

INTRODUCTION FROM 2009 AACC PRESIDENT
Barbara Goldsmith, PhD, FACB

Hello, I'm Barbara Goldsmith, AACC president for 2009. On behalf of the membership and leadership, I welcome you to the association.

Laboratory professionals join AACC for many reasons. Many join to get *Clinical Chemistry*, the most cited journal in the field, or to attend our annual meeting, the world's largest clinical laboratory conference. Mostly they join to stay in touch with the field. Whether you need the cutting edge science of the journal, or the new technology at the annual meeting, whether you are interested in continuing education credits or just want to keep up with the new developments or network with your colleagues, AACC is the right professional association for you.

As you get settled in, please explore AACC's wide range of programs and activities, all of which are described on this website. AACC has more than a dozen newsletters and listservs to help you connect with your colleagues. The Clin Lab Job Center has employment opportunities for the AACC audience. Our SYCL program—that stands for Society for Young Clinical Laboratorians—services for those early in their career. If you are under forty, you've been automatically enrolled. And, be sure to check out NACB's well-regarded Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines.

Most members work in a hospital clinical laboratory, usually as director manager, or supervisor, and we also have a large number of researchers and educators from universities and medical schools. Our industry members mostly work in R&D and there is strong participation by government scientists from places like FDA, CDC, NIH and their global counterparts. AACC has members in more than 100 countries and we also support scientists in developing countries with travel grants, memberships, and access to online publications. Notably, AACC is the architect of labtestsonline, which educates the public about laboratory testing, and has been translated into six languages with three more in the works.

Like any professional association, AACC is about its members. You've joined a special group of colleagues and I hope that you find your AACC membership a rewarding experience. We want you to be more than a consumer. Become an active member by participating and volunteering in the many local section, division, or committee activities. This is your opportunity to help shape the future of laboratory medicine.

I hope to meet you personally during my term of office.

Thanks for watching and welcome to AACC.