

DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE
YEAR END REPORT: 2004-2005
June 1, 2005

CLS DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS INCREASE IN POPULARITY

The number of students in UWSP CLS programs has increased dramatically over the past year. A growing demand for health care professionals appears to have sparked student interest. In 2004-05 twenty-seven students completed their major in CLS, twenty-three in Medical Technology, two in Cytotechnology, and two in Histotechnology. Job placement remains excellent with many students receiving offers of employment well ahead of their graduation date.

The interest in pre-Nursing, pre-PT, and pre-OT also remains high. Currently the CLS Department advises over 200 health care professional students each semester.

TWO UWSP TEAMS COMPETE IN STATE STUDENT BOWL COMPETITION

On Wednesday, April 6th, Clinical Laboratory Science students participated in the 2005 WISCLS State Convention Student Bowl in Racine. Congratulations to both teams for admirably representing UWSP!

STUDENT POSTER SESSIONS AT STATE CONVENTION

At the Wisconsin Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Convention, UWSP was represented by twenty-three student posters. This is the largest number of participants we have had to date. Over 60 students from MT and MLT programs in Wisconsin submitted posters for this session.

NATIONAL AND STATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

CLS-MT students also demonstrated excellence by receiving a total of four national scholarships, three through ASCLS (American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science) and one through Dade Behring-Emil von Behring Scholarship. Three state level competitive scholarships were also awarded to students.

Each of our two CLS-CT graduates received national scholarships. The Cytoc Scholarship was one of two awarded and the ASCT Scholarship was one of ten awarded. Also, at the American Society for Cytotechnology national convention, one CLS-CT student won the "CT Student Interesting Case" presentation competition.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

FIRST YEAR FOR MAYO CLINIC ROTATIONS

In the first year of an affiliation with Mayo Clinic, six UWSP students successfully completed their clinical experiences at the site, and all of these students were offered professional positions of employment in a variety of Mayo Clinic laboratories. An additional six students will begin their 2005-06 clinical practicum at Mayo.

SIXTH ANNUAL PRESENTATION DAY

The sixth annual Student Presentation Day was held Monday, April 4, 2005. Posters were displayed throughout the day in the forum of the Science Building. As part of the requirement for their capstone course, twenty-six students developed and presented their research projects and case studies to faculty, students, and guests. The topics were exceptional, and the presentations and posters were truly professional. This experience promotes professional growth, personal development, and presentations at professional meetings.

BLOOD DRIVES

The CLS Department and Sigma Mu Tau have again sponsored two Blood Center donation drives. Students also served as volunteers for the Red Cross Blood Drives. In addition to providing a service to the community, the blood drives provide valuable experience to CLS students.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS

The 2004 CLS graduates maintained the tradition of outstanding performance on national certification examinations. Over the last ten years, the pass-rate for UWSP students has been greater than 95%, while the national average is 65%. The 2005 graduates will be completing their certification examinations this summer.

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

At the annual Awards Banquet, the “**Friends of UWSP Department of Clinical Laboratory Science Award**” was presented to **Ms. Susan Flaker Johnson**, Program Director, Aspirus Wausau Hospital. Susan has been an avid supporter of the UWSP CLS Program in his role as the Educational Director. She has been employed at Aspirus Wausau Hospital for greater than 35 years. During this time, she also was active in professional organizations having held numerous offices for the Wisconsin River Valley Society for Clinical Lab Science and the Wisconsin Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. Through the years she has been an instructor, mentor, and director for many UWSP Medical Technology students. We thank her for her wisdom, understanding, guidance, and infinite patience with students.

The “**Outstanding Alumni**” Award was presented to **Mr. Will Wingo**. A native of Wisconsin Rapids, Will graduated from UWSP in 2001. Initially he was employed at Marshfield Clinic/Marshfield Laboratories in the Enzyme Immunoassay/Chemistry Section, after which he accepted a position at Mayo Clinics in Rochester, Minnesota in the Department of Virology/Parasitology. Currently he is the Education Specialist at Mayo Clinics. His support of the UWSP CLS Program has been unflinching. Students benefit from his example and expertise as he provides the clinical education in the Central Core Lab during student rotations.

DEVELOPING CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSES FOR D2L DELIVERY

CLS faculty are developing the clinical courses for delivery in the D2L format. This will provide the means for clinical and university instructors to monitor student performance on a daily basis.

MED TECH STAFF NEWS

Susan Raab

- Prepared self-study for NAACLS CLS reaccreditation.
- Delivered three hybrid Web-based CLS courses, CLS 415: Hematology, CLS 405: Clinical Chemistry, and CLS 375: Quality Systems.
- Coordinated online clinical practicum examinations.
- Revised two week National Certification Review sessions.

David Chitharanjan

- Collaborated with Susan Raab in reformatting the CLS 395: Environment, Health, and Technology course.

Joyce Bulgrin

- Adapted Web-based course, CLS 295: Medical Terminology, to D2L format with initial usage during the 2004 Winterim session.
- Developed and delivered CLS 435: Clinical Immunology as a hybrid Web-based course.
- Developing CLS 425, Clinical Microbiology to be delivered as a hybrid Web-based course.
- Developing two new courses, CLS 427 and CLS 428 to be offered Fall semester 2004.
- Presented sessions for “Women in Science.”

Michelle Shulfer

- Advised student organization, Sigma Mu Tau.
- Facilitated collaboration between Sigma Mu Tau and SALSA, Spanish, and Sociology student organizations and advisors to raise scholarship funds for an orphanage in Lurin, Peru where Michelle visited the summer of 2003.
- Assisted in the coordination of Blood Drives with the Blood Center and the American Red Cross.
- Continued development of a Web-based course series in Clinical Correlations.
- Completed D2L Curricular Redesign Program, Summer 2004.

Nancy Habermann, CLS Office Manager

- Assisted in advising CLS and Pre-Nursing students.
- Collected and organized data for NAACLS reaccreditation.

STUDENTS AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENTS ATTEND STATE CONVENTION

Junior, senior, and clinical students attended the Wisconsin Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (WISCLS) State Convention held in Racine from April 7-8. The clinical students submitted and presented their posters of research and case studies at this event. With over 300 attendees over the two days, these graduates had the opportunity to share and discuss their case studies or research projects with laboratory professionals. They also learned about the advantages of professional "networking!"

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT AWARDS

An awards reception was held on Monday, April 4, in the Alumni Room, UWSP. Department scholarships in an amount totaling \$1800.00 were distributed to students who will begin their Clinical Practicum experience this fall. Five students received the CPS Dean's Awards. The Lenice Christine Merrill Eskritt Memorial Scholarship, which will be rotated yearly through CPS Departments, was distributed this year to three CLS students in an amount totaling \$3000.

SIGMA MU TAU STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Clinical Laboratory Science, Nursing, and other allied health professional majors were extremely active this year. They planned educational programs, various fund-raisers, and volunteer activities during 2004-05.