

ASCLS, AGT & SAFMLS



Joint Annual Meeting

GRAND RAPIDS 2022



American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science,
Association of Genetic Technologists, and
Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists
Joint Annual Meeting

June 26 - 30, 2022



In-Person at Amway Grand Plaza
in Grand Rapids, Michigan



Virtual Experience
Online



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Joint Annual Meeting

GRAND RAPIDS 2022



Dear Colleague,

We proudly invite you to join your fellow medical laboratory professionals at the second Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT), and Society of American Federal Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS), June 26-30, 2022.

This past year brought the medical laboratory community continued challenges, particularly regarding staffing and retaining medical laboratory professionals. You have gone above and beyond to provide the highest quality care for your patients and to maintain patient safety in your institutions. Laboratorians in all settings have been creative, resilient, and dedicated to your colleagues and your communities. What you do makes a positive impact on all of society, worldwide.

In this spirit, we hope you will join us this summer to come together—whether that's in-person in Grand Rapids, Michigan, or online for the virtual experience—to reconnect with your professional community and celebrate your collective achievements.

JAM will continue to offer you a single, integrated educational program, abstracts and poster presentations, and new ways to connect with industry partners. The combined expertise of our three organizations brings together scientific knowledge and deep expertise in leadership.

Continuing Education. All attendees—both in-person and virtual—will have access to all recorded sessions for 30 days after the event, providing you with about 60 hours of P.A.C.E.[®]-approved credit. If there is more than one session that you want to attend in the same time slot, you won't miss out on any of the learning experiences. You can also be flexible and create a personal schedule that works best for you.

Social Events. One of the most important experiences at the Joint Annual Meeting is your time to network with colleagues, socialize with longtime friends, and establish new connections. JAM will include the Presidents' Reception and Afterglow Party on Monday, June 27, and opportunities for small roundtable discussions and other networking events. Additionally, there will be several virtual networking events planned for attendees to have meaningful conversations and meet fellow laboratorians in the online format.

Industry Engagement. The Joint Annual Meeting format gives us the chance to create a unique, personalized experience with our industry partners. Exhibitors will be integrated throughout the conference venue, with exhibit tables among the session rooms and virtual exhibits in the conference app. These vendors will have ample opportunity to demonstrate their products and services and schedule one-on-one meetings with you for deeper, more meaningful conversations.

Leadership. Always a major component of JAM, governance sessions give members the chance to actively participate in governing our organizations and profession. Because this year's JAM is a hybrid event (held both in-person and virtually), some governance meetings that are traditionally held face-to-face during the event will be held virtually either before or after JAM. Stay tuned for more details with exact days, times, and formats.

JAM is an experience unlike any other meeting of laboratory professionals. It brings together people from all facets of the laboratory—from higher education to the bench, and even the administrative suite. Our scientific sessions have been planned to cover the varied interests of meeting participants and provide information about the latest developments in medical laboratory science. You will learn what others are doing to incorporate the latest technology in their laboratories, along with other stimulating and timely topics. There is no single professional meeting that can provide you with this unique experience.

We look forward to you joining us this June 26-30, either in Grand Rapids or online.

Hassan Aziz, PhD, FACSS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, ASCLS President 2021-22

Tara Ellingham, CG(ASCP)^{CM}, AGT President 2021-22

Ramil C. Codina, Col, MS CLS, MT(ASCP), SAFMLS President 2021-22

SCHEDULE

Schedule at a Glance

All times EDT. The schedule is subject to change. Full details will be made available at www.labjam.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Association/Society Governance Meetings and Leadership Training

MONDAY, JUNE 27

8:00 am - 11:30 am Pre-Conference Workshops, Association/Society-Specific Programming

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Welcome and Opening Keynote

1:30 pm - 6:00 pm Concurrent Sessions, Industry Partner Engagement, Posters, Networking

6:30 pm - 10:00 pm Reception and Social Activities

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Concurrent Sessions, Industry Partner Engagement, Posters, Networking

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Association/Society-specific programming and Awards Ceremonies

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Concurrent Sessions, Industry Partner Engagement, Posters, Networking

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Closing Keynote

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

10:00 am - 2:00 pm ASCLS House of Delegates Meeting

8:00 am - 5:00 pm SAFMLS Programming

GENERAL INFORMATION

Create an Experience that's Right for You

As a registered attendee, **you will have access to all educational sessions, both live and recorded.** You get to choose which sessions you want to attend live and which sessions you will view later when the time is right. **Design a schedule that works for you.** Take breaks when you need them—there is no right or wrong way to attend the Joint Annual Meeting.

All virtual Joint Annual Meeting educational sessions and events will be held through Zoom webinars and Zoom meetings and will be accessible through the event app. Attend the meeting through your computer, smart phone, or tablet.

Registrants should **download the event app**, which will be available the week before the meeting, for these valuable resources:

- » Access the up-to-date program schedule with session descriptions, speaker bios, handouts, and direct links to both live and recorded sessions.
- » See a list of all registered attendees and connect with others directly through the app.
- » Engage with the poster authors and presentations.
- » Visit industry partner profiles and connect directly with representatives for one-on-one conversations and demonstrations.
- » Share photos, resources, and insights with fellow attendees to feel connected, whether you're attending virtually or in Grand Rapids.
- » Take part in virtual challenges through the event app.
- » Share your experiences and connect with others through your favorite social media platform. Be sure to use the hashtags #LabJAM, #Labucate22, #TheRealAGT, #lamASCLS, #SAFMLS, and #Lab4Life.

Laboratory Discipline Key

Use the laboratory discipline key below to identify the sessions of most interest to you. These abbreviations are used in the educational program descriptions to indicate which program areas each session addresses.

ADM	Laboratory Administration Management
C/U	Chemistry/Urinalysis
CMB	Cytogenetics/Molecular/Biochemical Genetics
EDU	Education
ETH	Ethics
GEN	General/Interdisciplinary
HEM	Hematology/Hemostasis
IH	Immunohematology
I	Immunology
MIC	Microbiology
PHL	Phlebotomy
QA	Regulatory Affairs/Quality Management
SAF	Safety

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Conference Workshops

Two-hour workshops offer participants the opportunity to learn current and up-and-coming topics of interest in genetics. Workshops will be available to in-person attendees only and must be purchased separately. You can add them to your registration at any time.

MONDAY, JUNE 27

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Basic Molecular Techniques: PCR and Real-Time PCR

- » Ericka Hendrix, PhD, MB(ASCP)^{CM}, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- » Katie Bennett, PhD, MB(ASCP)^{CM}, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Basic

This workshop is an introduction of PCR and Real-Time PCR chemistries, how to set-up reactions, and how to interpret results. There will be activities with PCR to help illustrate the concepts involved with both chemistries.

Next Generation Sequencing: Introduction to the Fundamentals of this Game Changing Technology

- » Timothy Daniels, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, MB^{CM}, QLS^{CM}, University of Michigan
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Intermediate

This workshop will describe a high level overview of Next Generation Sequencing platforms, chemistries and applications. We will present how to implement NGS in your clinical laboratory and we will finish with best practices for successful outcomes. Lastly we will finish with real world examples of clinical cases and data.



Educational Session Preview

We invite you to explore the nearly 60 educational opportunities you will experience at the 2022 Joint Annual Meeting. Sessions have been grouped by themes—**Scientific Disciplines; General; Professional Development, Leadership, and Management; and Speed Learning.**

All educational sessions will be recorded, and registered attendees will have access to recordings for 30 days after the event. Each educational session is one contact hour of P.A.C.E.® credit, except for Speed Learning sessions (see additional information on page 15). Program dates and times will be published at www.labjam.org.

SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES

Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease

- » Elissa Passiment, EdM, MT(ASCP), Rutgers University, School of Health Professions
- » Andrea Pitkus, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Wisconsin–Madison, School of Medicine and Public Health
- » Program Area: ADM, C/U
- » Level: Intermediate

Learn about criteria to identify acute kidney injury (AKI) and chronic kidney disease (CKD), including biomarkers and their historic use in different equations for calculating estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR). Impacts of implementing the 2021 eGFR equation will be discussed, including informatics and patient safety aspects.

Best Practices to Avoid a Potential Law Suit in Phlebotomy

- » Kathleen Finnegan, MS, MT(ASCP)SH, Stony Brook University
- » Program Area: PHL
- » Level: Intermediate

Health care workers who collect blood must be trained properly in all areas of phlebotomy. Phlebotomy is an invasive procedure, and healthcare workers that perform phlebotomy incorrectly can, and will, be held legally accountable for their skills. This presentation will review guidelines to avoid lawsuits, describe situations and cases that may have legal ramifications, and discuss the best practices to avoid legal aspects in a potential law suit associated with phlebotomy procedures.

Chagas Disease: The Silent Heartbreaker

- » Andrew Jones, MBA, University of Kansas
- » Program Area: MIC
- » Level: Advanced

We'll dive into how Chagas disease is almost always overlooked from a diagnostic standpoint. With more and more Latin American-born individuals living in the United States, the U.S. health system is lagging in helping this population. We will look at problems around Chagas diagnosis, why it's difficult to identify clinically and in the laboratory, and what steps going forward can be taken to bring awareness to this silent killer.

Gordon Dewald Presentation: For the Love of Chromosomes

- » Helen Lawce, Retired, Oregon Health & Science University
- » Program Area: CMB, GEN
- » Level: Advanced

With a career in cytogenetics spanning five decades, the speaker will provide an overview of the profession and reflect on changes that have occurred in the field of cytogenetics. *This presentation is an awarded lecture in honor of Dr. Gordon W. Dewald, who was recognized world-wide as a leader and innovator in the field of cytogenetics.*

HIV and CDT: A Closer Look at Reference Testing

- » Sofia Smith, MSHA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
- » Program Area: I
- » Level: Basic

This session will look at two tests, HIV and Carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT), not often performed outside of reference labs. Brief overview of sensitivities between CDT and PEth with chronic alcoholism consumption, why CDT is preferred, and how it can be used in relapse will be discussed. The presentation will also include HIV case studies, clarification of HIV indeterminate results, explanation of CDC algorithm, and reporting/notification procedures.

Educational Session Preview | Scientific Disciplines

*Educational sessions are subject to change.

Lyme Disease: More Than a Titer

- » Stephanie Jacobson, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, South Dakota State University
- » Program Area: I, MIC
- » Level: Intermediate

Lyme disease is the most common vector-borne disease in the United States, specifically in the northeastern, mid-Atlantic, and north-central United States. This presentation will discuss the clinical signs and symptoms of Lyme disease as applied to a clinical case, appropriate utilization of laboratory testing, and potential manifestations of long term disseminated neurologic and cardiac outcomes.

Operating Room Hemostasis Testing

- » George Fritsma, MS, MT(ASCP), The Fritsma Factor, Your Interactive Hemostasis Resource
- » Program Area: HEM
- » Level: Intermediate

Anesthesiologists perform preoperative, postoperative, and intraoperative laboratory assays to manage hemorrhage and thrombosis risks. Medical laboratory scientists may support anesthesiology's management of supratherapeutic heparin, red cells, platelets, plasma, antifibrinolytics, or factor concentrates. We examine near-patient hemostasis testing that includes the time-honored activated clotting time and viscoelastometry; including the thromboelastograph (TEG), Sonoclot, rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM), and the Quantra.

Pediatric B-ALL: A Cytogenomic Update

- » Carlos A. Tirado, PhD, FACMGG, Baylor Scott & White Health
- » Program Area: CMB, HEM
- » Level: Advanced

This presentation describes the genes and chromosomal abnormalities seen in pediatric B-cell acute lymphoblastic lymphoma (B-ALL). Case studies with different chromosomal abnormalities, which are crucial in the diagnosis and prognosis of pediatric B-ALL, will also be reviewed.

Potential Killers in the Cabinet: Toxicology of Common OTC Medications

- » Christopher Swartz, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences
- » Program Area: C/U
- » Level: Basic

This presentation will summarize toxicology and laboratory testing associated with overdoses from common over-the-counter (OTC) medications found around the home. Medications including aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid), acetaminophen, and others will be examined accordingly. Relevant case studies demonstrating the general utility of the clinical laboratory in the diagnosis and treatment of patients who overdose from these medications will also be presented.

Precision Blood, Towards Personalized Transfusion Medicine

- » Mark Edmunds, MD, DABP, San Diego Blood Bank
- » Program Area: IH, CMB
- » Level: Intermediate

This presentation will discuss the principles and applications of a blood center-based, laboratory derived test allowing high throughput blood donor and transfusion recipient red blood cell genotyping.



Preparing the Military Blood Banking Community for Tomorrow's Fight

- » Karen Buikema, MS, SBB(ASCP)^{CM}, Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center
- » Program Area: IH, GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

The coming decade is sure to present significant challenges to the military health system and specifically the military blood program. Five emerging trends—decreased blood donations, increased regulatory requirements, decreased laboratory staff, restricted access to the battlespace, and high in-theater blood wastage rates—all point to serious future challenges with maintaining the blood product supply chain. To best mitigate these challenges the military blood program must take action to build greater flexibility and adaptability into its current operations. By focusing on the four key areas of personnel training, blood inventory management, research and development, and strategic partnerships, the military blood program can best position itself to ensure continued mission success.

Primary Aldosteronism: Screening and Confirmatory Testing of a Highly Underdiagnosed Disease

- » Brandy Gunsolus, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Augusta University Medical Center
- » Program Area: C/U
- » Level: Intermediate

Primary Aldosteronism (PA) accounts for nearly 10 percent of all hypertensive patients, but only 3 percent of hypertensive patients are tested for it. This session will discuss the renin–angiotensin–aldosterone system (RAAS), testing for PA, and direct renin concentration vs plasma renin activity. AVS testing performed during confirmatory and treatment procedures will also be discussed.

Rare Disease Omics

- » Jeremy Prokop, PhD, Michigan State University
- » Linda Rossetti, MD, FACMG, Spectrum Health Helen DeVos Children's Hospital
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Advanced

We will discuss the current state of rare disease sequencing, both clinically and research. This will include a discussion of state wide initiatives, additional omic data integrations, and characterization of difficult variants.

Understanding Epigenetics and its Role in Mendelian Diseases

- » Matthew Tedder, PhD, Greenwood Genetic Center
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Intermediate

This presentation will provide an introduction to epigenetics and establish a foundation for understanding epigenetic regulation of genes. The implications of disruptions to epigenetic machinery, phenotypes associated with Mendelian disorders of epigenetics machinery, and diagnostic approaches for identifying these disorders will also be discussed.

What's New in Phlebotomy?

- » Shanise Keith, CPT(NHA), Center for Phlebotomy Education
- » Program Area: PHL
- » Level: Basic

A leading authority in the blood collection industry shares the latest news affecting those who perform, teach, or supervise blood collection personnel. New studies from the peer reviewed literature will be discussed as well as current trends, new products, regulatory developments, and emerging technologies.

Educational Session Preview | General

*Educational sessions are subject to change.

GENERAL

A Day in the Life of a Path Rev Screener

- » Nancy Raynal, MT, SH(ASCP)^{CM}, Michigan Medicine
- » Program Area: HEM
- » Level: Intermediate

Case studies seen in the hematology lab that met the criteria for a pathologist review will be presented. Attendees will help decide if the review may be cancelled or needs to be forwarded to the pathologist.

Blood Delivery by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)

- » Giselle Rieschick, PhD, SBB(ASCP)^{CM}, Transfusion Services OIC
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Basic

The availability of blood products within the first hour after a combat injury is critical to saving lives. Recent advancements in the medical use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), commonly known as a drone, highlights the potential for increased efficiency, pinpoint delivery to the point of need, and reduced costs for blood transport. In this time of strategic competition, the implications for replicating this across the force enables a wide number of additional uses.

CAP Checklist and Accreditation Updates

- » Jean Ball, MBA, MT(HHS), MLT(ASCP), College Of American Pathologists
- » Karen Lackinger, MBA, College of American Pathologists
- » Adrienne Malta, MBA, MT(ASCP), College of American Pathologists
- » Program Area: ADM, QA
- » Level: Intermediate

This session will include a review of new checklist requirements, most frequent deficiencies and how to avoid them, as well as the latest accreditation news for CAP accredited laboratories.

City Lights and Country Nights: The Built Environment's Role in Access to Laboratory Services and Health Outcomes

- » Kyle Riding, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Central Florida
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

There is a consistent difference in health outcomes between patients living in rural versus urban settings. One cause is differences in access to laboratory services. This session will explore those differences and empower laboratory professionals to advocate for equity in access to our vital services.

CLIA and How You Can Impact Regulations

- » Julia Appleton, MBA, MT(ASCP), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- » Program Area: GEN, QA
- » Level: Intermediate

This session will include an overview of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) of 1988, as well as what impact all professionals can have on future requirements.

CLIA's Answer to Military Labs' Unique Missions: Department of Defense Clinical Laboratory Improvement Program (CLIP)

- » Monique Hissom, MLT(ASCP), Defense Health Agency
- » Program Area: GEN, QA
- » Level: Basic

Join me for an introduction into the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Clinical Laboratory Improvement Program (CLIP), where you'll get a better understanding of how DoD labs comply with CLIA and the role civilian organizations have in ensuring compliance. Gain insight into what managing DoD CLIP is like from a someone with both "boots on the ground" lab management and headquarters experience.

Clinical Laboratory Medicine and Transgender Health

- » Carlo Ledesma, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SH^{CM}DLM^{CM}, QLS^{CM}, MT(AMT), University of Kansas Medical Center
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

Clinical decisions contributing to positive patient outcomes are guided, in part, by clinical laboratory results. However, a lack of consensus in standardizing laboratory results for transgender patients is significantly missing in clinical laboratory medicine. This session will outline current scientific evidence and standards of care in relation to transgender health and discuss the role of clinical laboratories in promoting positive patient outcomes for transgender patients and those who are in gender-affirming therapies.

CMS Quality Measures and the Role of the Laboratory

- » Rick Panning, MBA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Associated Regional and University Pathologists (ARUP)
- » Program Area: ADM
- » Level: Advanced

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) developed quality metrics as part of the Prospective Payment System (PPS) in 2013 in order to incentivize hospitals and healthcare systems to improve quality of care, outcomes, and efficiencies. This session will review the PPS Quality Metric program for both hospitals and ambulatory settings and provide examples where the laboratory can have a direct impact on metric performance and impact healthcare organization reimbursement, above and beyond reimbursement for testing.

COVID-19 Laboratory Dashboard Improves Diagnostic Stewardship

- » Regina Wulff, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, New York Presbyterian Hospital
- » Program Area: ADM
- » Level: Intermediate

When rapid test supplies were critically low, our facility formed a COVID-19 Test Stewardship Committee to optimize test utilization with the aid of a dashboard. Dashboard analysis revealed inappropriate utilization of rapid

tests that did not conform to hospital guidelines prompting immediate intervention from laboratory administration. Learn how performing diagnostic test stewardship, informed by real-time review of a test utilization dashboard, was associated with significantly improved appropriate utilization of rapid diagnostic COVID-19 tests, improved reporting turnaround times, implied cost savings, and improved reagent inventory on hand.

Cyberattacks: Is Your Laboratory Prepared?

- » Valerie Cortright, HTL, University of Vermont Medical Center
- » Katherine Devitt, MD, University of Vermont Medical Center
- » Juli-Anne Gardner, MD, CG(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Vermont Medical Center
- » Program Area: GEN, SAF
- » Level: Basic

The threat of cyberattacks in healthcare and the massive impact they can have on a laboratory system and patient care is ever growing. This session will describe one facility's story of survival after a recent cyberattack and outline steps to help other labs prepare for such an attack.

Delivering a NexGen Sequencing Educational Experience to Clinical Lab Science Programs

- » Irene Newsham, PhD, MB(ASCP), University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, School of Health Professions
- » Vibhuti Srivastava, PhD, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, School of Health Professions
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Advanced

Next-generation sequencing (NGS) has moved from an expensive niche technique to standard technology, increasing demand for newly graduated technologists with direct NGS experience. We will share our experience with delivering an NGS and bioinformatics training experience in our clinical lab science program.

Educational Session Preview | General

*Educational sessions are subject to change.

How to Teach Better Immediately

- » Nick Rose, MD, University of Wisconsin Hospital
- » Program Area: EDU
- » Level: Basic

Nearly all of us have to teach, train, make presentations, and give feedback as part of our job. Only rarely do we receive any training on how to do it. This session will focus on practical tips you can use immediately in any context.

Is This Great New Test What Our Laboratory Wants to Implement?

- » Maja Chloupkova, PhD, SC(ASCP), Legacy Laboratory Services
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Advanced

Many factors must be considered before a test is implemented. This presentation is a practical guide to understand various aspects (scientific, clinical, operational, IS technology) of test implementation.

Modernizing Your Laboratory Science Program

- » Mattie Brechbiel, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Grand Valley State University
- » Lilianne Nelson, MHS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Grand Valley State University
- » Dana Vaughan, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Grand Valley State University
- » Program Area: GEN, EDU
- » Level: Intermediate

This session will examine the benefits and challenges to integrating a hybrid approach to medical laboratory science programs and provide a step-by-step guide to modernize your laboratory courses or training modules. Educators, preceptors, and trainers could benefit from the interactive methods presented in this session, specifically designed to teach laboratory skills.

Packing Tips and Dry Ice Chips ... No More Shipping Slips

- » Carlos Geigel-Cruz, MHA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine Epidemiology Laboratory
- » Program Area: SAF
- » Level: Basic

Ensuring proper packaging and shipping protocols are followed when shipping to reference labs benefit the submitting and receiving laboratories. This presentation will provide step-by-step instructions for packaging while verifying International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations are being followed to safeguard the integrity of specimens. A behind the scenes look at a military reference lab and what happens when shipments are received and processed will also be discussed.

Teaching Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (EBLM) Using Choosing Wisely

- » Muneeza Esani, PhD, MT(ASCP), University of Texas Medical Branch
- » Niti Vyas, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Texas Medical Branch
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

This session will discuss the different components of the A-6 cycle of evidence based laboratory medicine (EBLM). Attendees will learn strategies for using Choosing Wisely as a tool to learn and teach EBLM.

The Importance of Global Health Education in the Medical Laboratory Science Community

- » Jessica Brashear, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Texas Medical Branch
- » Vicki Freeman, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CMSCM}, University of Texas Medical Branch
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

Healthcare is a global issue with the laboratory an essential part. While the importance of the clinical laboratory is well established in resource abundant countries, many are unfamiliar with the availability of laboratory diagnostic tests in resource-poor and developing countries, let alone the challenges



of implementing and sustaining diagnostics in these areas. This session will highlight the importance of promoting MLS student and professional involvement in global health education as an essential part of combating this lack of information and awareness.

The Legal and Ethical Issues with Direct to Consumer DNA Testing

- » Susan McQuiston, SCYM(ASCP)^{CM}, Michigan State University, Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program
- » Program Area: ETH
- » Level: Intermediate

This presentation discusses the legal, regulatory, and ethical issues that arise when private companies provide DNA testing and interpretation to consumers without the guidance of trained medical professionals. Test quality in relation to results and polygenic risk scores with interpretation are also included.

Waste Management Woes: Cleaning up the Mess

- » Dan Scungio, MT(ASCP)SLS, CQA(ASQ), CHOP, Dan the Lab Safety Man, Inc.
- » Program Area: SAF
- » Level: Intermediate

Improper laboratory waste management can lead to increased budgets, regulatory fines, and danger to the staff. Learn how to identify waste storage and handling issues in your lab and how to fix them. Labs generate multiple waste streams and the regulations surrounding them vary. This session will help you understand what is needed to clean up and maintain your lab waste program.

What Happens after Clinical Testing? Behind the Scenes on Whole Genome Sequencing for SARS-CoV-2 Variants and other Adventures in Surveillance Testing

- » Kimberly Bishop-Lilly, PhD, Naval Medical Research Center
- » Amy Bogue, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SM(ASCP)^{CM}, Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division/Global Emerging Infections Surveillance
- » Matthew Conte, PhD, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
- » Anthony Fries, PhD, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
- » Jeffrey Kugelman, PhD, United States Army Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
- » Christopher Myers, PhD, Operational Infectious Diseases, Naval Health Research Center
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

Discover how clinical specimens are selected for sequencing and variant analysis in military labs. Considerable planning is required to align the military's unique requirements for a highly mobile force with Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initiatives and other Global Emerging Infections Surveillance (GEIS) stakeholders and partners. Get an overview of GEIS and the integration with clinical specimen submissions. Discuss your questions with a knowledgeable panel of representatives from several large military laboratories with a mixture of clinical and research testing missions.



Educational Session Preview

Professional Development, Leadership, and Management

*Educational sessions are subject to change.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, LEADERSHIP, AND MANAGEMENT

Becoming a New Lab Manager— Responsibilities, Priorities, and Scope

- » Sarah Matthews, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Army
- » Program Area: ADM
- » Level: Intermediate

The scope of what a new lab manager does is broader than most people realize. It also requires more emotional intelligence and the ability to influence and persuade at a hospital level and beyond. This presentation will provide guidance on the most important parts of our job as lab managers and share ways to prioritize our responsibilities.

Calibrating Public Perception: How to Communicate Effectively and Raise Visibility

- » Carol Rentas, PhD, MT(ASCP)SC^{CM}, MB^{CM}, The George Washington University
- » Rodney E. Rohde, PhD, SM(ASCP)^{CM}, Texas State University, College of Health Professions
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Basic

Medical scientists know that peer-reviewed, reproducible data ensures the reliability and validity of the medical reports, but often that information is poorly communicated to the public by those outside the medical lab profession. Here we describe methods that can be used by lab professionals to effectively communicate science to the public, media, or policymakers. In addition, Dr. Rohde will present his experience as a global subject matter expert during the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 pandemic and provide examples of how one's expertise can be used to educate the public and raise our profession's visibility.

Communicating Effectively When There's a Potential for Conflict

- » Cherie Petersen, ARUP Laboratories
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Basic

Conflict occurs when there's a confluence of high stress and high emotion. Given the critical nature of work performed by laboratorians, along with their commitment to patient care, often the discomfort of conflict occurs. Having the proper communications strategies can make all the difference.

Getting the Most out of Your QA Meetings

- » Gerald Kellar, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}SBB, Madigan Army Medical Center
- » Alexander Kolb, PhD, Madigan Army Medical Center
- » Jeffe Smith, MS, MT(ASCP), Madigan Army Medical Center
- » Program Area: ADM, QA
- » Level: Intermediate

A clinical lab quality meeting should present information that informs the senior members of the lab staff/leadership allowing for a reflex resulting in real improvement in the lab. This presentation delves into the structure, organization, and management of these meetings.

Herding Your Cats: Leading a Multigenerational Workforce

- » Jessica Lawless, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center and St. Luke's Nampa Medical Center
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Basic

We are in a unique time where there are four generations of people in the workforce at once. It is helpful to know the general characteristics of these distinctive generational cohorts and identify strategies that empower each in a way that builds a cohesive team. Additionally, we will look at the important aspects of managing a multigenerational team and explore common pitfalls that can add tension among the staff.

Is My Message of Appreciation in the Correct Language?

- » Charles Darby, United States Air Force
- » Jamie Disney, MSHS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Basic

Feeling appreciated is an instrumental component of workplace satisfaction, and in life as well. The method in which we deliver our message of appreciation needs to be as fitting as possible to the needs of the individual receiving the message. Not speaking in a language of appreciation that the receiver needs can miss the mark completely. We will look at different “languages” of showing appreciation, as well as help you decipher how you like to receive appreciation.

So I’m a Lab Manager, Now What Do I Do?

- » Joshua Boggess, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, McDonald Army Health Center
- » Program Area: ADM, GEN
- » Level: Basic

This presentation will give new lab managers tools and tips for success as they take over their first lab.

Using Total Quality Management Principles to Promote Engagement and Retention in the Medical Laboratory

- » Ally Storla, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, CSSBB(ASQ), Wellstar Health System
- » Program Area: ADM, QA
- » Level: Basic

Is your laboratory utilizing the principles of Total Quality Management (TQM)? TQM is a different approach to management which seeks to bring about a change of culture. This culture change is built on the involvement of employees at all levels and utilization of teamwork to reach goals throughout an organization. Employee involvement, engagement, and empowerment are the cornerstones of an effective TQM system.

SPEED LEARNING

The following are 15-minute presentations that will be grouped by three in a one-hour session with Q&A at the end.

Automating PCR Testing: A “Hands-Off” Approach

- » Erika Wagoner, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine Epidemiology Laboratory
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Basic

Epi Lab’s newly-installed and fully automated molecular diagnostics system can take a specimen completely through the process of decapping, sorting, batching, nucleic acid extraction, PCR testing, automatic resulting, and specimen archiving with minimal technologist time involved. This presentation provides an overview of the system’s technology, our verification studies, COVID safety processes, and the hands-off system for chlamydia/gonorrhea testing.

COVID-19 Pooling

- » Sasha Tittel, MPH, MT(ASCP), United States Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command, Yokosuka, Japan
- » Program Area: GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

The Department of Defense has the capability of pooled testing methodology for COVID-19. The goal of this presentation is to learn the many benefits of pooled testing to include increasing your laboratory’s testing volume while using less reagents and much more.

Creating a “Culture” of Safety through Technology-Driven Change Management

- » Jessica Larsen, M(ASCP), Mayo Clinic Arizona
- » Program Area: SAF
- » Level: Basic

A lab exposure to a Select Agent led to a quality improvement project which identified a high-impact procedure change. This presentation will discuss how an interactive and fun online education module was created detailing the change and consequences of the exposure, how compliance with module completion was tracked, and how sustained improvement was evaluated.

Educational Session Preview | Speed Learning

*Educational sessions are subject to change.

Curbing *C. difficile* HAI Rates—A Successful Journey

- » Brandy Gunsolus, DCLS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Augusta University Medical Center
- » Program Area: GEN, MIC
- » Level: Intermediate

This session will provide an overview of the steps taken in this interdisciplinary Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) quality improvement project to reduce our health system's *C. difficile* hospital acquired infection (HAI) rates. A brief discussion of what worked and what didn't during our journey is also included.

Evaluation of a Nucleic Acid Amplification Test for the Detection of *Mycoplasma genitalium* in a Military Treatment Facility

- » Brian Smith, PhD, Madigan Army Medical Center
- » Program Area: CMB, MIC
- » Level: Intermediate

Mycoplasma genitalium is an emerging cause of sexually transmitted infections (STI). This presentation includes the study of the prevalence rate of *M. genitalium* in our patient population to determine an appropriate testing algorithm.

False Positive Fentanyl Screens with Different Immunoassays—Reducing Unnecessary Confirmations

- » Shawn Keitt, Truett Laboratories Inc.
- » Program Area: I, C/U
- » Level: Basic

Fentanyl is a powerful opioid that is sometimes used as an adulterant in heroin and sometimes used alone. The importance of laboratories testing for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) patients to offer fentanyl testing will be discussed.

Iron Overload Potential in Chronically Transfused Patients: A One-Year Retrospective Study

- » Colleen Hinrichsen, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB^{CM}, DLM^{CM}, Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center
- » Program Area: IH
- » Level: Intermediate

This presentation will discuss iron overload as an overview, review iron overload secondary to chronic transfusion, and finally, review one institution's study of chronically transfused outpatients and iron overload potential.

Leading Motivation and Influence in the Medical Laboratory

- » Keron Liverpool, MBA, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Navy
- » Program Area: ADM, GEN
- » Level: Intermediate

The presentation will be based on helping leaders understand how to influence the laboratory staff to accomplish common goals. It will discuss the main motivational needs of staff members and how laboratory leaders can tap into those needs.

Molecular Characterization of Influenza and SARS-CoV-2 in DoD Beneficiaries during the COVID-19 Pandemic

- » Peter Wasik, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine Epidemiology Laboratory
- » Program Area: CMB, MIC
- » Level: Basic

The Department of Defense Global Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Program (DoDGRPSP), a year-round sentinel-based program, conducts surveillance on influenza, an array of non-influenza respiratory pathogens, and now Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). This presentation will give an overview of the DoDGRPSP, provide surveillance data on respiratory viruses circulating during the 2021-22 influenza season, and provide influenza and SARS-CoV-2 sequencing results.

Next Generation Sequencing Multiplex Viral Screening Assay

- » Vanessa Melanson, PhD, M(ASCP), United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
- » Program Area: CMB
- » Level: Basic

Using next-generation sequencing for clinical assays is a relatively new concept that should be publicized, discussed, and investigated further due to easy sample preparation (extraction-less) and to large concurrent sample running (high-throughput) capability.

Point of Care CPI

- » Brooke Lee, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, United States Air Force
- » Program Area: QA
- » Level: Basic

An update to the electronic health record system caused the barcode on the patient wristbands to stop working, resulting in invalid patient identification for 52 percent of the point of care workload. This presentation outlines utilizing an Eight-Step Problem Solving process to improve patient safety by analyzing the patient identification process and developing a long-term plan to maintain results.

Uncrossing Specimen and Source with the Specimen Cross Map Table

- » Andrea Pitkus, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Medicine and Public Health
- » Program Area: QA, SAF
- » Level: Intermediate

Come learn how the specimen cross map table can aid laboratory professionals with the terms and Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine – Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT) codes needed for building and mapping specimen types and specimen sources needed for a variety of laboratory reporting needs (i.e., microbiology, pathology, public health).

ADDITIONAL SESSIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED

Stay tuned for late-breaking sessions added to the schedule and announcements about the Opening and Closing Keynote speakers. For the most up-to-date schedule, visit www.labjam.org.

Using TeamSTEPPS Communication Tools to Improve Inter-Professional Communication

- » Courtney Shrader, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Exact Sciences Laboratories
- » Program Area: GEN, SAF
- » Level: Basic

Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS) is a curriculum created by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to improve performance and patient safety in the healthcare field. One of the learning modules provides a variety of tools used to improve communication between healthcare professionals. This presentation will walk you through three of the tools under the communication module of TeamSTEPPS curriculum and provide real life examples on how the tools can be implemented to improve inter-professional communication.

Walking Blood Bank—What Is it and How Is it Applied?

- » Ronnie Hill, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB^{CM}, United States Army Institute of Surgical Research/Armed Services Blood Program
- » Program Area: GEN, IH
- » Level: Intermediate

A brief introduction to walking blood bank, providing historical use and how it is applied in the Armed Services Blood Program, will be presented. Possible uses in disaster preparedness and continuity of operations plans within the United States will also be discussed.

Why Should We Care about Flow Cytometry?

- » Rachel Childs, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, Old Dominion University
- » Program Area: HEM
- » Level: Intermediate

The session will discuss the principle of flow cytometry, its role in diagnosing hematological diseases, and the importance of flow cytometry within the scope of clinical lab science. Examples of how immunophenotyping can be used as a means to identifying leukemias/lymphomas will also be given.



Industry Partner Engagement and Exhibits

MONDAY, JUNE 27 - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

Opportunities to engage with industry partners will be integrated throughout the Joint Annual Meeting, both in-person and virtually. Industry partners are full registrants and encouraged to participate in all aspects of the meeting, including scientific sessions and social events. Through the Joint Annual Meeting app, you can connect with exhibitors and schedule personal appointments for one-on-one conversations and demonstrations. Additionally, plan to attend commercial symposia to learn more about participating partners. The Joint Annual Meeting format will provide abundant opportunities for meaningful conversations with our industry partners about your specific clinical laboratory needs.

Networking Opportunities

The Joint Annual Meeting will include for in-person attendees the Presidents' Reception and Afterglow Party on Monday, June 27, opportunities for small roundtable discussions, yoga breaks, and other networking events. Virtual attendees will have the opportunity to participate in yoga breaks and several virtual networking events planned for meaningful conversations with fellow laboratorians in the online format.

Poster Presentations

Research and case studies submitted by AGT, ASCLS, and SAFMLS members have been peer reviewed and will be presented as posters. The Joint Annual Meeting posters will be displayed digitally Monday - Wednesday and will be accessible through the event app. Authors will be available to discuss their posters at designated times throughout the meeting. The abstracts for the posters will appear in future issues of *Clinical Laboratory Science* or *The Journal of the Association of Genetic Technologists*.

P.A.C.E.® Certificates

The Joint Annual Meeting provides a wide range of educational opportunities to meet your continuing education needs. The 2022 program offers about 60 hours of P.A.C.E.®-approved, quality educational programming.

ASCLS P.A.C.E.® is accepted by ASCLS, the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), and the Association of Genetic Technologies Board of Certification and all states, including Florida and California for recertification and licensure. ASCLS is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences. ASCLS is an approved provider with CE Broker for Florida licensees and will submit attendance to CE Broker.

To document the P.A.C.E.® credits you earn, you will produce a P.A.C.E.® certificate of attendance using the ASCLS CE Organizer. The CE Organizer is online at www.ascls.org/CEorganizer.

Member Events and Governance Activities

In addition to the educational programming, the 2022 JAM will include the meetings and events you traditionally enjoy at your professional society annual meetings. Many of the following are open to all attendees, whether you're a member of AGT, ASCLS, or SAFMLS. Stay tuned for more details about when and where the following events will take place.

Awards Ceremonies

Celebrate your distinguished colleagues and their accomplishments this past year during the ASCLS, AGT, and SAFMLS Awards Ceremonies.

AGT Genetic Educators and Mentors (GEMS)

Join AGT members to discuss the current status of Cytogenetic and Molecular Genetic education and training programs. All attendees involved in education and training of genetic technologists are welcome.

AGT Business Meeting

Join AGT on Monday, June 27, from 10:30 am -11:30 am EDT to learn more about the Association, meet the incoming Board of Directors, get the latest updates on AGT activities, and hear updates from other organizations. All attendees are invited.

ASCLS Society Update/Open Forum/Candidate Presentations

Moderated by Hassan Aziz, ASCLS president, this session will report on practice issues that affect medical laboratory professionals. ASCLS committee activities and accomplishments will be presented. Attendees should bring views from local and state colleagues to discuss with their peers.

ASCLS Governance Meetings

Learn more about what ASCLS is doing to address issues of importance to medical laboratory professionals. The ASCLS Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 26, and the House of Delegates Meeting on Thursday, June 30.

ASCLS Elections

Elections for ASCLS offices, including the Developing Professionals Forum and Ascending Professionals Forum, will be conducted electronically on Tuesday, June 28. ASCLS delegates will be able to use their smart phones, tablets, or laptops to cast their vote online or vote in person at the Joint Annual Meeting. If necessary, a runoff election will be announced and held Wednesday morning. Exact times and locations will be provided in advance of the Joint Annual Meeting.

SAFMLS Meetings

SAFMLS will host a number of in-person and virtual events for its members during the Joint Annual Meeting. The exact times and locations of service-specific breakouts, the SAFMLS governance meeting, election results, and Awards Ceremony will be provided in advance of the JAM. SAFMLS President Col Ramil C. Codina and many other service members will be available to answer questions throughout the meeting about the Society.



Joint Annual Meeting Registration

Register Early and Save!

Registrations received after June 10 will be processed at the late/onsite rate.

Register by June 10 and receive \$50 off the late/onsite registration rate. Ensure you have access to pre-conference workshops with limited space. You may also receive special promotions and invitations from exhibitors and meeting sponsors.

Full Registration

Full registration includes admission to the opening and closing sessions; all educational sessions; all education recordings streaming online for 30 days after the meeting; industry engagement, poster presentations, and networking events; the Awards Ceremonies; the event app; and all governance meetings. In-person registration includes Monday's Presidents' Reception and Afterglow Party, Tuesday Continental Breakfast, coffee breaks throughout, and generous lunchtime breaks to explore the wealth of options around downtown Grand Rapids. Full registration is required for attendees serving as delegates to the ASCLS House of Delegates.

Guest Registration

Guest registration is available only to individuals attending in-person who do not work in the clinical laboratory science field and includes admission to the Opening Session; Presidents' Reception and Afterglow Party; and the Member Awards Ceremonies. Guests must be registered as add-ons to full registrations.

Which Fee Applies to Me?

The discounted member registration rates are available only to persons holding current ASCLS, AGT, or SAFMLS membership. If you are not a member and would like to join, complete the membership application at www.ascls.org/join for ASCLS membership, <https://agt-info.org/membership> for AGT membership, or safmls.wildapricot.org for SAFMLS membership.

Registration Fees

Register online today at www.labjam.org.

Full Registration	Regular Registration (by June 10)	Late/Onsite Registration (Beginning June 25)
Professional Member / Full Member	In-Person: \$595 Virtual : \$495	In-Person: \$645 Virtual : \$545
Ascending Professional/Developing Professional/Student/Emeritus Member	In-Person: \$295 Virtual : \$245	In-Person: \$320 Virtual : \$270
Community/Collaborative Member or Nonmember (Customer)	In-Person: \$725 Virtual : \$625	In-Person: \$775 Virtual : \$675
Guest* (In-person only)	N/A	\$125

* Any professional member, who qualifies for Emeritus Membership but has chosen to remain a professional member, is eligible to register at the Emeritus/Honorary Member rate. Members who wish to take advantage of this special pricing must register via phone (571.748.3770) or mail. This special pricing is not available with online registration. Emeritus Members whose Membership Category is "Emeritus" may register online.

Pre-Conference Workshops: ASCLS/AGT/SAFMLS Member \$60/workshop; Nonmember (Customer) \$80/workshop.

NOTE: Available for in-person attendees only.

Remittance of Fees

Joint Annual Meeting registration fees may be paid by check, credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, or American Express), or an approved purchase order* from your institution (minimum value: \$250). If you choose to use a purchase order, we require that a copy of the purchase order is enclosed with your registration form.

- We do not accept cash.
- Purchase orders will only be accepted for \$250 or more from U.S. institutions. We require that a copy of the purchase order is enclosed with your registration form.
- Checks should be made payable to ASCLS.
- All fees must be paid in U.S. Dollars.
- Payment must accompany your registration form in order to be processed.

Registrations received on or before Friday, June 10, qualify for the regular rate. All registrations received after June 10 will be processed at the late/onsite registration rate.

Refunds

Requests for registration refunds must be received on or before Friday, June 10. There will be a \$75 service charge for processing refunds. A signed letter requesting the refund should state the registrant's name, the address where the refund should be sent, and the name of the person or institution to which the refund check should be made payable. If you must cancel after June 10, please consider sending a substitute in your place as no refunds will be issued after this date. Refund requests should be sent to ascls@ascls.org.

Confirmation

Registration confirmation letters will be sent by email for all registrations. If you do not receive a confirmation email, first check your junk/spam folder, then contact Joint Annual Meeting Planners at info@labjam.org. ASCLS-AGT-SAFMLS cannot assume any responsibility for misunderstandings regarding your registration if you do not receive a confirmation. Any refunds or balances due will be indicated in your confirmation letter. This letter will also serve as your receipt for the amounts paid. Your registration packet and badge, along with ticketed meal functions for which you registered, will be waiting for you when you arrive at the Registration Desk at the meeting. The Registration Desk will be open Sunday, June 26, - Wednesday, June 29, from 7:00 am - 5:00 pm EDT.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, June 2, 2022 –

Deadline for hotel reservations

Friday, June 10, 2022 –

Deadline for receipt of registration refund requests

Friday, June 10, 2022 –

Deadline for regular rate registration

How to Register

Choose one of these two options:

1) Online Registration (Credit Card)

Register online at www.labjam.org.

2) Register by Check or Purchase Order

Register online at www.labjam.org and indicate you are paying by check. Make checks payable to ASCLS. When mailing your checks, please include a copy of your confirmation email or invoice.

Checks should be mailed to:

ASCLS/JAM

1861 International Drive, Suite 200

McLean, VA 22102

Payment is due net 30 days. If payment is not received seven (7) days prior to the start of the meeting, registration will not be honored.

**For registration, membership, or other inquiries,
contact 571-748-3770 or email info@labjam.org.**

To avoid being charged twice, submit your registration using only one method. If you have any questions about the registration process, please contact info@labjam.org.

In-Person Joint Annual Meeting

Venue

The Joint Annual Meeting events will be held at Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Registration

All Joint Annual Meeting attendees must check in at the Registration Desk upon arrival to pick up your name badge. Name badges are required for admission to all Joint Annual Meeting events. The Registration Desk will be open Sunday, June 26 – Wednesday, June 29, from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm EDT.

Weather and Dress

Casual business attire is recommended for most Joint Annual Meeting activities. The average high temperature for Grand Rapids in June is approximately 80° F and the average low is about 60° F. While lightweight clothing is preferable during the day, meeting rooms and other venues are usually air conditioned. Since personal comfort zones vary widely, you may want to carry a sweater or jacket.

Accommodations

The historic Amway Grand Plaza is a true destination in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids. This classic, riverfront lodging is set between a modernized 1920s historic hotel and a soaring glass tower. It is a four-minute walk across the Grand River bridge to the Gerald R. Ford Museum, and a nine-minute drive from the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. The hotel includes five eateries, ranging from a coffee shop to an upscale steakhouse. The hotel also offers a spa, a sky-lit fitness center with a pool and two hot tubs, a 24-hour business center, and boutique shopping.

Amway Grand Plaza

187 Monroe Ave NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Hotel Reservations

The discounted room rates for attendees are \$169 single/double occupancy, plus tax.

These rooms will be available until the block is filled or **Thursday, June 2**. Reservations made after the Joint Annual Meeting block is full, or after the June 2 deadline, are subject to space and rate availability.

To reserve your room at the discounted JAM rate, visit www.labjam.org and navigate to **Hotel Info**. Please do not call the hotel to reserve your room, because you may not receive the discounted rate.

Deposits and Cancellations

A deposit of one night's room and tax will be due from the individual reserving the room. The hotel will refund deposits and credit card guarantees made by Joint Annual Meeting attendees if attendees cancel their room reservation(s) 72 hours or more prior to their date of arrival. Any reservation cancelled within 72 hours of the date of arrival, as well as no shows, will forfeit the first night's deposit.

Travel

Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR)

- » Distance from hotel: 14 miles
- » Drive time: 20–25 minutes (depending on traffic)
- » Average taxi fare: \$30–\$45 plus tip (one way)
- » Average ride-share fare: \$20–\$40 plus tip (one way)

Things to Do in Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids, Michigan, is located on the Grand River, east of Lake Michigan. It's well-known for its history, furniture production, art, and culture. Top attractions include the Grand Rapids Public Museum, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids Art Museum, Gerald Ford Presidential Museum, and Fulton Street Farmers Market. Known as Beer City, USA, you will find many opportunities for outdoor dining and the chance to taste the various local breweries dotted around town.

To help create your perfect complement to the Joint Annual Meeting program and networking opportunities, visit www.experiencegr.com. You can search for just the right activity that fits your schedule and preferences to maximize your time in Grand Rapids.





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