

# International

## Certification Newsletter

Volume 14 Issue 1

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### Chair's Message



Kathleen Finnegan, MS, MT(ASCP)<sup>SHCM</sup>  
International Liaison, International Consortium for ASCP<sup>®</sup>

However, even though the ICN is ceasing publication, international news will still be available in the [ASCP BOC Newsletter](#) and social media channels: BOC Instagram, [ASCP BOC Facebook Page](#) and [ASCP BOC International Facebook Group](#). In order to make sure you continue to receive the latest news from the ASCP BOC, please log into your [ASCP account](#), select "Profile & Settings," then click on "Communications," and make sure that "Board of Certification" is not selected (selecting "Board of Certification" actually opts you out of receiving BOC news & updates).

The BOC thanks you for your support of the ICN over these past 13 years, and we look forward to continuing to offer you the most up to date information on global certification as we transition our international news to other channels.

Welcome to the final edition of the ASCP BOC International Certification Newsletter (ICN). Our first edition of the ICN was published back in October 2007. In that issue, we stated that the ICN is "designed to keep you informed on the latest developments in global certification." For the past 13 years, we have enjoyed doing just that—sharing with you the latest news on how BOC international certification is improving the medical laboratory profession around the world.



First issue of the International Certification Newsletter (known then as the International Certification Report), October 2007.

## ASCP BOC at the 57th Congress of KAMT

The ASCP BOC South Korea Advisory Board managed an ASCP BOC exhibit booth at the 57th Congress of the Korean Association of Medical Technologists (KAMT), Aug. 30-31, 2019, in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

KAMT, which is also an ASCP BOC collaborating society, invited a number of highly skilled, and in some cases ASCP BOC certified, individuals to help staff the ASCP BOC booth.

For instance, South Korea Advisory Board member Professor Kang Hyo Chan, Director of International Affairs for KAMT, invited his friend and colleague, Jang Rae Cho, MT(ASCP)PBT<sup>1</sup>, to the congress to share his ASCP international certification experience with the congress' attendees.

Jang Rae Cho while staffing the ASCP BOC booth, even shared preparation strategies for ASCP BOC examinations with students and potential candidates. He also shared his experiences as an international credential holder working in the U.S.

During the congress, Kyung Jin Cho, PhD, Chair of the South Korea Advisory Board, met with Hideo Sakamoto, PhD, Professor at Kobe Tokiwa University, Chair of the Japan Advisory Board. Dr. Sakamoto was attending the congress with some of his students who were participating in KAMT's International Student Forum.



▶ Professor Joo Seik, Department of Biomedical Laboratory Science, DaeJeon University (left), Dr. Kyung Jin Cho (right) and 12 of Professor Seik's students.



▶ From left to right: Assistant Professor Kim Soo Gang, Chair of the Department of Medical Laboratory Science at Catholic Kwandong University, Dr. Kyung Jin Cho and Dr. Hideo Sakamoto.



▶ From left to right: Dr. Hideo Sakamoto, Dr. Kyung Jin Cho and Jang Rae Cho.



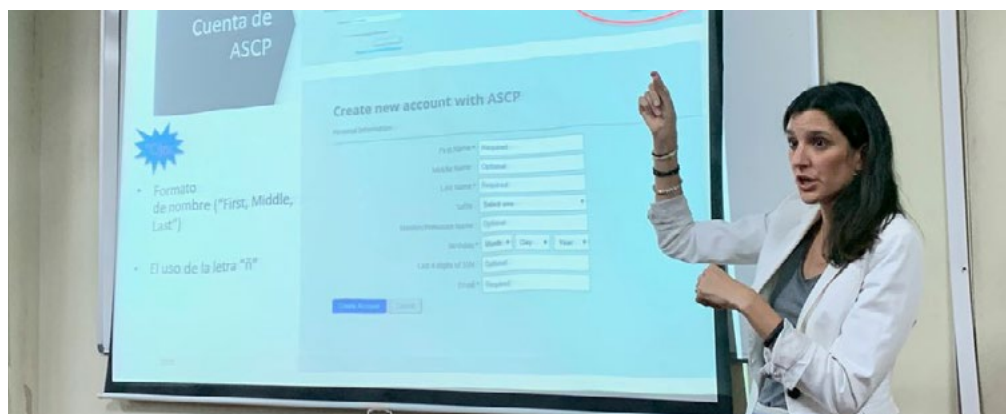
## Student Forum and Latin American Chairs' Meeting

On Sept. 7, at the University of Panama in Panama City, Panama, the ASCP BOC met with students from the Universidad de Panamá, Universidad Latina and Universidad Autónoma de Chiriquí. The forum provided students, whose native language is Spanish, with information on how to effectively navigate the BOC exam application process and website. Over 50 students and faculty attended the event.

After the BOC presentation, five Panamanian BOC credential holders discussed their application experience and the benefits of earning their certification with the students. Patricia A. Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, Executive Director

of the BOC, and Cristina Gonzalez del Riego, Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, awarded each credential holder an ASCP<sup>®</sup> pin and a special gift.

On Sept. 8, the BOC met with its Latin American Advisory Board Chairs to discuss opportunities for promoting BOC international certification in Latin America. Representatives from Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, and Peru attended.



► Cristina Gonzalez del Riego explains the BOC certification application process to students during the Sept. 7 student forum.



From left to right: Cristina Gonzalez del Riego, Patricia A. Tanabe, Gloriela de Pinzón, MT(ASCP), Chair, Panama Advisory Board, Henry Alvarez, Chair, Ecuador Advisory Board, Silvia Flores Toledo, Chair, Peru Advisory Board, Victor Silva, Chair, Chile Advisory Board, Adriana Martinez, Member, Colombia Advisory Board, Josue Parada Chair, El Salvador Advisory Board, and Joseph Baker, MS, Manager, BOC Social Media and International Development

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

From Nov. 21-24, 2019, at the Okayama Convention Center, Okayama, Japan, Dr. Hideo Sakamoto, Chair of the Japan Advisory Board, managed a BOC exhibit booth at the [66th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine \(JSLM\)](#).



▶ ASCP BOC exhibit booth at the 66th Annual Meeting of JSLM.



▶ Okayama Convention Center

## ASCP BOC Executive Director Presents at Philippine Association of Medical Technologists, Inc.'s (PAMET) 55th Annual Convention



ASCP BOC and Philippine Association of Medical Technologists, Inc. executives meet to discuss ongoing collaborations to continue sustaining excellence and inspiring the future of the lab at the 55th PAMET, Inc.

Patricia Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, Executive Director, ASCP Board of Certification, recently presented on emerging opportunities for internationally certified medical laboratory scientists at the 55th PAMET, Inc. Annual Convention, Dec. 1-4, 2019, in Manila at the Philippine International Convention Center. The 2019 convention theme was "Sustaining Excellence, Inspiring the Future."

The BOC also had an exhibit booth at the event and distributed ASCP BOC informational and promotional materials.

PAMET is an important partner of the BOC and has been a BOC collaborating society since 2006. The BOC often seeks partnerships with organizations that have common goals and objectives. PAMET shares the BOC's belief in building strong international partnerships towards assuring the competency of medical laboratory professionals around the world. The

Philippines is also the BOC's largest international certification market. As of Dec. 31, 2019, there were 13,685 first time ASCP<sup>i</sup> examinees and 10,125 ASCP<sup>i</sup> certified individuals from the Philippines.



## ASCP BOC Hosts Sixth JAMT Visitor

On Nov. 8, 2019, the ASCP BOC welcomed Mari Kunihiro, MA, to our Chicago headquarters. Ms. Kunihiro was in Chicago as part of a collaborative program between the ASCP BOC, the Japanese Association of Medical Technologists (JAMT), and Loyola University Medical Center (LUMC), Loyola Medicine. Starting in 2015, as part of the ASCP BOC's commitment to contribute globally to the highest standards of patient safety, the program arranges for Japanese laboratory professionals who are ASCP<sup>i</sup> certified (or ASCP<sup>i</sup>-eligible) to participate in a weeklong laboratory visit in the United States. Ms. Kunihiro is the sixth participant and first woman to participate in the visitor program.

Ms. Kunihiro said she was very excited to be able to participate in the program because she had always wanted to have the opportunity to observe and engage with medical laboratory scientists from another country.



From left to right: Joseph Baker, Mari Kunihiro, MA, Patricia A. Tanabe, and Angela Sreckovic, Manager of International Certification & CA Technical Operations.



## Revised Publications Available Online in February 2020

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Go to [www.ascp.org/boc](http://www.ascp.org/boc) to find the most current publications.

- January 2020 U.S. Procedures for Examination and Certification
- January 2020 International Procedures for Examination and Certification
- January 2020 Procedures for Qualification

## New Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRs) available January 1, 2020

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A new Qualification in Biorepository Science (QBRs) is now offered in conjunction with the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER). Applications are available, with the first testing date on April 1, 2020. Complete information is available at [www.ascp.org/boc/qbrs](http://www.ascp.org/boc/qbrs).

## Ethics and the Appropriate Use of Social Media

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ASCP BOC Examination Questions - Copyright and Ethics Violations ASCP Board of Certification examinations are protected by copyright law. When you apply for certification, you agree to adhere to the following statement,

*"I understand that this examination and all test questions are the exclusive property of the Board of Certification and are protected by copyright law. Because of the confidential nature of these copyright materials, I agree not to retain, copy, disclose or reveal any part of these examination materials . . ."*

The ASCP BOC monitors the web and social media sites regularly for individuals or groups who claim to have questions from ASCP BOC examinations. These are sometimes called "recalls," "remembrances" or "brain dumps." Individuals who contribute to these sites, or share examination items in any manner, are infringing on the ASCP BOC's exclusive copyrights.

Be aware that individuals who reveal specific information on the examination, such as recalling examination questions and responses, to their peers and instructors, are committing copyright infringement. If ASCP BOC certificants are found to be in violation, their certification will be revoked; all individuals found to be in violation will be barred permanently from taking any ASCP BOC examination.

## Posting of Certificates on Social Media

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Please do not post images of your wall certificate or ASCP BOC documentation on social media. While we appreciate your enthusiasm and pride in becoming certified, these images can be used by unscrupulous individuals to misrepresent themselves as being certified. To protect the integrity of ASCP BOC credentials and records, and for patient safety and welfare, it is important for individuals to protect their certificates from misuse. Please share the following with your friends and colleagues:

- Do not share your wall certificate, score report, or ASCP Member ID card (if applicable) with 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.

## Questions or Comments?

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