pankaj Kaul, General Secretary, ICMLS; Mr. Devasarayam L, Co-Convener, ICMLS-2019, Bengaluru



Previous participants of the BOC-JAMT Exchange Program. From left to right - Go Kobayashi, Mr. Shuhei Ishii, Mari Kunihiro Yuki Hara, and Naoki Inoue

Starting in 2015, as part of its commitment to contribute globally to the highest standards of patient safety, the ASCP BOC collaborated with the Japanese Association of Medical Technologists (JAMT) and the Loyola University Medical Center (LUMC-Maywood, IL) to arrange for a Japanese laboratory professional to have the opportunity to visit a laboratory in the U.S. for one week.

This November, Ms. Mari Kunihiro, MA, will be the sixth participant and first woman to participate in the ongoing visitor program. Ms. Kunihiro said one of her career goals has been to observe and engage with medical laboratory scientists from other countries, so she is very excited to participate in the program.

Coordinated by the ASCP BOC and funded by JAMT, the visitor internship is only awarded to ASCP[®]-certified or ASCP[®]-eligible individuals who are JAMT members. In 2015, Mr. Kazuya Takemura, MS, MLS(ASCP)[®], became the first student to be awarded an internship opportunity for JAMT members in the United States. He was followed by Mr. Naoki Inoue, MLS(ASCP)[®] in 2016, Mr. Go Kobayashi CT, IAC, Mr. Shuhei Ishii, CT(ASCP)[®], in 2017, and Mr. Yuki Hara, MSc, in 2018.

Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Executive Director, ASCP Board of Certification said that, from the BOC perspective, the core purpose of the visitor program is to encourage increased interest in ASCP BOC international certification exams in Japan.

However, Ms. Tanabe added, "We also hope this ongoing partnership with JAMT and LUMC will build bridges between laboratories in the United States and laboratories in Japan, and we are very excited to welcome our sixth participant, Ms. Kunihiro!"



Kazuya Takemura (center), was the first student to be awarded an internship opportunity for JAMT members in the United States

The BOC will be at the following events:

57th Congress of KAMT

Aug. 30-31, 2019

Pyeongchang, S. Korea

<https://www.kamt.or.kr>

COLABIOCLI 2019

Sep. 11-13, 2019

Panama City, Panama

<http://colabioclipanama2019.com>

ASCP 2019 Annual Meeting

Sep. 11-13, 2019

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

<https://www.ascp.org>

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine (JSLM)

Nov. 21-24, 2019

Okayama Convention Center,
Okayama, Japan

<http://jslm66.umin.jp>

Philippine Association of Medical Technologists, Inc.'s (PAMET) 55th Annual Convention

Dec. 2-4, 2019

PICC, Pasay, Metro Manila, Philippines

<https://pametinc.ph>

FYI

BOC Examination Questions - Copyright and Ethics Violations

The ASCP BOC monitors the web and social media sites regularly for individuals or groups who claim to have questions from BOC examinations. These are sometimes called “recalls,” “remembrances” or “brain dumps.” Individuals with BOC certifications who contribute to these sites, or share examination items in any manner, are infringing on BOC’s exclusive copyrights. They are in violation of the legal statements they agreed to when completing the online application and at the test site prior to taking the examination. If found to be in violation, certification will be revoked, and individuals will be barred permanently from taking any BOC examination. Examinees are reminded not to share information from the examination with anyone.

Wall Certificates on Social Media

Please do not to post images of your wall certificates or ASCP BOC documentation on social media. While we appreciate your enthusiasm and pride in becoming certified, these images can be used by others to misrepresent themselves as being certified. To protect the integrity of ASCP BOC credentials and records, please share the following with other examinees:

- Do not loan your wall certificate, score report, or ASCP Member ID card (if applicable) to anyone.
- Do not post a copy or image of your wall certificate, score report, or ASCP Member ID card (if applicable) on the internet or social media.

For complete information, please [visit our website](#).

Understanding ASCP BOC Certification Examinations

Brief explanations on a variety of topics related to the BOC certification examinations are available at [Understanding ASCP BOC Certification Examinations](#).

Applicants Requesting Modifications Due to a Disability

If you require a modification due to a disability, we request that you notify our office in writing at the time of application. Complete information regarding documentation is available on the website.

How to Locate Your Certification Number

If you need to locate your certification number, you may access it by logging into your record and clicking on “Home Page” under “My BOC Activities.” Then click on the “View Certifications” link. If you require primary source verification of your certification for a third party, this information is available at [Verification of Certification](#). There is a \$16 charge for this service.

Questions or Comments?

If you have any questions or comments on the information contained in this issue, please email us at Joseph.Baker@ascp.org. We look forward to hearing from you.