

## **SPEAKER SYNOPSIS**

**IMSS "Roaring into the 20s"**

**Virtual: October 18-20, 2020**

### **Session #1: CAP Competencies, Checklists, and Covid**

**Speaker: Dr. Earle Collum**

**Dr. Collum is currently the Medical Director of the Mid-America Division of LabCorp. He is a Fellow in the CAP, Chair of the CAP Complaints and Investigations Committee, a member of the Commission on Lab Accreditation and Vice Chair of the CAP International Accreditation committee. He has performed more than 200 CAP inspections.**

### **Session #2: Laboratory's New Role in Healthcare / Patient Safety**

**Speaker: Dr. Rahul Patil**

**Rahul Patil is Customer Experience and Innovation Leader at Abbott Diagnostics. His current focus is on building Healthcare Thought Leader's network for better healthcare. Rahul received PhD in Polymer Chemistry from University of Cincinnati in 1999. He completed post-doctoral fellowship at Penn State University. He received Master of Product Development from Northwestern University in 2007. He worked as R&D Chemist for Restek Corporation for two and half years. He joined Abbott Diagnostics R&D in 2003 and worked on development of immunoassays. Rahul managed Abbott Diagnostics' Oncology franchise from 2008 to 2011 and spent four years in China from 2011 to 2015 to work with physicians to build awareness about role of serum-based biomarkers in risk stratification of patients for lung, ovarian, and gastric cancers. Rahul has published more than 10 articles in peer reviewed journals and contributed two chapters to books. He has presented several talks national and international conferences.**

### **Session #3: Patient Safety and Blood Utilization in the Hospital Setting**

Speaker: Dr. Plumier

Dr. Plumier grew up in rural Illinois and attended medical school near his hometown at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria. Upon graduation he moved out west, completing his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He then pursued further subspecialty training in both surgical pathology at the University of Washington and Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He joined Billings Clinic in 2019 and currently serves as the Medical Director of the Billings Clinic Blood Bank/Transfusion Medicine service. True to his rural roots he also serves as medical director for hospital laboratories across Montana, including Central Montana Medical Center, Glendive Medical Center, and Livingston HealthCare. He has a passion for patient safety and blood supply stewardship and is excited to have the opportunity to speak with you today.

### **Session #4: Personalized Healthcare and Companion Diagnostics in Cancer**

Speaker: Dr. Stella Redpath

Dr Stella Redpath is the Director of US Medical & Scientific Affairs at Roche Diagnostics Corp. Stella is head of the tissue diagnostics team at RDC, which includes pathologists and scientists, supporting companion diagnostics and personalized healthcare initiatives in North America. Stella has been with Roche for 9 years and she was previously a California AIDS Foundation Fellow at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA. Stella holds a Ph.D. in Immunology from the University of Cambridge, England.

### **Session #5: Bizarre Case Studies in Parasitology**

Speaker: Blaine Mathison

Blaine Mathison is currently a Scientist in the Institute for Clinical and Experimental Pathology at ARUP Laboratories in Salt Lake City. Mr. Mathison has been studying Parasitology for over 20 years, including working at the Institute of Parasitology at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic, the Arizona State Health Department, and the CDC, where he managed the DPDx website for nine years. He has published

extensively on Parasitology and Entomology, the latter of which is also a personal hobby.

## **Session #6: Power BI and the Application of Laboratory Data**

**Speaker: Cody Custis**

Cody L. Custis is the Senior Data Analyst at Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital. He graduated from Montana State University with a MS in Statistics. In his free time, he hikes into wilderness areas and takes photos from the tops of mountains.

## **Session #7: Establishing a Complexity RT-PCR lab for COVID Testing**

**Speaker: Dr. Hannah Mirrashed**

Dr. Hannah Mirrashed is currently a clinical laboratory director at Plumas District Hospital in Quincy, California. She received her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Genetic on new antimicrobial drug discovery, her M.Sc in Genetic on developing genetic biomarkers and her B.Sc. in Microbiology. Dr. Mirrashed received two fellowships from Canadian Government and Ministry Research Innovation for NanoBio Technology and later Canadian National Science Engineering Research Council supported her research in Nutrigenomic study on Medicinal compounds. In 2012, she moved to southern California working as a research Manager and Lead Scientist at Western University dedicated to the clinical research and testing on biomedical devices and rare disease indications. Her knowledge and research background in Science and Clinical testing helped her in setting up 3 laboratories in Canada and USA. Her outstanding abilities are well recognized in the field. Her work has been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals. She is also frequently honored with awards for research in clinical study and molecular science, training skills and more importantly for her leadership, management skills and her scientific innovation in health care.

During the COVID pandemic, she successfully set up a COVID testing lab in Plumas County in less than 3 months, supporting health care professionals in providing regional community surveillance.

## **Session #8: Covid-associated Coagulopathy; Controversies & Confusion**

**Speaker: George Fristma**

George is the proprietor of The Fritsma Factor. He consults for the Laboratory Medicine Division of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and is an Associate Professor of Medical Laboratory Science at Michigan State and Rutgers Universities. He is a 50-year ASCLS member and a consulting editor for the Clinical Laboratory Science journal. He wishes he could be in Jackson in person, but is delighted to participate in the 2020 IMSS.

## **Session #9: KEYNOTE: Laboratory Science - Roaring into the 20's!**

**Speaker: Susie Zanto**

Susanne (Susie) Norris Zanto is a laboratory consultant and owner of Laboratory SolutionZ, which she started after retiring from the Montana Public Health Laboratory where she worked for over 30 years in management and technical positions. In addition to her work experiences, Susie developed and maintained her capabilities through her professional organizations -ASCLS, APHL, and ASM. Leveraging her experiences and education, she has had numerous opportunities during her career, and has lived through many decades of changes in clinical laboratory practice.

## **Session #10: SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Development**

**Speaker: Dr. Neeltje van Doremalen**

Dr. van Doremalen obtained her PhD in Virology at Imperial College, London in 2013, and has since worked at Rocky Mountain Laboratories where she currently is a staff scientist at the Virus Ecology Section, Laboratory of Virology. Dr. van Doremalen has >7

years' experience working with coronaviruses, ebola virus and henipaviruses. Her work focuses primarily on animal modeling and vaccine development.

## **Session #11: Clinical Laboratories and Government Affairs Roaring into the 20s: Where Are We Headed?**

**Speaker: Debbie Shell**

Debbie Shell has 30 years of leadership experience in a hospital setting including laboratory, infection control, and quality management. She is knowledgeable in clinical laboratory science, clinical microbiology, hospital and longterm care infection control, and overall hospital quality management. She was an affiliate faculty member at ISU from 2005-2008 and since 2009 has been an instructor in the MLS program. Debbie has been actively involved in government affairs, serving on government affairs committees on the state, regional and national levels numerous times over the years. Debbie is experienced in JCAHO and CAP accreditation and she is accustomed to working as a member of a team. Debbie has been an active member of ASCLS and has served in many capacities including ASCLS-Idaho president from 1980-1981 and 1982-1983. She has been honored as Idaho Member of the Year 4 times, IMSS Member of the Year twice, and in 2003, ASCLS National Member of the Year. She has been a member of the ASCLS GAC since 2011, has been the ASCLS-Idaho Government Affairs Chair since 2008, and was a member of the ASCLS PAC Board of Trustees from 2005-2011. She has written an article for the ASCLS Today, entitled "How to Talk to Your Legislators: Breaking the Code", and has presented numerous times on legislative topics at many of our state and regional ASCLS conferences.

## **Session #12: Hematology Update Through Case Studies**

**Speaker: Keila Poulsen**

Keila Poulsen has been a laboratory professional for 50 years! As a young woman she had a chance to work in a lab and knew she had found her niche in life. She attended BYU in Provo, Utah where she received a degree in Clinical Laboratory Sciences. She has never looked back. She thoroughly enjoyed her job as supervisor of Hematology for

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center where she inspired her staff to be their very best. In addition to her job, Keila has been very active in ASCLS at the state, regional, and national levels and has served in many positions and on many committees. She has been instrumental in the training of students at BYU for 40 years. She has co-authored Anderson's Atlas of Hematology, a desktop reference for clinical labs. She is the mother of two sons and grandmother to four and the proud owner of a Harley Davidson.

### **Session #13: Innovation In Fighting HIV And Understanding The Diagnostic Challenges Among Prep Users**

Speaker: Dr. Mikael Gencay

Dr. Mikael Gencay is a Scientific Affairs Manager at Roche Diagnostics and has been with the organization since August 2011. He is a medical microbiologist with a doctorate degree from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Helsinki, Finland, and has over 15 years' experience in the subject area. Prior to joining Roche, he worked on infectious diseases and asthma-related projects at the University of Sydney and University Hospital of Basel in Switzerland.

### **Session #14: Navigating the Ever Changing Landscape of Testing for SARS-CoV-2**

Speaker: Dr. Steve Young

Dr. 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 and is actively involved in the cutting edge of research in infectious disease testing.

### **Session #15: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Intestinal Parasite Detection: Machines Helping Make Humans Better Since 2019**

**Speaker: Dr. Marc Couturier**

Dr. Couturier is an associate professor of pathology at the University of Utah School of Medicine. He received his PhD in medical microbiology and immunology with a specialty in bacteriology from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Dr. Couturier served as a research associate at the Alberta Provincial Laboratory for Public Health and completed a medical microbiology fellowship at the University of Utah. His research interests include improved diagnostics for emerging agents of infectious gastroenteritis and improving/modernizing diagnostic parasitology testing. He is board certified in medical microbiology, a member of the American Society for Microbiology, a CLIAC representative, and a member of the College of American Pathologists microbiology resource committee.

### **Session #16: Molecular Testing for Acute Myeloid Leukemia**

**Speaker: Nhien Chau**

Nhien graduated from the Mayo Graduate School with a Masters in Biochemistry. Through his career, he has worked as a Clinical Lab Technologist in the Biochemical Genetics Laboratory and current as an Education Specialist in the Molecular Hematopathology Laboratory. He's eager to share his knowledge about Molecular Testing for Leukemia with you! Please welcome Nhien!

### **Session #17: The Effects of RBC Survival Time on Clinical Utility of HgbA1c**

**Speaker: Dr. Tom Lohmann**

Thomas Lohmann, MD currently serves as the Director of Medical and Scientific Affairs for Sebia-USA, having joined the company in January of 2019. He is a Board certified Pathologist with sub-specialties in Chemical Pathology and Hematopathology. He has had experience as a staff pathologist at the Ochsner Clinic, served as the Global Medical Director of Quintiles Laboratories, helped establish a molecular pathology reference laboratory in the DFW area, and holds the title of Professor of Pathology at a southeastern medical school. Throughout his career, he has enjoyed teaching medical students, Pathology residents and fellows, and has been active in clinical research in the areas of endocrinology and coagulation.

## **Session #18: Moonshine: Adversity to Diversity**

**Speaker: Jewell Zweegman**

Jewell Zweegman is a favorite at IMSS. She brings enthusiasm and excitement wherever she goes and always has great tidbits of wisdom to pass along. Jewell wears many hats and is not only a business owner and customer service guru, but she is also a licensed massage therapist, master reflexologist, a nationally certified weight loss specialist AND has over 19 years' experience as a professional speaker. WHEW! In Jewell's spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, doing crafts, and enjoying a trip or two.

## **Session #19: Career Resilience**

**Speaker: Aga Spyniewska**

Aga is the Career Counselor for Ben Hudnall Memorial Trust and represents employees at Kaiser Permanente Colorado. Aga has her MBA, is a Global Career Development Facilitator, and has given numerous presentations and workshops while at Kaiser.

## **Session #20: Solving the Syphilis Testing Puzzle Using Multiplex Technology**

**Speaker: David Tomichek**

David is a Medical Technologist and has been with BioRad for 23 years in a variety of positions in the areas of Sales, Marketing and Management. Currently, Mr. Tomichek is a Core Lab Immunochemistry Manager covering the Western United States specializing in the areas of Chemistry, Immunology, Infectious Disease and Diabetes Testing. In addition, David has spoken at a number of ASCLS sponsored regional meetings.

## **Session #21: COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Collections, Processing And Its Usage**

**Speaker: Amanda Barzak**

Amanda Barzak is the supervisor of Transfusion Services at Poudre Valley Hospital where she has been since 2012. Amanda oversees the final review and distribution of blood products produced by the Garth Englund Donor Center.



## **Session #22: Obstetrics APS: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Controversies**

Speaker: Dr. Ware Branch

D. Ware Branch, is professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Branch has been involved in the field of autoimmunity in pregnancy since he began his Maternal-Fetal Medicine fellowship in 1983. In 1985, he had one of the first major publications to draw attention to antiphospholipid syndrome and pregnancy. Since then he has been the primary or a contributing investigator in dozens of laboratory and clinical studies related to autoimmunity and pregnancy, with special focus on antiphospholipid syndrome. Dr. Branch was the first to describe a murine model of antiphospholipid syndrome, one that has subsequently been used by other investigators to better understand the mechanisms of antiphospholipid-mediated disease. His work in the field of autoimmunity in pregnancy has been highly collaborative nature, including his participation in the PROMISSE study, the largest prospective, observational study of pregnancies among women with systemic lupus erythematosus or antiphospholipid syndrome. He is currently involved in a major research trial of an anti-TNF agent in pregnancy.

## **Session #23: Respiratory Viruses in Children: How Clinical Lab Testing in Research Leads to Better Patient Care**

Speaker: Jon Windsor

Jon Windsor received his Master's in Public Health with an Epidemiology concentration in May of 2020. Prior to this, he worked as a medical laboratory scientist for 3 years in areas such as specialized immunohematology, clinical chemistry, and molecular diagnostics. He currently works for the University of Colorado-Center for Global Health on Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funded initiative that aims to evaluate and improve the quality of COVID-19 Serology Testing. Along with this, Jon pursues opportunities in clinical and infectious disease epidemiology where he hopes to serve as a bridge between epidemiology and clinical laboratory science

## Session #24: Lab Week: An Opportunity to Promote and Educate

Speaker: Barbara Harvey

Barbara Harvey holds an AAS degree in MLT from Casper College, a BS from West VA University and an MAEd from the College of Wm and Mary. She has over 25 years' experience as an educator and has created curriculum and labs for various science subjects and has served on the WY State Science Standards Committee. She is currently an MLS at the Teton Valley Health Care in Driggs, Idaho

## Session #25: Antibody Tests In The Fight Against COVID-19 – Why They Are Critical And Factors To Consider For Implementation

Speaker: Dr. Fernando Chaves

Dr. Fernando Chaves is a board certified hematopathologist with 15+ years' experience in the diagnostic industry, where he focuses in researching, evaluating and bringing to market new laboratory tests for multiple medical conditions. He works with innovative researchers in multiple countries and across medical specialties, not only with new assays but also focusing on how to deploy multi-parametric algorithms to improve the diagnostic performance of currently available tests. Dr. Chaves serves as Global Head of Clinical and Scientific Affairs at Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, where his team is responsible for ensuring that Ortho's assays are best positioned to meet un-met clinical and health economic needs, and for supporting worldwide customers in the successful adoption of Ortho's solutions.

