



# Clinical Science Trumpet

Newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists

Mustafa A. Barbhuiya, Ph.D., Editor

Vol. 45, No. 2—April, 2025

## BROWN UNIVERSITY IS ALL SET TO HOST 146<sup>th</sup> ACS MEETING IN PROVIDENCE, RI

Wednesday–Saturday, May 14–17, 2025 Providence, Rhode Island

By Nina Tatevian, M.D., Ph.D., and Charles D. Hawker, Ph.D., M.B.A.

**T**he Association of Clinical Scientists will hold its 2025 Annual Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island, May 14–17, hosted by Brown University. The Program Committee's Chair, **Nina Tatevian, MD, PhD, FACSc** has announced that the program will include two major themes. On Thursday, May 15, the theme will be *Advances in Women's and Infants' Health* and will feature the Claude P. Brown Memorial Lecture, to be presented by **Francois I. Luks, MD, PhD** (J. Murray Beardsley Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Professor of Surgery, Pediatrics and Obstetrics & Gynecology). On Friday morning, May 16, the theme will be *Therapeutic Approaches to Pathogens of Global Significance*. In addition, the Brown Cancer Center will sponsor the Saturday morning session. The Saturday program will mostly consist of submitted abstracts from ACS members, residents, fellows, and colleagues. The program for the Annual Meeting follows on [page 6](#).

The schedule for the meeting will follow the Association's traditional format with full days on Thursday and Saturday, including an Opening Welcome Reception on Thursday evening. Friday will consist of a half day at the Brown University School of Medicine. Friday afternoon will have a cultural tour to Newport and Friday evening will be the Annual Awards Reception and Banquet, for which the invited speaker will be **Francois I. Luks, MD, PhD**, also the Claude P. Brown Memorial Lecturer. **Dr. Luks** is well known for his teachings and illustrations of medical anatomy and this topic promises to be an interesting change of pace.

Saturday's program will include the Annual Members Business Meeting (as a buffet luncheon) and will conclude with the traditional Musicales and Art Show, to be held at the Grace Episcopal Church, across the street from our hotel.

Our hotel will be the historic Hotel Providence, Trademark Collection by Wyndham, 139 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI 02903 (telephone: 800 861-8990 or 401-861-8000). Details can be found in the Accommodations section of the website. The hotel is downtown, walking distance to many attractions, and directly across the street from the Grace Episcopal Church where we plan to have the Musicales and Art Show as mentioned above.

The Program Committee for the 2025 ACS Annual Meeting includes:

**Nina Tatevian, MD, PhD**,  
Program Committee Chair  
**Liang Cheng, MD**  
**Jessica Claus, MD**  
**Christopher Crutchfield, PhD**  
**Kyle Kurek, MD**  
**Jonathan Kurtis, MD**  
**Geralyn Messerlian, MD**  
**James Sung, MD**  
**Evgeny Yakirevich, MD**  
**Charles D. Hawker, PhD, MBA**  
(*ex officio*).

The scientific program lined up as mentioned in the following pages demonstrate the depth and breadth of the 146<sup>th</sup> ACS Meeting in Providence, RI, May 14–17, 2025.



Providence, Rhode Island from the Providence River

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## MEETING IN PROVIDENCE

### ACCOMMODATIONS

The hotel for the 2025 Annual Meeting is the historic Hotel Providence, Trademark Collection by Wyndham, 139 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI 02903 (telephone: 800 861-8990 or 401-861-8000).

Fusing European flair and New England charm, the non-smoking Hotel Providence, Trademark Collection by Wyndham provides a comfortable stay with a breakfast restaurant, gym, free WiFi, and event space. There is on-site parking, although fees may apply. The hotel's convenient downtown location is 12 miles from Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport (PVD) and walking distance from shops and restaurants as well as the Rhode Island Convention Center. This landmark 4-star hotel is steeped in historic character dating back to the 19th century. Step inside old-world elegance and let the seasoned staff impress you with personalized service and meticulous attention to detail.

The Hotel Providence is passionate about providing stellar hospitality, and its personality comes through in all. Located in the heart of downtown Providence's vibrant theater district, culture and passion for the arts are reflected in everything the hotel offers. Vintage furnishing, art, and classic novels are sprinkled throughout the hotel. Retire to your sophisticated guestroom or suite fitted with oil paintings from world-renowned artists and sleep

soundly amid the city. Perfect for business and leisure, Hotel Providence features superior guest amenities, including a fitness studio, business center, complimentary Wi-Fi, and versatile meeting and event spaces perfect for conferences or romantic Rhode Island weddings.

The contracted rate for the ACS Annual Meeting is an excellent \$199 plus tax (est. 15%) per night, single or double. The cut-off date for reservations was April 13, 2025, after which rooms in our block are not guaranteed to be available.

[Reserve room here](#)

### TRANSPORTATION

Providence, RI is served by the Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport (PVD). PVD is served by nine airlines, including Allegiant, American, Delta, JetBlue, Southwest, Sun Country, and United.

The Hotel Providence is 9 to 11 miles (about 15-20 minutes) from PVD, depending on the route chosen. Rental cars are available, as are various shared shuttle services. Taxis cost \$29-40. One could even ride the Line 66 bus all the way in 21 minutes for \$2.00. PVD has a designated pick-up area for Lyft and Uber.



*Rhode Island T. F. Green International Airport (PVD) is a top-ten Condé Nast Readers' Choice airport*

## ABRAHAM J. GITLITZ MEMORIAL LECTURE ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION AND BANQUET SPEAKER

### Francois I. Luks

The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown

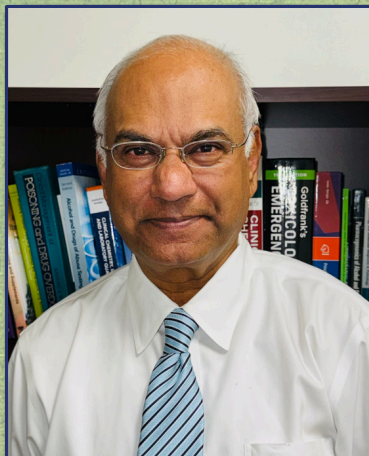
*Fetal lung development and the feasibility of endoscopic fetal surgery—creation of the Fetal Treatment Program at Brown University*

### LUNCHEON SPEAKER

### Amitava Dasgupta

University of Kansas Medical School

*Prescription or poison? How clinical laboratory scientists can alert clinicians about potential toxicity of herbal medicines and clinically significant drug-herb interactions*



*Dr. Amitava Dasgupta*



*Dr. Francois Luks*



# Awards to Present at 2025 Annual Meeting

At the Annual Business Meeting in Jacksonville last April, **Dr. Myra Wilkerson** announced the following Association awards which will be presented at the 2025 Annual Meeting in Providence, RI.

## Young Clinical Scientist Award Hunter Miller

Past Awardees

**Hunter Miller, Ph.D.** spent his youth in rural Tennessee and became interested in science during middle school, with a “knack” for biology and physiology.

**Dr. Miller** attended Murray State University in Western Kentucky, earning a major in chemistry. His favorite courses were calculus, numerical analysis, biochemistry, and analytical chemistry.

In the spring of 2016, **Hunter** was accepted into the Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Louisville in the Pharmacology and Toxicology Department. He joined **Dr. Hermann Frieboes'** laboratory and became involved in research projects related to mathematical modeling of cancer to evaluate the efficacy of nanotherapeutics.

The experience as a graduate research assistant and a postdoctoral fellow while working in this interdisciplinary bioengineering laboratory allowed **Hunter** to develop skills in computer programming, data analysis, cell culture, confocal microscopy, and mass spectrometry-based metabolomics.

“In 2022, I learned about clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine as a postdoctoral fellow. I became interested in the field due to the data it generates and the vast potential for multivariable predictive modeling for improving patient care,” says **Dr. Miller**.

“As a first-year clinical chemistry fellow,” continued **Dr. Hunter**, “I found the 2024 Association of Clinical Scientists meeting in Jacksonville, Florida an excellent opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals. I’m looking forward to the 2025 meeting!”

**Dr. Miller** has long-term research interests that involve developing and validating novel multiplex assays and building machine-learning approaches for clinical laboratory applications and biomarker discovery workflows. In particular, his interest is advancing the state of omics technology such as mass spectrometry and nuclear magnetic resonance, towards clinical applications in cancer diagnostics and enhancing the clinical interpretability of machine-learning models in laboratory medicine.



*Dr. Hunter Miller*

## Young Clinical Scientist Award Jessica Claus

**Jessica Claus, M.D.** earned her medical degree from Rostock University in Germany and is currently completing her 4<sup>th</sup> year as an anatomic and clinical pathology resident at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

**Dr. Claus's** research interest centers on Women's health and the enhancement of medical education.

**Dr. Claus** will further specialize her expertise Demonstrating a clear commitment to her field, through fellowships in gynecologic and breast pathology at Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island (Brown University), followed by a pediatric pathology fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital (Harvard University).

**Dr. Claus'** passion for knowledge dissemination has led her to author three pathology textbooks for medical students. Her dedication to professional development continues through her role as Chair of the Young Fellows Section Oversight Committee since 2023.



*Dr. Jessica Claus*



*Dr. Claus presenting at the 2024 Annual Meeting*



## F.W. Sunderman, Jr. Diploma of Honor Peter C. Hu

Past Awardees

**Peter Hu, Ph.D., FACS** has been a valuable member of ACS. He served as member of the Awards Committee (2011-2017), Credentials Committee (2011-2013), Nominating Committee (2014-2017), Chair of the Membership Committee (2014-2015), member of the Executive Committee (2014-2018), President (2015-2016), Past President's Council (2018-Present), and was the Program Committee Chair for the 2018 annual meeting in Houston, TX.

**Dr. Hu** is currently the Associate Dean of Research and Strategic Initiatives in the School of Health Professions (SHP) at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX. He is also a Distinguished Teaching Professor with tenure and is the founding Director of the Molecular Genetic Technology and the Graduate Diagnostic Genetics Programs at MD Anderson. His research interests include cancer cytogenetics, tumor markers, and molecular diagnostics.

**Dr. Hu** holds three specialty clinical certifications in Molecular Biology, Cytogenetics, and Clinical Laboratory Science through the American Society for Clinical Pathology. He joined MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) in 1995 and has worked in both clinical and academic environments. **Dr. Hu** has published a combined total of more than 300 abstracts, manuscripts, and book chapters. For his efforts, he has received 40 recognitions and awards and he is a member of The University of Texas Kenneth I. Shine Academy of Health Science Education.

Professionally, he has served as President, Board of Directors, and other key leadership positions for various professional societies including Association of Clinical Scientists, National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Association for Genetic Technologists, and American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. In addition, he has served as a clinical laboratory science programs inspector for the past 20 years and has inspected clinical laboratory science programs throughout the country and abroad. He is internationally recognized for his consulting work in Cuba, China, Qatar, and his recent efforts in Africa through MD Anderson's Global Academic Programs. **Dr. Hu** regularly presents at state, national, and international conferences on topics ranging from clinical laboratory sciences to education.



Dr. Peter Hu



## Clinical Scientist of the Year Philip "Phil" Foulis

Past Awardees

**Philip R. Foulis, M.D., M.P.H., FACS** is an anatomic and clinical pathologist with subspecialty certification in hematopathology and clinical informatics. He is a professor in the Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, Morsani College of Medicine with appointments in the Department of Internal Medicine and College of Public Health. He received his MD degree from McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and a residency at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He later received a master's in public health in Epidemiology from the College of Public Health, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.



Dr. Phil Foulis

**Dr. Foulis'** practice is at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida with an academic affiliation with the University of South Florida. Currently, a portion of his duties are as a member of the national deployment of a new electronic health record for the Veterans' Health Administration in conjunction with the Department of Defense. His clinical duties include cytopathology, hematopathology, and medical informatics. He also teaches medical students, residents, fellows, and undergraduate students. His research activities include residents, fellows, and graduate students with an emphasis on big data in the evaluation of clinical care.



**Dr. Foulis'** major academic and administrative interest has focused on informatics throughout his career. Currently, he is concentrating on human factors engineering, diagnostic error, and big data. He has published more than 290 presentations and publications. His research area of specialization emphasizes performance improvement in the clinical laboratory, large extant databases, text mining; knowledge discovery and natural language processing, human factors engineering, and lean principles. He is a member of local, regional, and national committees, intending to empower clinicians and patients to provide more effective, timely, and safe care. The goal of many of these endeavors emphasizes quality utilizing informatics. He is also active in the laboratory accreditation program of the College of American Pathologists.



## Gold-Headed Cane Award Nina Tatevian

### Past Awardees

**Nina Tatevian, M.D., Ph.D., FACSc** is honored to be the recipient of the Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS) Gold-Headed Cane Award in 2025. **Dr. Tatevian** has a long history with the ACS, starting in 1997 when she, as a pathology resident at Brown University, first presented a paper at the Annual Meeting and shortly thereafter became a member of ACS.

Over the years she presented numerous papers on pediatric and perinatal pathology topics at annual ACS meetings. She served ACS as Vice President in 2005, President in 2006, chaired the Membership Committee in 2005-2007, was a member of the Scientific Council from 2003 to 2012, and has been a member of the Executive Committee since 2008.

However, the most significant contribution **Dr. Tatevian** made to the ACS was her relentless work as the Editor-in-Chief of the Association's journal, the Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science. She started in 2011 and continued until June, 2024, when she became the Senior Associate Editor, passing the "torch" to the younger generation. **Dr. Tatevian** was awarded by ACS in 2012 with the "Diploma of Honor" and honored in 2016 with title "Clinical Scientist of the Year."

During her career she has worked as an Assistant Professor in the Pathology Department of Texas Children's Hospital (Baylor College of Medicine), then Associate Professor, and later Professor in the Pathology Department of the University of Texas McGovern Medical School at Houston.

**Nina** is now Professor of Pathology in the Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University. She is a very well-respected clinician in the medical community. In addition to her very busy clinical practice, she mentors medical students, college students, residents, and fellows, earning numerous Teaching Excellence Awards. Many of her trainees graduated with prestigious fellowships and are now authorities in different pathology fields; **Dr. Tatevian** takes pride in her success!

Last, but not least, **Dr. Tatevian** is an active member of the Society for Pediatric Pathology, having served on multiple committees for many years, as well as on the Board of Directors for three years. Over the years she actively participated in multiple research projects, was a co-investigator in numerous grants, published over 50 papers, and presented over 100 abstracts at national and international meetings. ❖



*Dr. Nina Tatevian*



*The Hotel Providence entry facade fuses European with New England charm*



*The elegant and exquisite Hotel Providence*



*Guest rooms are comfortable at the Hotel Providence*



# Scientific Program

## 146<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Association of Clinical Scientists, Providence, R.I.

### Meeting Theme: Advances in Women's and Infants' Health

Subject to change; please refer to actual ACS Program & Abstracts Booklet once you register

Thursday and Saturday sessions at Hotel Providence, Friday session at the Alpert Medical School Building, Brown University

#### Wednesday, May 14

##### Providence Hotel

2:30–5:00 pm Registration, main lobby

3:00–6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Board Meeting Rm.

#### Thursday, May 15 (7:00 am–5:10 pm)

##### Providence Hotel conference room

#### Theme: Advances in Women's and Infants' Health

7:00 am Continental Breakfast, main lobby

7:30 am Registration open

#### Session A1 Clinical Advances in Women's and Infant's Health

8:00 am Welcome remarks:  
Shuko Harada, M.D., ACS President, and  
Nina Tatevian, M.D., Ph.D., Program Chair

8:15–9:15 am Abraham J. Gitlitz Memorial Lecture  
[1] Francois I. Luks, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*The unborn patient: fetal surgery at Brown—past, present, and future*

9:15–9:45 am Jennifer Gass, M.D.  
[2] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*De-escalating breast cancer surgery 2025*

9:45–10:15 am Liang Cheng, M.D., M.S.  
[3] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Precision genomics and artificial intelligence in cancer diagnostics and treatments*

10:15–10:45 am Refreshments

#### Session A2 Clinical Advances in Women's and Infant's Health

10:45–11:15 am Cara Mathews, M.D.  
[4] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Anti-angiogenic therapy in the treatment of gynecologic cancers: agent-specific toxicity, response, and resistance*

11:15–11:45 am Methodius G. Tuuli, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.  
[5] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Reducing morbidity from postpartum hypertension*

11:45–12:15 pm Jill L. Maron, M.D., M.P.H.  
[6] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Integrating salivary diagnostics into perinatal care*

#### Thursday, May 15 (7:00 am–5:10 pm) - continued

#### Theme: Advances in Women's and Infants' Health

#### Session B Luncheon with Scientific presentation

12:30–1:30 pm Luncheon with Scientific presentation  
[7] Amitava Dasgupta, Ph.D.  
University of Kansas Medical School, Kansas City, KS  
*Prescription or Poison? How the clinical laboratory can alert clinicians about potential toxicity of herbal medicines as well as clinically significant drug-herb interactions*

#### Session C Laboratory Advances in Women's and Infant's Health

1:40–2:00 pm Geralyn Messerlian, Ph.D.  
[8] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Serum marker testing to predict preeclampsia*

2:00–2:20 pm Melissa Russo, M.D.  
[9] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*cfDNA screening and other prenatal genetic tests*

2:20–2:40 pm Kamaljeet Singh, M.D.  
[10] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Pathology findings and radiologic correlation for managing borderline/high risk breast lesions*

2:40–3:00 pm Stephanie Barak, M.D.  
[11] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Modeling host pathogen interactions in the reproductive mucosa using human cervical organoids*

3:00–3:20 pm Joshua Bornhorst, Ph.D.  
[12] Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN  
*Combined total copper and labile bound copper fraction as a selective and sensitive tool in the evaluation of Wilson disease*

3:20–3:50 pm Refreshments

#### Session D Advances in Pediatric Health

3:50–4:10 pm Sara Vargas, M.D.  
[13] Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard University, Boston, MA  
*Congenital cystic lung lesions: a paradigm for progress in understanding pediatric disease*

4:10–4:30 pm Sara Szabo, M.D., Ph.D.  
[14] Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH  
*Extended vascular spectrum with RAS mutations - surprises for congenital/neonatal vascular tumors*



**Thursday, May 15 (7:00 am - 5:10 pm) - continued**
**Advances in Pediatric Health**

**4:30-4:50 pm** John Hicks, M.D., Ph.D., D.D.S.  
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX  
[15]  
*Role of ultrastructure in diagnosis of pediatric disorders: a brief review*

**4:50-5:10 pm** Ewa Elenberg, M.D., M.Ed.  
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX  
[16]  
*Challenges and advances in cystinosis*

**5:10 pm** Adjourn

**6:00 pm** Welcome Reception  
(Open to all participants and accompanying persons)

**7:30 pm** Young Fellows Event  
(Open to all participants age  $\leq 45$ , and accompanying persons)  
Hosted by Jessica Claus, M.D., Chair Young Fellows Section, and Shuko Harada, M.D., ACS President

**Friday, May 16 (8:00 am–11:30 am)**  
Brown University Medical school

**Theme: Therapeutic Approaches to the Pathogens of Global Significance**
**Session E Therapeutic Approaches to the Pathogens of Global Significance**

**8:00-8:50 am** Jonathan Kurtis, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[17]  
*Novel antimalarial drug development*

**8:50-9:15 am** Jennifer Friedman, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[18]  
*Praziquantel for the treatment of schistosomiasis for children under age four years: a Phase II PK/PD driven dose finding trial*

**9:15-9:50 am** Christian P. Nixon, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[19]  
*Malaria vaccines: past, present, and future*

**9:50-10:50 am** Poster viewing and refreshments  
Please see the list of posters on page 9

**10:50-11:10 am** Jeffrey Bailey, M.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[20]  
*Emerging resistance to front line artemisinin and partner drugs—a looming public health crisis in Africa*

**11:10-11:30 am** Mustafa Barbhuiya, Ph.D.  
U.Mass Chan Medical School - Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA  
[21]  
*Essential diagnostic access gap in relation to neglected tropical diseases: the conundrum of global healthcare delivery*

**11:30 am** Adjourn

**Friday, May 16 (afternoon)**  
Cultural tour to Newport, RI (ticket required)

**11:30 am** Load bus for afternoon cultural tour to Newport, RI  
(Ticket required)

**5:00 pm** Load bus for return to hotel

**6:00 pm** Bus arrives hotel

**7:00 pm** Annual Awards Reception

**7:30 pm** Annual Awards Banquet and Presentations  
Toastmaster: Shuko Harada, M.D., ACS President  
Awards: Myra Wilkerson, M.D., Awards Chair  
Banquet Address:  
Francois I. Luks, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Physicians and medical illustrators: history and practice of a symbiotic relationship*

**Saturday, May 17 (7:00 am–5:30 pm)**  
Providence Hotel conference room

**7:00 am** Continental Breakfast, main lobby

**7:30 am** Registration open

**Session F Artificial Intelligence**

**8:00-8:15 am** Benjamin Andress, Ph.D., DABCC  
Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA  
[22]  
*Leveraging retrospective patient data to define the minimum retesting interval*

**8:15-8:30 am** Hunter A. Miller, Ph.D.  
University of Louisville, Louisville, KY  
[23]  
*Artificial intelligence (AI) models for automated interpretation of serum immunofixation electrophoresis*

**8:30-8:45 am** Min Yu, M.D., Ph.D.  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center/Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA  
[24]  
*Bridging the gap: large language models in laboratory medicine - applications and implications*

**8:45-9:00 am** Joyce Ou, M.D., Ph.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[25]  
*A role for artificial intelligence tools in precision medical education*

**9:00-9:15 am** Dariusz R. Stachurski, M.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[26]  
*Major challenge and future of laboratory medicine*

**9:15-9:30 am** Fazilet Yilmaz, M.D.  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
[27]  
*Artificial intelligence in tubular gastrointestinal biopsies: enhancing diagnosis and future pathology workflows*

**9:30-10:00 am** Refreshments



**Saturday, May 17 (7:00 am–5:30 pm) - continued**  
**Providence Hotel conference room****Session G Toxicology**

**10:00-10:15 am** Anatoly Zhitkovich, Ph.D.  
[28] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Protein damage responses to toxicants with different electrophilic properties*

**10:15-10:30 am** Adina Badea, Ph.D.  
[29] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Comprehensive drug testing by high-resolution mass spectrometry: bridging clinical care and public health*

**10:30-10:45 am** Rita WangJie Hayes, M.D.  
[30] University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland, OH  
*Evaluation of a screening assay for high-intensity drug trafficking area designer benzodiazepines*

**10:45-11:00 am** Daniel J. Spade, Ph.D.  
[31] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Multinucleated testicular germ cells as a dose-additive quantitative marker of phthalate toxicity*

**11:00-11:15 am** Sonja Kapadia, M.D., ScM Candidate, Class of 2026  
[32] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Blood versus urine toxicology LC-QTOF-MS testing: an analysis of unintentional non-fatal overdose*

**11:15-11:30 am** Refreshments

**Session H Molecular pathology**

**11:30-11:45 am** Shuko Harada, M.D.  
[33] The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL  
*Effectiveness of different molecular testing for thyroid cancer*

**11:45-12:00 pm** Darshan S. Chandrasekhar, Ph.D.  
[34] The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL  
*Evaluating the impact of NGS gene panels on biomarker-guided oncology clinical trials*

**12:00-12:15 pm** Kanako Okamoto, M.D.  
[35] The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL and Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH  
*The clinical value of highly targeted NGS in malignant solid neoplasms*

**12:15-1:45 pm** ACS Business meeting with lunch  
Note: all attendees are invited to attend, although only members of the Association may vote

**Session I Surgical and Clinical Pathology Beyond Regular Sign-out**

**1:45-2:00 pm** Myra L. Wilkerson, M.D.  
[36] Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA  
*A retrospective multi-site examination of chronic kidney disease utilizing laboratory data to identify clinical and financial risk*

**2:00-2:15 pm** Diana Treaba, M.D.  
[37] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Key insights in the multiple facets of the acute myeloid leukemia microenvironment*

**2:15-2:30 pm** Dragos Luca, M.D.  
[38] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Pediatric lymphomas with uncommon presentation*

**Saturday, May 17 (7:00 am–5:30 pm) - continued**  
**Providence Hotel conference room**

**2:30-2:45 pm** Charlotte F. Kim, M.D.  
[39] Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX  
*Gross and histologic placental abnormalities associated with neonatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy*

**2:45-3:00 pm** Robert Barno, M.D.  
[40] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Military decision-making for multidisciplinary medical teams*

**3:00-3:15 pm** Bushra K. Al-Tarawneh, M.D.  
[41] The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Utility of combined cytokeratin 17, p53 dual stain and cytokeratin 13 along with histomorphology in the diagnosis of differentiated vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia*

**3:15-3:30 pm** David M. Berger, M.D.  
[42] Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX  
*Myoepithelial tumor of soft tissue with EWSR1:KLF17 fusion: unique entity*

**3:30-3:45 pm** Refreshments

**Session J Advances in clinical and experimental pathology**

**3:45-4:00 pm** Jonathan Hoyne, Ph.D.  
[43] Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL, Rochester, MN  
*Emerging technologies for biomarker discovery*

**4:00-4:15 pm** Anthony Maus, Erica M. Fatica, Robert Taylor, Bethany J. Larson, Alicia Algeciras-Schminich, Ravinder J. Singh, and Stefan K. Grebe  
[44] *Investigation of the clinical utility of human pancreatic polypeptide measurements using LC-MS/MS*

**4:15-4:30 pm** Liyun Cao  
[45] The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL  
*Comparison of boronate affinity chromatography and capillary electrophoresis in measurement of HbA1c*

**4:30-4:45 pm** Christopher Tan, Nikka Stolyarova, Izzy Herman, Neha Ch, Varu Vummidi, Wendy Pham, and Christine King  
[46] University of California, Irvine  
*Pressure sensor validation of novel compression suture technique to treat postpartum hemorrhage*

**4:45-5:00 pm** Bing Yu, M.D.  
[47] Kent State University, Kent, OH  
*The role of mesenchymal stem cells and macrophages in diabetic wound healing*

**5:00-5:15 pm** Shaimaa Maher, Imir G. Metushi, and Lu Song  
[48] David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA  
*Validation of pericardial fluid analysis for standardization and efficiency*

**5:15-5:30 pm** Annalara Fischer  
[49] University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, KY  
*Management of lipemic samples and impact on POC laboratory results*

**5:30 pm** Adjourn

**7:30 pm** Musicales and Art Show, with hors d'oeuvres



**Friday, May 16 (9:45–10:45 am)**

**Brown University Medical school**

## Poster Session

- poster** Bushra K. Al-Tarawneh, Zhenwei Zhang, James Sung, and Nina Tatevian  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*SOX2, OCT3/4, P21 and GATA-3 immunohistochemical panel combined with histomorphology in gestational trophoblastic disease diagnosis*
- poster** John Hicks and Karen Eldin  
Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, and Salem Hospital, Massachusetts General Brigham, Salem, MA  
*Common variable immunodeficiency initially presenting as granulomatous interstitial nephritis*
- poster** Stephanie Barak and M. Ruhul Quddus  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Goblet cell metaplasia in endometrial polyps: Report of two cases*
- poster** Bushra K. Al-Tarawneh, Sadeq Islam, M. Ruhul Quddus, and Kamaljeet Singh  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Tubulosquamous polyp of vagina: Case series of a rare benign vaginal lesion with focus on etiopathogenesis*
- poster** Anindita Ghosh, Jie Xu, Gautam Borthakur, Amanda Olson, L. Jeffrey Medeiros, and Sanam Loghavi  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX  
*Donor-derived SF3B1-mutated myelodysplastic neoplasm/syndrome*
- poster** David M. Berger  
Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX  
*Myoepithelial tumor of soft tissue with EWSR1:KLF17 fusion: a rare entity*
- poster** Bushra K. Al-Tarawneh, Nina Tatevian, and Suzanne DeLaMonte  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Perinatal pulmonary hypoplasia and congenital cerebral cavernous malformation with bilateral corticospinal tract degeneration—a unique, previously undescribed association*

- poster** Mohamed Omer, Stefan Kostadinov, and Nina Tatevian  
Brown University Health, and Women and Infant Hospital, Providence, RI  
*Endometriosis-like features in the placental membranes of the term placenta without associated diagnosis of endometriosis: a previously undescribed scenario*
- poster** Miguel Carabaño, Eunji Jang, Swapna Charla, Gerald Nau, Sara Geffert, Ece Uzun, and Tao Hong  
Brown University, Providence, RI  
*Esubcutaneous mass as a rare clinical presentation of extended-spectrum beta-lactamase Escherichia coli ST58: a case report*
- poster** Jessica Claus, Padmini Manrai, M. Ruhul Quddus, and Shivali Marketkar  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University  
*Acantholytic extramammary Paget's disease of the vulva—a rare subtype and its clinical mimics*
- poster** Bushra K. Al-Tarawneh, Nina Tatevian, and Mark Luquette  
The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of Brown University, and University of Minnesota Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN  
*Nonclassical histomorphology of juxtaglomerular cell tumor (reninoma), a case report and literature review*
- poster** Dalia Eltoum and Behiye Goksel  
University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL  
*Malignant glomus tumor of the liver with CARMN-NOTCH2 fusion: a rare case report and review of the literature*
- poster** Anindita Ghosh, M.D.  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX  
*CAR-T cell therapy on the development of MDS/AML in multiple myeloma patients*



Providence, the capital of Rhode Island, is home to Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design. Nearby, 18th- and 19th-century homes line the streets of College Hill.



Grace Episcopal Church was built in downtown Providence in 1844. Designed by the foremost architect of the time, Richard Upjohn, it was the first asymmetrical Gothic Revival church in American and now is on the National Register of Historic Places. Centerbrook Architects designed the event space to the church in 2017, the venue for the Annual Meeting Musicales



# Association of Clinical Scientists

## Registration for 146<sup>th</sup> Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island, May 14-17, 2025

[Online Registration](#)

### ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Degree(s)
Street Address		Institution(s)	
City	State	Postal/Zip Code	Country
Telephone/Mobile Number	Fax Number	Email Address	

Please record the number of persons attending for all No Charge items

Unit Price (\$ US)	Number of Persons	Amount Charged
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#### Full Meeting Registration, Regular

For all Fellows of the Association and non-members attending the full Meeting; includes luncheons, one banquet ticket and continuing education credits, if desired.

\$500	x _____	= _____
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#### Full Meeting Registration, Emeritus, Associate Fellows & Trainees and Invited Speakers Attending Full Meeting

For all Emeritus or Associate Fellows of the Association and all trainees, residents and Fellows and invited speakers attending the full Meeting; includes luncheons, one banquet ticket and CE/CME, if desired.

\$200	x _____	= _____
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#### Meeting Registration, Complimentary — day of invited lecture

Invited speakers **only** attending the Meeting for the day of their lecture on Thursday, May 15— includes luncheon, but **excludes** Banquet.

No Charge	_____	<u>No Charge</u>
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#### Single Day Registration

For either Thursday or Saturday; includes luncheon, and continuing education credits, if desired.

\$200	x _____	= _____
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#### Thursday, May 15

##### Luncheon Seminar

Open to all meeting registrants. Indicate number attending for headcount.

No Charge	_____	<u>No Charge</u>
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##### Welcome Reception—Evening

Open to all meeting registrants and accompanying persons. Indicate number attending for headcount.

No Charge	_____	<u>No Charge</u>
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#### Friday, May 16

##### Cultural Tour to Newport, Rhode Island

Includes bus transportation and lunch

\$60	x _____	= _____
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##### Extra Tickets to Annual Awards Banquet and Reception

\$95	x _____	= _____
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#### Saturday, May 17

##### Luncheon & Presentation of Travel Grant Awards

Reserved seating for all young scientists, age 45 and under; included with full or single day registration. Please indicate number attending for headcount.

No Charge	_____	<u>No Charge</u>
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##### Musicale with Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Intermission

Complimentary for all attendees—please indicate number attending for headcount estimation.

No Charge	_____	<u>No Charge</u>
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##### Include Renewal of Dues - Fellows

\$250	x _____	= _____
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##### Include Renewal of Dues - Associate Fellows

\$50	x _____	= _____
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For Payment Options,  
see next page

Total Payment Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



# Association of Clinical Scientists

Registration for 146th Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island, May 14-17, 2025

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

Cancellation with full refund will be accepted until **May 7, 2025**.

1. Register securely online: [Online Registration](#) or
2. Complete and mail this form (**print both pages 10-11 of form**) with a check, payable to Association of Clinical Scientists, or with credit card information, to Association of Clinical Scientists, 6431 Fannin Street, MSB2.292, Houston, TX 77030
3. To charge using American Express, Visa, or MasterCard, call the ACS office at (713) 500-5381, Mon–Fri, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Central Time. You may also fax this form with your credit card information to our secure Fax at (713) 500-0732.

## CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

**Credit card type**  
(check only one)

☐

Visa

☐

MasterCard

☐

American Express

**Card number**

**Expiration (mo/yr)**

**Security Code (CVV)  
No.**

**Name on the card**

**Billing Address**

**City**

**State (Province)**

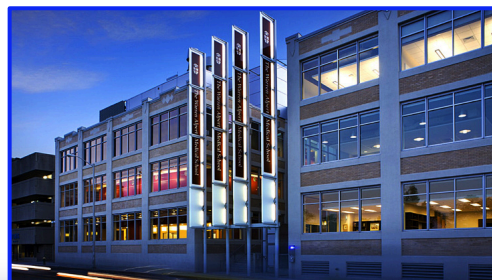
**Country**

**Postal (Zip) Code**

**Signature**



*The Warren Alpert School of Medicine of  
Brown University*





# President's Corner

It is my pleasure to give you some updates on our association. The annual meeting is quickly approaching and the Executive Committee and Program Committee are finalizing the program.

## Annual Meeting:

The 2025 Annual Meeting (146th ACS meeting overall) is scheduled for **May 14-17 in Providence, Rhode Island**. The host is Brown University, and the Program Committee's Chair is one of our past Presidents,

current Executive Committee member and long-term active member, **Nina Tatevian, MD, PhD, FACSc**. We have received the highest number of high-quality abstracts for the meeting. The Program Committee is finalizing the program to accommodate all presentations without too many time-strains.

The major themes of the meeting are: 1) **Advances in Women's and Infants' Health** and 2) **Therapeutic Approaches to Pathogens of Global Significance**. In addition, the Brown Cancer Center will sponsor the Friday morning session and a poster session. The Saturday program will mostly consist of submitted abstracts from ACS members, residents, fellows, and colleagues. The venue promises to be outstanding at the historic Hotel Providence, Trademark Collection by Wyndham. The Friday afternoon tour will visit Newport and the Musicales and Art Show will be held at the beautiful Grace Episcopal Church. More



Dr. Shuko Harada

detailed information about the program can be seen in other sections of this newsletter as well as on the ACS website.

At the meeting, we will present several awards, including: the "Gold Headed Cane Award," the "Clinical Scientist of the Year," the "F.W. Sunderman, Jr. Diploma of Honor," two "Young Clinical Scientist Award," the "Alexander Feldman Travel Grant," and additional "Travel Grants" to the respective award winners.

Please register for the Meeting here: [Online Registration](#)

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the annual meeting!

## New for ACS:

We continue to post actively our news to our social media accounts, LinkedIn and "X" (@ACS\_scientists) and the number of followers continue to steadily increase. I encourage all of you to follow these accounts.

We are happy to announce that **Charlie Hawker**, past-president and current executive director of the ACS, has had his term renewed through 2027. Charlie's efforts are invaluable to the Association. We greatly appreciate his efforts to maintain continuity and excellence.

Lastly, I am excited to announce that our next year's annual meeting will be held in Chicago, hosted by Northwestern Medicine, chaired by **Chris Crutchfield, Ph.D**. We will see the preview of the meeting at the Business Meeting in Providence.

Thank you all for your continued interest and involvement in the Association. See you in Providence! If you have any comments, concerns or ideas, you may contact me at:

[sharada@uabmc.edu](mailto:sharada@uabmc.edu)

Sincerely,

**Shuko Harada, M.D.**  
President (2024-2025)



## ACS Announces Five Travel Grants for Top Abstracts Submitted for the 146<sup>th</sup> ACS Meeting

The Association of Clinical Scientists Executive Committee has voted to increase from three to five the maximum number of Travel Grants that can be awarded each year to young scientists, ages 45 or younger, to attend the Annual Meeting. Each grant consists of \$2000 that can be applied toward all travel costs (transportation, lodging, meals, registration, and miscellaneous expenses) to attend the Annual Meeting.

The following presenters in the conference were awarded travel grants based on the quality of the submitted abstracts by the Awards Committee of ACS.

### Alexander Feldman Travel Grant Awardee


**Hunter Miller**, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY for the abstract *Artificial intelligence (AI) models for automated interpretation of serum immunofixation electrophoresis*.

### General Travel Awards Winners

**Rita Hayes**, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland, OH for the abstract *Evaluation of a screening assay for high-intensity drug trafficking area designer benzodiazepines*.

**Bushra Al-Tarawneh**, Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI for the abstract *Utility of combined cytokeratin 17, p53 dual stain and cytokeratin 13 along with histomorphology in the diagnosis of differentiated vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia*.

**David Berger**, Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children Hospital, Houston, TX for the abstract *Myoepithelial tumor of soft tissue with EWSR1:KLF17 fusion: a rare entity*.

**Shaimaa Maher**, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA for the abstract *Myoepithelial tumor of soft tissue with EWSR1:KLF17 fusion: a rare entity*. 



# Young Fellows Section

Dear ACS Members and Annual Meeting Attendees,

We are thrilled to extend a warm greeting to all current and future members of our Young Fellows Section. Your presence here signifies a shared commitment to fostering professional growth, forging meaningful connections, and driving innovation in the realm of networking and career advancement.



*Dr. Jessica Claus*

Our Young Fellows Section Committee serves as a dynamic platform for individuals from diverse backgrounds and expertise to collaborate, exchange insights, cultivate lasting relationships and create pathways for personal and career development. Early-career fellows receive the opportunity to network with other professionals in the field, give presentations, receive awards at our annual meetings and mentorship from more experienced members. To that end, we encourage young fellows to submit cases and review articles or original research manuscripts for publication to the *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Sciences*, the journal of ACS. The editorial board is also encouraging trainees to serve as

reviewers for the journal, wherein you can be paired with senior reviewers to receive hands-on guidance in the reviewing process.

The Association looks forward to working with you all more in the coming months and years. For further information and questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us in the meantime and we are looking forward to seeing you soon!

Note: Thursday, May 15, 7:30 pm, Young Fellows Event (open to all participants aged 45 and younger, along with accompanying persons). Hosted by (myself) Jessica Claus, M.D., Chair of the Young Fellows Section, and Shuko Harada, M.D., Ph.D., ACS President.

This will be a great opportunity to meet up with your peers and members of the Association to build networks and to get involved in the Association. Further information about the venue of the Young Fellows Event will be provided on-site. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Jessica Claus, M.D.**

Young Fellows Section Committee Chair  
email: [jessica\\_claus1@brown.edu](mailto:jessica_claus1@brown.edu)

## In Memoriam: Dr. Kilmer McCully

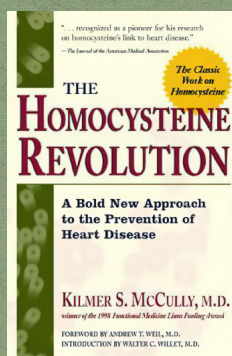
### Kilmer McCully, MD (1933-2025)

We are sad to report that **Kilmer S. McCully, M.D.**, age 91, passed away on February 21. **Dr. McCully** served the Association as President in 2013 and presented the Abraham J. Gitlitz Memorial Lecture at the Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas in 2010. As a scientist and pathologist, **Dr. McCully** was best known for development of the homocysteine theory for formation of plaques and development of heart disease. He gave his first lecture at an ACS meeting in 1974, having been introduced to the Association by **Bill Sunderman, Jr.** A classical violinist, he began playing in a string quartet with **Bill Sunderman, Sr.** around that time.

A more complete obituary will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science*. Other McCully stories of interest include: [a New York Times obituary](#) and a [Boston Globe obituary](#).

**Charles D. Hawker, PhD, MBA**  
Executive Director, ACS

*Dr. McCully in 2000 holds a sodium citrate specimen for a coagulation study.*



*One of several books written by Dr. McCully*



*Courtesy: Rick Friedman, New York Times*



*Performing at the ACS Musicales in April 2016.*



# Senior Fellow Interview: Dr. Amitava Dasgupta

The Young Fellows Section arranges interviews between Young Fellows and more senior Fellows. Young Fellows can obtain scientific and career advice from a senior member who may offer valuable guidance.

The Young Fellows Section Chair, Dr. Jessica Claus, sat with Professor Amitava Dasgupta, Ph.D., a senior member of Association of Clinical Scientists, to learn about his journey and academic accomplishments.

**Jessica Claus:** Please tell me a little bit about yourself. Where did you grow up? Where did you go to school?

**Amitava Dasgupta:** I was born in Calcutta (now Kolkata), India. I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Calcutta and then in 1980 with a major in chemistry. Following that, I pursued my Master's degree at the University of Georgia, completing it in 1981. I then joined Stanford University, where I earned my Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry under the supervision of **Professor Carl Djerassi**. Afterward, I joined the University of Washington in Seattle as a Clinical Chemistry Fellow, completing my fellowship in 1988. Subsequently, I obtained board certification in both Clinical Chemistry and Toxicological Chemistry from the American Board of Clinical Chemistry. Additionally, I am certified in Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology by the National Registry of Clinical Chemistry (NRCC).

**Claus:** How did you develop an interest in science and medicine?

**Dasgupta:** I developed my interest in chemistry from my father in high school who helped me with high school chemistry. Later, I was fortunate to have outstanding chemistry professors in college, especially **Professor Parimal Kanti Sen**, who sparked my keen interest in clinical chemistry. He encouraged me to go to pursue a higher education in the U.S. for higher education and went out of his way to help me prepare for the GRE in advanced chemistry. While attending Stanford University, I was drawn to medicine as **Professor Djerassi**, who discovered the birth control pill, told me about a career opportunity in clinical chemistry. Then I noticed an advertisement for a chemistry fellowship application at Science and applied for the position. I was very fortunate to get accepted in the program, where I once again was blessed with excellent professors and mentors. I am deeply grateful to **Professor Margaret Kenny**, **Professor Vidmantas Raisys** and the then chair **Professor Paul Strandjord**.

**Claus:** Tell me about your career progression. Did your career progression exceed your expectations?

**Dasgupta:** Thanks to **Professor Strandjord**, I was able to secure an assistant professor position at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, where I focused my research on clinical toxicology. **Professor Thomas Shaw**, director of clinical laboratory and also a clinical chemist, helped me to further develop my interest in clinical chemistry. After his retirement, I moved to University of New Mexico in Albuquerque as the director of clinical chemistry and also an associate professor. My interest in forensic toxicology grew through my involvement with the Office of the Medical Examiner, where I served as a consultant. In 1996, I met my wife Alice in Albuquerque through a friend and we got married. I give her a lot of credit for staying married to me all these years.



*Professor Amitava Dasgupta*

**Dr. Rao**, head of forensic toxicology at the Medical Examiner's office, also played a significant role in my career development. In 1998, I moved to University of Texas McGovern Medical school as full professor and later, in 1999, my tenure was granted. I was also the director of clinical chemistry and point-of-care testing at Memorial-Hermann Hospital. I worked there for 24 years and after the retirement of my chair **Professor Robert Hunter**, I moved to the University of Kansas as a tenured full professor and medical director for clinical laboratories at the University of Kansas Hospital. I am also the vice chair for clinical pathology.

**Claus:** How did mentorship influence your professional career? How did you get involved with the Association?

**Dasgupta:** I was greatly influenced by my mentors at the University of Washington, as well as by **Professor Shaw** at the University of Chicago. When I moved to University of Texas McGovern Medical School, our chair **Dr. Robert**

*continued on page 15*



# Senior Fellow Interview: Dr. Amitava Dasgupta (continued)

continued from page 14

**Hunter** supported and helped me by providing me with laboratory space and research techs. That is the main reason I was productive in my job and also received industrial funding for research. **Professor Hunter** introduced me to the Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS) and he invited me to give a talk in 2006. I enjoyed the meeting, because it was a friendly group of people and I decided to join ACS and started to send papers for publication. At that time **Dr. Hunter** paid for the publication fee of the journal if a resident was a co-author. I always enjoyed mentoring residents and started publishing papers in the *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Sciences*. At that time, **Professor Nina Tatevian**, then the editor-in-chief, guided me and was kind enough to include me on the editorial board in 2014. I am still on the editorial board. This journal helped me a lot because reviewers always gave me a chance to improve my manuscript instead of rejecting it outright, which is the practice of many other reputed journals. I have published 30 papers in *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science* over the course of my 37 years of career and plan to send manuscripts in the future for consideration until I retire, probably within the next 3-5 years.

**Claus:** What unexpected turns did you have in your career?

**Dasgupta:** I love literature and wanted to be an English professor and publish poetry. My father advised me to write poetry as a hobby.

"Being an English major is a difficult path," he told me. He added that based on the way I look, I should be considered very lucky if a woman decided to marry me. "As an unemployed poet that will be impossible, so select chemistry which is your second love," my father suggested.

So, I became a clinical chemist and toxicologist.

**Claus:** How has ACS helped you in your career?

**Dasgupta:** ACS provided me an opportunity to give talks before a friendly audience which helped me to improve my speaking skills. In addition, **Dr. Hunter** and **Dr. Tatevian** mentored me and the *Annals of Clinical and Laboratory Science* provided me a platform to publish my scientific papers.

**Claus:** Did you have any instances where mentors influenced your professional career? How did they influence you?

**Dasgupta:** At the University of Washington, **Professor Raisys** introduced me to the field of toxicology and I enjoyed the field very much. At the University of New Mexico, **Dr. Rao** introduced

me to the challenges of drug testing and I started publishing in Forensic Science Journals. Then, at the University of Texas, I performed research on how people try to beat drug tests and published papers on detecting urine adulteration. At that time, **Dr. Hunter** provided me with the resources to conduct research. **Dr. Tatevian** included me in the editorial board where I acquired the skills of reviewing papers.

**Claus:** Describe the importance for faculty to be involved in national/international organizations and to have administrative responsibilities outside of their current institutions.

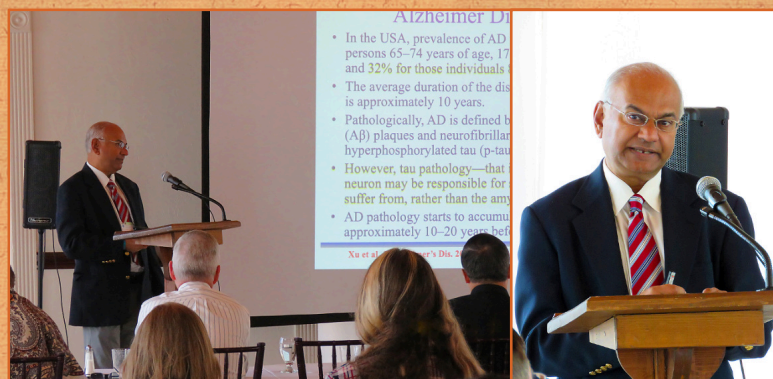
**Dasgupta:** It is more important for young clinical chemists who are in academics to publish papers and submit an abstract for consideration in the annual ACS meeting. I encourage young clinical chemists to submit roundtable proposals to Association for Diagnostics & Laboratory Medicine (ADLM) annual meeting for consideration and a rejected proposal does not mean a proposal is bad. Keep trying because resilience is the key to success. I started as an assistant professor in 1998 and 37 years later, some of my papers are still rejected and some proposals I submit for various annual meetings are not accepted. Do not give up, keep trying and you will be successful.

**Claus:** How did you develop your network of colleagues over the years? How critical has this been towards success in your career?

**Dasgupta:** Be friendly with your fellow young clinical chemist and develop a network. Also try to exchange research ideas and have collaboration. You will get more papers published. Also ask for help from senior faculties. When they were your age they also struggled. When you ask for help, they will help you. When I was a junior faculty, I always asked a senior faculty to read my manuscript and find flaws. It is much better for a senior faculty to find flaws in your manuscript so that you can correct it rather than reviewers find these flaws and reject the manuscript.

**Claus:** What advice would you give to someone starting out in their career in clinical chemistry/laboratory medicine? What advice would you give someone at the Associate Professor level in their career?

**Dasgupta:** For assistant professor level try to build collaboration and publish manuscripts. Even if you are a middle author, you will still get credit. Also try to collaborate with a senior faculty. After a year or two as an assistant professor, try to build your independent research. Also submit conference proposals to ADLM, American Society for Clinical Pathology and others. Always submit an abstract for the ACS annual meeting and try to develop your speaking skill before a friendly audience. For promotion to associate professor you need national reputation and giving a presentation in an ACS meeting meets that criteria as it is a national professional society. Also submit proposals to ADLM each year even if it is rejected. Keep trying, you will be successful.



Dr. Amitava Dasgupta presenting at the 2024 ACS Annual Meeting



# Celebrating Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

**The impact of this community is felt everyday, says Mustafa Barbhuiya**

By Mustafa Barbhuiya | 04/24/2025 | Discussion | 2 min read



Access to fair and equal healthcare is essential for every community, county, and country. While it's easy to say, making it happen is much harder. One of the biggest challenges is getting the right diagnosis at the right time – and avoiding missed, wrong, or delayed diagnoses.

I believe diagnostic care is the foundation of modern medicine. When something goes wrong in this area, it can lead to serious consequences and make it harder for patients to get the care they need.

Take former President George Washington, for example. What actually caused his death? Was it a missed or incorrect diagnosis? He may have had conditions like bacterial epiglottitis, diphtheria, or pneumonia – we don't know for sure. At the time, doctors used bloodletting as a treatment. Sadly, they removed about 40 percent of his blood, which likely led to his death. Back then, antibiotics like penicillin hadn't been discovered yet, but perhaps if the doctors had known the real cause of his illness, they wouldn't have turned to such a harmful treatment.

*continued on page 17*



*continued from page 16*

This week, April 21–27, 2025, we celebrate Medical Laboratory Professionals Week – a time to thank all the dedicated people who work behind the scenes in medical labs. Because of your work, we can now accurately test and diagnose conditions like strep throat, diphtheria, tuberculosis, and many others. You help doctors choose the right antibiotics and use them wisely. In fact, your role in antibiotic stewardship helps fight antibiotic overuse and resistance.

You also play a huge part in managing chronic diseases. Since the Framingham Heart Study in 1948, lab testing has helped reduce the risk of heart disease and diabetes through better screening. And in cancer care, we've gone from using basic tumor markers to advanced tests like liquid biopsies to track even tiny amounts of cancer.

As we move into the age of artificial intelligence (AI), your work is more important than ever. AI can help analyze lab results, but it's your work that creates the data. Without you, AI has nothing to work with.

So here's a final message:

You rock – and so does laboratory medicine!

You are the foundation of modern healthcare, and your impact is felt every day

### Mustafa Barbhuiya

Medical Director of Clinical Chemistry and Point-of-Care Testing at Baystate Health, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Healthcare Delivery at UMass Chan Medical School, Baystate, and Founder and Director at Foundation for Advancement of Essential Diagnostic

# The Grapevine

## NEW MEMBERS

### ASSOCIATE

#### Shaimaa Maher Ph.D.

UCLA-Health  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Los Angeles, CA

### FELLOW

#### Peter Jared Wegwerth

Mayo Clinic  
Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology  
Rochester MN

## WHAT IS NEW WITH YOU? NEW RESEARCH? AWARDS OR PROMOTION?

### We would like to know more!

Please send your news of job changes, transfers, promotions, awards—or something about that interesting research project you are working on—to:

**Mustafa Barbhuiya, Ph.D.**, Newsletter Editor, at:

[mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org](mailto:mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org)

⬅️ *click  
now!*



Providence, Rhode Island downtown



Brown University from a birds-eye view



## Newsletter Trivia Question

Edited by Mustafa Barbhuiya, Ph.D., FACSc (interim)

If you would like to serve in this capacity as Newsletter Trivia Editor (ideal for a Young Fellow), ACS would be delighted. Utilize your knowledge of clinical lab science! Simple Q/A or multiple choice. Email me!

The first person to email the correct answer to the current question will have their name mentioned in the following newsletter. You will be satisfied you won! Please email your answer and a new question to:

[mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org](mailto:mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org)

### Previous Question (January, 2025) (submitted by Mustafa Barbhuiya)

A Type 1 glycogen storage disease results from a deficiency of glucose-6-phosphatase. This enzyme normally converts glucose-6-phosphate to glucose that can then exit the hepatocyte.

Why does hypoglycemia develop with fasting in type 1 glycogen storage disease?

- A. Inability to release glucose from the liver
- B. Glycogenolysis is impaired
- C. There is a deficiency of cortisol and growth hormone
- D. There is a deficiency of epinephrine and glucagon
- E. Hyperinsulinism develops in type 1 glycogen storage disease

### Answer

(No one submitted—really? Mustafa stumps you again!)

- A. Inability to release glucose from the liver

### Current Question

(submitted by Charles D. Hawker, Ph.D.)

Which Nobel Laureate in Chemistry is widely known—not for his Nobel Prize on quantum mechanics, or for his second Nobel, a Peace Prize for his anti-nuclear war efforts—but for his theory on using mega doses of Vitamin C to prevent and minimize the common cold?

### Answer

The answer will appear in the next *Clinical Science Trumpet*. The person submitting the first correct answer will have the chance to write the trivia question for the subsequent newsletter.

Email your answer and question to:

[mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org](mailto:mustafa.barbhuiya@baystatehealth.org)



"HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY ALCOHOL IN HIS SYSTEM  
WHEN HE CRASHED HIS CAR,  
BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY GLUCOSE EITHER."



"SO NO NOBEL PRIZE  
FOR US THIS YEAR, THEN"



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Member, Executive Committee (2024)

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Director of Scientific Sections

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Newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists

The Clinical Science Trumpet Newsletter is the official newsletter of the Association of Clinical Scientists and is published three times per year. Back issues may be viewed at: <http://clinicalscience.org/news>.

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**Publisher:**  
**Editor:**  
**Add'l Copyediting:**  
**Graphic Editor:**

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