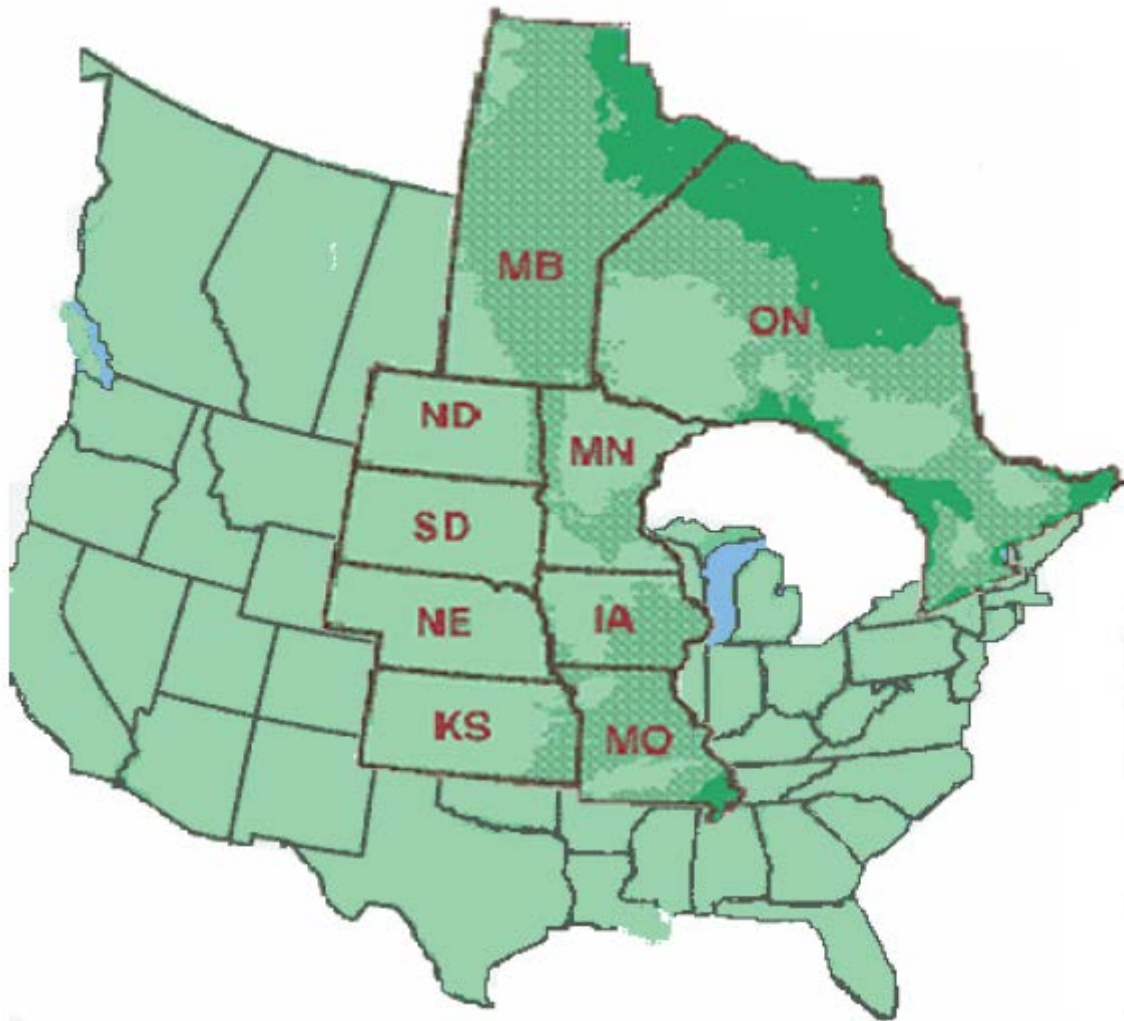


THE MIDWEST CLINICAL CHEMIST

VOLUME 16, No. 1 Newsletter of the Midwest Section of the AACC

January 2013



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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Darci Block

The AACC Midwest Section comprises a surprisingly large geographic region of North America (7 US states and 2 Canadian provinces). Traditionally, our section has not been overly active, with our geographic spread being the most often cited reason. In the upcoming year we will hold (to the best of my knowledge) our first ever “virtual” event. A webinar presentation on point of care testing sponsored by Abbott. I hope everyone will make an effort to join, and if it is well received there may be more in our future. See details on page 7.

We are also pleased to announce the results of our recent election and thank all the candidates. I was slightly disappointed that only ~10% of our contingency voted, come to find out this is pretty typical. However we may have uncovered a problem with the list server used by AACC to send out the ballots, as several members of the executive committee (myself included) did not receive it and therefore did not have the opportunity to vote. We are still investigating the issue. If you did not receive the ballot (and it hasn’t turned up in your spam folder), please contact a member of the executive committee for follow-up.

Our treasurer, Tim McManamon, submitted our final budget for 2012. We spent a majority of our money to support several worthwhile causes. These included science fairs in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota and a donation to AACC’s philanthropic program, the Van Slyke Foundation. In addition, we supported two competitive travel grants and three Marshall Awards. I encourage all who are eligible to apply for 2013. The deadline is typically in May. Watch your email or check our website for details.

As we usher in 2013, I can’t help but reflect on the coming challenges that lay ahead of us in the healthcare industry. However, every cloud has its silver lining, and this may be the time for laboratorians to make significant progress in areas we traditionally fail to gain traction, such as test utilization.

Best wishes in the coming year!
Darci Block

2013 ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to our newly elected executive committee members:

- Chair-Elect: **Danni Li, PhD, DABCC**
Director of Clinical Chemistry
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- Delegate: **Kalen Olson, PhD**
Clinical Laboratory Director
HealthPartners, St. Paul, MN
- Secretary: **Leslie Donato, PhD, DABCC**
Co-Director, Cardiovascular lab, Hospital labs, POCT
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

A sincere thank you to our outgoing members for your dedicated service to the Midwest Section:

- Past Chair: **Amy Saenger**, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
Secretary: **Tina Lockwood**, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Delegate: **Susan Puskas**, MedTox Laboratories, Inc., St. Paul, MN

2012 MIDWEST SECTION TRAVEL GRANT AND MARSHALL AWARDEES

- Travel Grant (\$1500) **Natalie Weir**, Junior scientist, University of Minnesota
Valerie Arends, Minneapolis, MN
- Marshall Award (\$1500) **Marci DeMarco**, Clinical Chemistry Fellow, Washington University
- “Direct Identification of Microbes in Urine Specimens Using Mass Spectrometry”
- Leslie Donato**, Clinical Chemistry Fellow, Mayo Clinic
- “Comparative Performance of Two Whole Blood Point-of-Care Lipid Analyzers to CDC-Certified Laboratory Methods”
 - “Total and Allele-Specific Quantitation of Alpha-1-Antitrypsin by Mass Spectrometry”
- Nicole Tolan**, Clinical Chemistry Fellow, Mayo Clinic
- “Identifying pre-analytic variables that contribute to hemolysis in neonatal blood specimens: sample collection site, transportation method and lipid emulsion infusion status”
 - “Validating Normal Reference Intervals for Glucose in Cerebrospinal Fluid Specimens”

Congratulations to our travel grant and Marshall Awardees!

2012 AACC AWARDEES FROM THE MIDWEST SECTION

(list may be incomplete, and we apologize for any oversights, they are not intentional)

Ann Gronowski, PhD Washington University, St. Louis, MO	Past President's Award
Thomas Moyer, PhD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
Dennis Dietzen, PhD Washington University, St. Louis, MO	Award for Outstanding Contributions to Pediatric and Maternal-Fetal Clinical Chemistry
Pet Maniquis Physicians Reference Laboratory, Kansas City, MO	Point of Care Coordinator of the Year
Paul Jannetto, PhD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	SYCL Service Award
Brian Netzel Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	NACB Distinguished Abstracts Award
Jennifer McDonald, PhD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	NACB Distinguished Abstracts Award
Leslie Donato, PhD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	AACC Student Travel Grant through the Van Slyke Foundation First Place Student Oral Presentation Contest Proteomics Division Young Investigator Award
Erin Kaleta, PhD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN	AACC Student Travel Grant through the Van Slyke Foundation First Place Student Poster Contest
Zhen Zhao, PhD Washington University, St. Louis, MO	AACC Student Travel Grant through the Van Slyke Foundation
Mari DeMarco, PhD Washington University, St. Louis, MO	Honorable Mention Student Poster Contest

Congratulations to all the awardees. These are outstanding accomplishments and the Midwest Section is fortunate to have such talented members.

2012 MEMBERSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS

380 members:

50 Affiliates
32 Emeritus
280 Full Members
18 Students

Distributed in these states:

44% Minnesota
26% Missouri
9% Nebraska
8% Kansas
6% Iowa
3% Manitoba, Canada
2% South Dakota
1% North Dakota

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Thanks to Sarah Brown for taking minutes

1. Recognition of student awardees in attendance

- Erin Kaleta, Mayo Clinic
 - First place in Student Poster Contest
- Leslie Donato, Mayo Clinic
 - First place Student Oral Presentation Contest
 - First place abstract, Proteomics Division

2. Future Meetings

- Should our annual meeting continue to be held during the lunch hour?
 - One option is an early happy hour on Monday, however the group felt it could be too expensive and have a low turnout and/or people would not stay through the business meeting.
 - Another option was a breakfast, which the group did not favor.
 - Perhaps put options on a ballot to circulate for a vote.
 - Final decision: keep the lunch time meeting, it has been working so far
- Should we remove “business” off of the title?
 - Noted. 2013 will be the Midwest Section Annual Meeting and Luncheon

3. Budget

- Report presented by Tim McManamon - report approved

4. House of Delegates Report by Susan Puskas

- Status of local sections
 - As of June 13, only two sections less than 100 members (Connecticut Valley and Northern Ohio).
 - Presented membership trends.
 - Budget for local sections–each sections gets at a min \$2000 plus dues.

- Educational activities-important to communicate any information on education activities even if it is small and even if only in a specific geographical area.
- Virtual sections.
 - Two pilots have been done.
 - 1) Test ability to broadcast from one site to other sites. Done by the Chicago section, used WebEx. Was very successful.
 - 2) Recorded first then posted. California section tried this. More cumbersome and costly than the WebEx pilot by the Chicago section.
 - House of Delegates asked for two more volunteers to pilot other types of programs.
- AACC Strategic Planning.
 - Environment. Looked at threats to the organization (e.g. decreasing membership, aging members, health care cost reductions, etc.) and opportunities (e.g. international level leadership, population health management in time of health care reform, etc.)
 - Scenarios to expand range of AACC by 2016.
 - Membership dues increase. Looking at models for more predictable, operate increases
 - Bylaws revision. Three major revisions:
 - 1) definition of emeritus member
 - 2) changes to nominating committee
 - 3) changes to house of delegates.
- Full copies of House of Delegates report can be obtained by emailing Susan Puskas.

Upcoming Events:

First Ever Midwest Section WebEx Meeting!!!!
Please mark your calendars and plan to tune in ☺

April 9, 2013
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Midwest Section Webinar
Abbott iExpress speaker



Sharon S. Ehrmeyer, Ph.D., MT(ASCP)
Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Madison, WI

Presentation Title: **Quality Planning with CLSI EP23-A**

2013 Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Tuesday July 30, 2013
12:00 – 2:00 pm

Midwest Section Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Hilton Americas (very close to the Convention Center)
Room 335A
Houston, TX

Menu

Sicilian Feast

Caesar Salad, Homemade Croutons and Shaved Parmesan Reggiano
Grilled Vegetable Salad with Roasted Garlic in a Balsamic Marinade
Plum Tomatoes, Fresh Basil and Homemade Mozzarella with Basil Dressing
Baked Salmon Puttanesca with Tomato, Anchovies, Garlic, Capers and Olives in White Wine Sauce
Italian Bean Relish
Chicken Marsala Herbed Chicken in a Mushroom and Marsala Wine Sauce
Eggplant Parmesan
Radiator Pasta tossed in Garlic, Olive Oil
Warm Garlic Breadsticks
Tiramisu with Shaved Chocolate
Citrus Ricotta Cannolis
Gourmet Biscotti
Coffee, Tea (hot and cold), Soft drinks

2013 MIDWEST LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

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