



## PROGRAM SPEAKERS

Jackson, Wyoming

Oct. 10 – Oct. 12, 2019

### **Jim Aguanno, PhD.**

Dr. Aguanno received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Memphis State University. Following his Ph.D., he did two post-doctoral fellowships one at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and a second in Laboratory Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine and Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Aguanno was Director of the Core Laboratory at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas for 24 years. Dr. Aguanno joined Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics in January of 2004 and is currently Senior Clinical Specialist in the Disease State Management group and provides educational presentation on a variety of clinical topics.

### **Emad Balkash, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB**

Over twenty five years of blood bank experience to include management of transfusion services and infectious diseases testing, donor centers, and reagent manufacturers

### **Sonja Best, PhD. Chief, Innate Immunity and Pathogenesis Section, Laboratory of Virology, Rocky Mountain Laboratories, NIAID/NIH, Hamilton, MT USA**

Dr. Best received her Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the Australian National University where she studied poxvirus pathogenesis. She conducted her postdoctoral research at Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML) campus of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), NIH in the USA on the complex role of apoptosis in the replication of parvoviruses. She stayed at RML as a Staff Scientist to investigate virus-host interactions involved in evasion of host innate immunity by flaviviruses. In 2009, Dr. Best established an independent laboratory to expand her studies on the induction and evasion of innate immunity by highly pathogenic RNA viruses utilizing the newly built BSL4 laboratories at RML. Dr. Best is on the Editorial Board for several journals including *Science Translational Medicine*, *Journal of Virology*

and *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, and was awarded a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) by President Obama for her work.

### **Jed Doxtater, MS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

Jed Doxtater has served as director of the Medical Laboratory Science program at the University of Wyoming since its inception in 2013. In the process of developing the program, Mr. Doxtater assisted in the development of an articulation agreement with the Casper College Medical Laboratory Technician program. This agreement has allowed for a collaborative relationship between the two programs in an effort to ensure the viability of both programs

### **Leonard Dunikoski, PhD, DABCC**

Dr. Dunikoski completed a 37-year hospital career as a lab director and hospital Vice President, retired, got bored and was hired by BD. He now works closely with nurses, medical staff and the lab to improve specimen quality, reduce duplicate testing and improve turnaround time. He's a past president of the American Board of Clinical Chemistry and has given presentations throughout the country as well as in Europe.

### **Sandy Estrada, PharmD**

Dr. Estrada is the Vice President of Medical Affairs at T2Biosystems. She was previously the Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist for Lee Health in Ft. Myers, FL for 13 years where she served as the Co-Director of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Director of the ID Pharmacy Residency Program. In that role, Dr. Estrada led the adoption, implementation and utilization of the T2Bacteria and T2Candida Panels and has published results on improved patient care and reduced hospital costs. She is an active member of multiple professional organizations and is currently the president of the Florida Society of Health Systems Pharmacists. Dr. Estrada's research interests include: clinical and economic outcome studies involving antimicrobial stewardship and implementation of molecular diagnostics and she has spoken on these topics at the regional, national and international level.

### **Elizabeth Fischer, M.A.**

Elizabeth R. Fischer received her Bachelor of arts degree in molecular, cellular, and developmental biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1983. She then served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Liberia, West Africa, for 2 years, teaching math and science at the junior high school level. After returning to the United States, she received her master's degree in biology from the State University of New York at New Paltz. During graduate school, Ms. Fischer enrolled in intensive electron microscopy courses, which provided the knowledge and skills necessary for her current position as an electron microscopist for the Rocky Mountain Laboratories since 1994.

In addition to her scientific responsibilities, Ms. Fischer—along with Dr. Kit Tilly and Ms. Anita Mora—developed and implemented a community outreach program, Biomedical Research After-School Scholars (BRASS), designed to encourage middle school students to remain interested in science. She serves on the Bitterroot Valley STEM advisory board and leads an initiative M.I.K.A. – Mental Illness Knowledge Awareness in collaboration with community members to promote education on mental health topics.

Currently, Ms. Fischer is Chief of the Electron Microscopy Unit, a core facility and Deputy Chief of the Research Technologies Branch providing expertise in advanced electron microscopy-related techniques and technologies to support the ultrastructural imaging needs of the NIH/NIAID Division of Intramural Research scientists. The facility provides specimen preparation and analysis, ranging from basic room temperature and cryogenic ultrastructural studies to immune-localization of selected antigens, to three-dimensional reconstructions from electron tomography and single particle analysis. Equipment available in the core facility includes confocal and fluorescent light microscopes, high-resolution transmission and scanning electron microscopes, and state-of-the-art cryo-immobilization and viewing capabilities.

### **Nadine Fydryszewski, PhD, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

Dr. Fydryszewski is Professor, Vice Chair and DCLS Program Director – the 1<sup>st</sup> in the US, at Rutgers University Dept. of Clinical Laboratory and Medical Imaging Sciences. She is currently ASCLS Region II Director, and has Chaired DCLS Oversight Committee, Scope of Practice Documents Revision Task Force and DCLS position paper. She has numerous publication Publications, and presentations most notable: invited speaker at IFBLS Germany, Asia Pacific Conference BMLS Taiwan, Croatian Congress BMLS Croatia, Biannual Nordic Congress BMLS, Norway, numerous national regional, state presentations.

### **Mario Gastelum, BS Microbiology, MBA**

Mario Gastelum has worked in manufacturing and sales in the IVD industry for the past 21 years. The majority of those years have been at AUDIT MicroControls where he has gained insightful experience on how to help customers with their Calibration Verification questions.

### **Theresa Joseph, RN, BSN**

Theresa Joseph RN, BSN, is currently a Medical and Scientific Liaison-Cardiac Biomarkers with Roche Diagnostics Corporation. Theresa obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Colorado in Boulder and Denver and holds a current license in the state of Colorado. She specialized in the field of Critical Care Nursing. Her professional background includes fourteen years of clinical experience with Medtronic's Cardiac Rhythm Management Division, where her primary responsibilities included technical support during surgical implantation of pacemakers and defibrillators and cardiac device education for cardiologists, cardiac

surgeons, and nurses. As a Medical and Scientific Liaison, Theresa provides education on disease states and biomarkers to healthcare professionals and serves as a clinical resource.

### **Nancy Kois, MD, FCAP**

Dr. Kois holds an undergraduate degree from University of California, San Diego in Cell Biology and Biochemistry, a Medical degree from Medical College of Pennsylvania, and obtained her Residency training in Anatomic Pathology, Clinical Pathology, and Neuropathology at University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Kois has been a practicing Pathologist in Boise for 18 years, serving the Boise VA, St. Alphonsus, and St. Luke's hospitals. She is also a frequent Guest lecturer at ISU and has a faculty appointment at ICOM in Meridian, ID

### **Kristin Landis-Piwowar, Ph.D., MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

Kristin Landis-Piwowar earned a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology, a master's degree in Clinical Laboratory Science, and a PhD in Cancer biology. After completing a post-doctoral fellowship in the department of pathology at the University of Michigan's School of Medicine, Kristin joined the faculty of Oakland University where she is currently an associate professor of clinical and diagnostic sciences and Associate Dean of the School of Health Sciences. Kristin has published more than 30 peer-reviewed journal articles on cancer therapeutics, prevention, and mechanisms of disease, has authored numerous book chapters, serves as the continuing education focus series editor for the *Clinical Laboratory Science* journal, and is the editor in chief of the fourth edition of McKenzie's *Clinical Laboratory Hematology*. Her current research is centered on deciphering a familial, genetic link between chronic lymphocytic leukemia and hairy cell leukemia.

### **Bernardino Madsen, MS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

Dino Madsen has been at Casper College for 13 years, and director of the MLT program for the last 3 years. In 2015 the University of Wyoming and Casper College began a partnership to create an articulation between the Casper College MLT program and the newly created University of Wyoming MLS program. This round table discussion will cover the nature of the articulation, the pros and cons of this partnership.

### **Tatsiana Mardovina, MD, PhD.**

Dr. Mardovina graduated from Grodno State Medical University in 2004, where she earned her MD. After residency in pediatrics, she joined the National Scientific and Practical Center "Mother and Child" where she earned her PhD. Dr. Mardovina's professional interest is focused on reproductive health and perinatal medicine. Dr. Mardovina has 8 years of experience of medical practices. Findings from her research were presented at international meetings and published in scientific journals. At

Diagnostica Stago she engages with key opinion leaders, clinicians and researchers on scientific and marketing studies.

### **Ryan A. Metcalf, MD, CQA(ASQ)**

Dr. Metcalf is an assistant professor of pathology at the University of Utah School of Medicine. He received his MD from the University of California at Davis School of Medicine and completed his pathology residency, along with a blood banking/transfusion medicine fellowship, at Stanford University. He is board certified in blood banking/transfusion medicine, as well as anatomic and clinical pathology via the American Board of Pathology. Dr. Metcalf's research focuses on data-driven approaches to quality management in transfusion medicine and patient blood management.

### **Susan Morris, MPH, MLS (ASCP) CM**

Susan Morris is a senior Patient Safety Specialist for St. Luke's Health System in Idaho. Prior to her current position, she was the laboratory director in her facility, a 200-bed hospital. She is a past national president of ASCLS, and has served on the ASCLS Patient Safety Committee. She has also served as a member of the Board of Governors of the ASCP Board of Certification. Susan is currently the chair of the Coordinating Council on the Clinical Laboratory Workforce (CCCLW).

### **Christopher Nero, MD**

Dr. Nero has worked with Yellowstone Pathology and directed the Molecular Pathology lab since 2010. With YPI he has travelled throughout Montana giving talks on molecular diagnostics to multiple clinical laboratories.

### **Debbie Shell, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> SM, DLM**

Debbie Shell has over 25 years of leadership experience in a hospital setting including laboratory, infection control and quality management. She was an affiliate faculty member at Idaho State University from 2005-2008 and since 2009 has been an instructor in the Medical Laboratory Science Program. Debbie has been actively involved in government affairs, serving on government affairs committees at the state, regional and national levels for several years.

### **Khosrow Shotorbani, MBA, MT(ASCP)**

Khosrow Shotorbani is the CEO and founder of the newly established Lab 2.0 Strategic Services, LLC. He is a member and Executive Director of Project Santa Fe Foundation, advocating for Clinical Lab 2.0 movement. Mr. Shotorbani was instrumental in the creation of Project Santa Fe—a initiative with like-minded executives—helping to drive new frontiers that will define future economic valuation and placement of diagnostic services.

As the former President and Chief Executive Officer at TriCore Reference Laboratories, Mr. Shotorbani oversaw the corporate direction and strategy of TriCore, focusing on leadership, culture and innovation, as well as operations, growth, and the financial health of the company. He led TriCore's initiatives based on the premise to improve health outcomes, population health and lower overall costs of delivery by predictive utilization of laboratory data.

Before joining TriCore in 2014, Mr. Shotorbani served as Senior Vice President and Director of Business Development/Business Innovations at ARUP. He joined ARUP in 1984 as a medical technologist and while at ARUP advanced to positions with progressive responsibility over his 30-year tenure.

### **Lynn Todd, MLS(ASCP)**

Lynn has been the laboratory director at CCH for 20 years. She has received the Legend Award for her leadership and innovation with "Wow" rooms that were first created at CCH. She has been asked to speak about numerous topics including The Patient Experience at Mayo Clinic in September of 2014.

### **Steve Young, PhD., D(ABMM)**

Steve Young is a professor of pathology at the University of New Mexico and the Director of Infectious Disease at TriCore Reference Laboratories. He has authored numerous scientific papers in this arena and is actively involved in cutting edge research in infectious disease testing.

### **Susanne (Susie) Norris Zanto, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, SM(NRCM)**

Susanne (Susie) Norris Zanto currently works as a laboratory consultant with Laboratory SolutionZ after retiring from the Montana Public Health Laboratory, where she worked in management and technical positions for over 30 years. This past year she chaired the ASCLS Workforce Shortage Position Paper Task Force. She also serves as the ASCLS representative to the Coordinating Council for the Clinical Laboratory Workforce (CCCLW), and is working with a focus group to revitalize the LaboratoryScienceCareers website.

### **Jewell Zweegman, Billings Clinic Laboratory Marketing Associate, LMT, MR, CWLS, Professional Speaker**

Mrs. Zweegman has been a business owner and massage therapist since 1985. Being an administrative professional, she continued her education and gained experience while working at Professional Resource Group, STEPPS, Island Hospital-Chemical Dependency Unit, Skagit Valley Hospital, and Spokane Public School District #81. She is a trained Mediator, Master Reflexologist, Licensed Massage Therapist, Certified Stone Massage Therapist, CCP (Certified Crazy Person).

She has done inspirational speaking at schools and professional administrative events; and has done retreats for different businesses such as AAA of Montana. She specializes

in helping people see their potential by being aware that taking care of themselves makes them a better person, employee, business owner, and friend. She has also taught classes on Reflexology, How to Run a Successful and Efficient Meeting, Quality over Quantity, How to set up a Business, What I want to be when I Grow Up, and has been a mentor for high school students as well as her student of reflexology.

She continues to work in the health care field at Billings Clinic Laboratory as a Lab Marketing Associate II; and the alternative health care field with her massage and reflexology business; speaking engagements and being a grandma.

