

Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program

MSU College of Natural Science | Newsletter for Alumni and Friends

Message from the Director ...

Hello, fellow Spartans!

Am I a lucky program director, or what? I get to work with this energetic and dynamic group known as the Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program Alumni Association (BLDAA). They are working hard for you in many ways, including providing opportunities to gather for functions and contributing with their skills or support toward building a better BLD. Thank you, as always, BLDAA.

Now then, how is your alma mater doing? From my viewpoint—excellent. BLD has added several new faces over the past year. We have two new faculty members—teaching specialists Bei Zhang and Rachel Morris, who come to us with strong clinical credentials. We've also welcomed three new staff members—Aimee Stewart, curriculum assistant; Allan McDaniel, instructional graphic specialist; and Jenifer Bourcier, laboratory coordinator.

BLD is expanding its portfolio of courses on and off campus. There will be a new laboratory course, BLD214L, providing entry-level skills useful to research and industry-based laboratories. We added a new course this past summer—an advanced flow cytometry course, BLD853. This course offers more theory and applications in flow cytometry including assay development and validation. BLD 870 will be our first course in a series addressing the role of mass spectrometry in the clinical laboratory field. Keep checking our website, bld.natsci.msu.edu, as the BLD faculty continues to generate new

opportunities for you to advance your career and to expand your scientific knowledge foundation.

At this point, I want to be sure to say thank you to all of the BLD supporters out there. Over the past year, we've seen several endowments become fully funded, so we can now use the

“I want to be sure to say thank you to all of the BLD supporters out there.”

interest monies to fulfill the intent of the donors. What does this mean? We are able to provide additional financial support for some of our students and improve the infrastructure of the program. This coming year will see more than \$20,000 distributed to students in need. And the best part is . . . drum roll . . . we get to do it again next year because we haven't touched the principal. How great is that! Thank you to all of the donors responsible.

We have two other wonderful additions to the program, realized through the generosity of two alumni donors. First, we now have a system to digitally capture microscope images and whole slides

that we can annotate and share with students via a web portal so that they can study them and become more proficient in the skills necessary to enter the profession. Second, we are equipping a laboratory with the hoods and instrumentation necessary to provide that “real” laboratory experience in our BLD 214L course. The BLD Program could not do this without your support and guidance. Please stay engaged—we have a lot more work to do.

The BLD faculty is also undertaking a comprehensive curriculum review. Stay tuned as we work through the process and release the next curriculum iteration in time for the BLD Program's 90th anniversary, which begins fall semester of 2016. Rest assured we are working with laboratory leaders to accomplish this; our guiding force will be to maintain the professional leadership position the program has earned. We will be fostering innovation but maintaining our heritage. We aim to continue to make you proud to be a Michigan State University laboratory professional.

I hope that you find this year's newsletter informative and enjoyable. Go Green! 🍀



John Gerlach ('76, '84, '89)
Director
Biomedical Laboratory
Diagnostics Program



Janice Conway-Klaassen, medical technology, '74, is director of the Medical Laboratory Science Program at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She was recently installed as president of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Sciences–Minnesota for 2014-2015.

William Beecroft, M.D., medical technology, '76; M.D., human medicine, '80, practiced adult and geriatric psychiatry in the Lansing, Mich., area for 33 years at both Sparrow Hospital and McLaren Hospital. He is currently the medical director for Michigan's Blue Care Network behavioral health services in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Timothy Jackson, medical technology, '78; Ph.D., higher, adult and lifelong education, '02, is executive director for secondary initiatives for the Livingston and Washtenaw Intermediate School Districts.

John Parker, D.V.M., medical technology, '82; D.V.M., veterinary medicine, '88, received his master's degree in theology from the School of Theology, Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, Mich., in June.

Michelle Eccles-Major, D.D.S., medical technology, '83, is a dentist in Nassau, Bahamas. Her daughter, Brittany Majors, is also an MSU alumnus.

Lorna Gonzalez, medical technology, '83, is a quality assurance professional in the pharmaceutical industry in the Chicago area.

Suzanne (Ashcom) Sorovetz, medical technology, '85, played an active role in the openings of an IVF Lab at the Toledo Hospital and the Fertility Center of NW Ohio. She is also an active member of the hospital ethics team, a CAP inspector, the department lead for the Joint Commission for the Toledo Hospital, and a member of the Hospital Disaster Committee.

Mike Fox, medical technology, '86, is currently serving as medical staff president at Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, Ill.

Darcy (Lampe) Hill, clinical laboratory science, '91, obtained her specialist in blood banking certification in December 2013 and has been working as the blood bank technical specialist for Columbus Regional Health since May 2014.

Gideon Labiner, medical technology '91, teaches in the Medical Laboratory Science Program at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio, and has recently been promoted to associate professor. Labiner has co-edited an MLS certification exam review book published in fall 2014 by Elsevier Publishing, and has authored the chapter on molecular diagnostics.

Brittany Majors, medical technology and human biology, '12, has completed her residency program at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., and has passed her boards. She will be employed at Northwest Medical Center in Margate, Fla.

Shawn Videan, biomedical laboratory science, '12, graduated from his clinical internship for St. John Providence Health System in June 2014, and has accepted a position as a medical technologist for Mercy Hospital Cadillac in Cadillac, Mich.

Jaya Gupta, medical technology and human biology, '13, graduated from her clinical internship at St. John Hospital and Medical Center, Providence Health System, in metro Detroit in June 2014, and has started medical school at the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Kaelee Jonick, biomedical laboratory science, '13, is currently working in a blood and marrow stem cell transplant laboratory at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio.

Ashley Smith, medical technology, '13, became an infection prevention specialist in Quality Divisions at Henry Ford Hospital Main Campus in Detroit, Mich., in December 2014. She was previously a medical technologist in the hospital's microbiology laboratory.

Call for Nominations

Become a member of the BLDAA Executive Board

By Sarah Siemiontkowski

We are looking for three hardworking and innovative individuals to join our executive board as new members beginning July 1, 2015. This is a great way to stay involved with MSU and to help the BLD program flourish.

Elected members will serve a three-year term and are eligible to run for an officer position. The main objectives of the executive board are to help plan events, find new and creative ways to connect alumni to their alma mater and help the BLD Program excel, with the benefit of the board's collective passion and diverse backgrounds and experiences.

We are expecting great things for this 2015 year and beyond, and we need dedicated Spartans to help us reach our goals. All of the meetings are phone conferences, so board members do not have to be in East Lansing to be connected and make a difference at MSU.

If this seems like something you or someone else you know would be interested in, please send a nomination request or inquiry to BLDAA@msu.edu. Include your contact information and a short biography. All nominations must be received by March 13, 2015. Voting will be done electronically the first two weeks of May.

> New Faculty



Zhang

The Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program welcomed **Bei Zhang**, MD., Ph.D., MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, to its faculty as a teaching specialist on July 1, 2014. Zhang taught her first class at the age of 11. Since then, her passion for teaching has continued to grow. After eight years of medical school in China (Shandong University School of Medicine), she came to the United States and received her Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Zhang has taught a wide range of basic medical science and clinical laboratory courses including anatomy, physiology, cell and molecular biology, molecular diagnostics, microbiology, genetics, biochemistry, pathophysiology, pathology, pharmacology and reproductive medicine at both the undergraduate and graduate levels before joining the MSU BLD Program. Since she began teaching online in 2004, Zhang has been interested in new technologies that bring teaching and learning to a new and higher level. She has been invited to host several national and international workshops in online teaching since 2009.

She has been the recipient of many awards in speech competitions, presentations and teaching during her school years, both in China and the United States. In her free time, she enjoys reading, writing, painting, cooking and nature.

> Faculty Honors

Two BLD Program staff members received 2014 College of Natural Science (NatSci) Awards during the college's annual faculty meeting and awards ceremony last November.



McQuiston

BLD instructor **Sue McQuiston** was awarded a NatSci Faculty Teaching Prize in recognition of her significant contributions to student education and her exceptional teaching performance.



Thompson

BLD student advisor **Leslie Thompson** received the NatSci Outstanding Undergraduate Advisor Award for her exceptional expertise in advising undergraduate students in the college.

Save the Date!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following events:

MARCH 21

Bowling party with MSU students and BLD alumni, Spare Time Bowling, 3101 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Mich.

MARCH 24

Online webinar presentation on Ebola virus by BLD Professor Frances Downes (1 CEU credit).

OCTOBER 3

BLD Alumni Association football tailgate prior to the MSU vs. Purdue football game.

More information about these events can be found on the BLD website, bld.natsci.msu.edu, or on the MSU BLD and MSU BLDA Facebook pages. Other events, including information on BLD webinars for free CEU P.A.C.E. credits, will also be posted on our website and Facebook pages.

Follow our online features!



Take a look at what happens "Beyond BLD" in our spotlight video Laboratory & RN Communication. In this feature, two professionals speak about the communication difficulties and obstacles between RNs on hospital floors and laboratorians working on the bench in the lab. You will see an interview conducted by Deborah Loniewski (MSU '93), MT(ASCP), with Margie McCloy, BSN, RN, both from Sparrow Health Systems. Listen in and gain insight into how two professionals work together to ensure the safety of clients and patients alike. Find more at: bld.natsci.msu.edu/alumni-and-friends/.



Research and development summer internship

By Blake Beia, BLS senior

This past summer, I had the pleasure of completing an internship with Sealed Air Diversey Care, a commercial brand food care, healthcare and floor care sanitation/hygiene solutions company.

I was a research and development intern and worked directly with Diversey's Oxivir disinfectant wipes. My summer project was to test multiple product performance characteristics of Diversey's disinfectant wipes, and compare them to several other competitors' disinfectant wipes. The project was separated into two specific portions. The first portion was the cleaning efficiency and the second portion was the microbial efficacy. I worked extensively with another intern on the project and was in charge of microbial efficacy testing.

The internship was one of the most insightful, exciting and useful experiences I've had during my college career. I was exposed to upper-level management, worked extensively with a large group of interns on a community



Blake Beia

service project, received insightful remarks from current employees on becoming successful in entry-level

positions, and learned industry applicable laboratory techniques.

For the internship, I moved to Racine, Wisc., where the company is headquartered. For three months, I was placed in quite luxurious subsidized housing. I met and became close to 17 other interns—all with different backgrounds and personalities—and dozens of full-time employees. Throughout the summer, the intern group was treated to countless meals, Milwaukee Brewers' suite tickets and many other "perks."

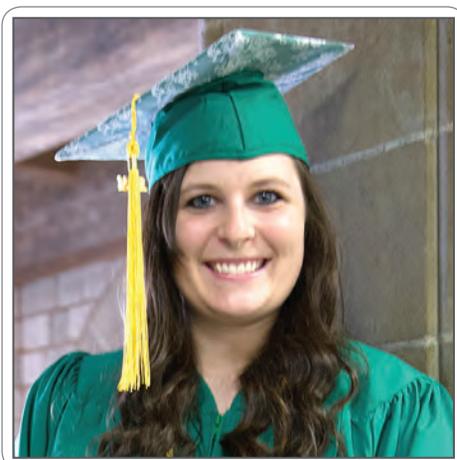
I applied for the internship through MySpartanCareer, where I submitted a resume and cover letter to their e-mail address. It was extremely easy and the company was very quick to respond. I would advise every student, regardless of his or her major, to participate in at least one internship during his or her undergraduate years. I don't think of an internship as an option, but as a requirement. I am confident that those who participate in internships will not regret their experiences.

New to the bench

By Hunter Trafton, BLD senior

All alumni remember their first experience in the laboratory after graduation. But the experience that graduates have upon entering the profession today is often different from what one would have come across 10 years ago. Mandie Jones, last year's BLDSA president, recently began a hospital-based internship. Here is a short excerpt about her experience in the laboratory and being "new to the bench" in her internship:

"My clinical year is at St. John Providence Health System in Warren, Mich. I have been in the program since the end of July 2014. One of the first things I found surprising was the volume of patient specimens that come into the lab; I didn't expect to see such a high volume of specimens every



Mandie Jones, May 2014 BLS graduate and former BLDSA president.

day. Second, I found it interesting that many of the 'normal' specimens are not looked

at by technologists. I was also amazed at the automation lines and how much the analyzers in the lab can do. I think automation is the one thing that medical laboratory science programs have a hard time teaching because they aren't able to demonstrate the actual automation lines.

That said, the MSU BLD Program does a wonderful job teaching students about the science behind all the testing done in the laboratory. The course packs written by faculty have been extremely beneficial during my internship. I take approximately two exams every week, and it is much easier to study when I have the course packs. I also think that the BLDSA events, especially faculty and guest lectures, were helpful in preparing me for the internship."

Mozambican laboratory educators visit MSU

“Teaching medical laboratory science students requires the same skills throughout the world,” said Kathy Doig, BLD professor, after hosting colleagues from Mozambique’s Instituto Ciêsas de Saude (ICS) this past October. “We were honored to be able to share what we have developed in our program to help our counterparts from Mozambique.”

Inacio Mondlane, director of ICS in Maputo, led the Mozambican team that included Felicio Mabote and Luisa Pombuane—faculty members in the Tecnicos de Laboratorio (Laboratory Technician) Training Program—as they participated in a week-long workshop on teaching technical skills. The workshops, presented by Doig and other BLD faculty members, culminated in a micro-teach, in which the participants were video recorded for later review of their application of the techniques taught in the workshop.

The intent of this “train the trainer” workshop was to provide participants with the opportunity to work with their Mozambican colleagues to revise instruction throughout their curriculum. The guests also observed laboratory classes, a flipped lecture class, and visited clinical laboratories at Olin Health Center, Sparrow Hospital and the Michigan Department of Community Health Laboratory.

The visit was coordinated by Frances Pouch Downes, professor in BLD and the Public Health Program in the College of Human Medicine, through her affiliation with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL). Kaiser Shen, APHL senior specialist in global health, accompanied the Mozambican guests.

Mozambique has one of the highest rates of HIV infection globally and laboratory systems are a key component in treatment programs. APHL, with a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, works with the Mozambique Ministry of Health to improve laboratory systems to meet the challenges of HIV



Mozambique: BLD alumna, Lori Zieleniewski (far right), describes microbiology protocols to Mozambique visitors at Sparrow Hospital Laboratory, with translation provided by Brazilian visiting scholar, Darly Soares (second from right).

treatment goals. APHL laboratory system improvement activities in Mozambique include laboratory pre-professional education, quality system development and implementation, information management and technical assistance.

“Especially in source-scarce and high-need settings like Mozambique, there is a critical need for laboratory scientists who are competent and professional,” Downes said. “Education programs must be efficient and effective in the development of the laboratory workforce.”

The presenters worked with a team of MSU international students from Brazil and Mozambique, who served as translators during the workshop.

“I deeply enjoyed doing these translations because I learned a lot about teaching methodology,” said Cynthia Lucidi, D.V.M., a doctoral candidate in the Department of Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation, who translated most of the documents and slides.

Estacio Guimaraes Pinto, a medical student from Brazil, provided real-time translations. Pinto is one of a number of

Brazilian students studying at MSU for a year as part of Science Without Borders (SWB), a Brazilian government-sponsored scholarship program to enhance international mobility of Brazilian students and researchers.

“The cultural exchange for me was priceless,” Pinto said. “Even though we speak the same language, our differences exceed our similarities, and that helped me grow as a person and a professional.”

Doig and Downes will be extending the BLD-Mozambique relationship with a visit to Maputo later this year. While there, they will facilitate an assessment of and long-term planning for the ICS laboratory technical training program. They will also assist with the presentation of the training workshop to additional ICS faculty and offer feedback on how to institutionalize the recommended practices.

The MSU team will also investigate the feasibility of establishing a study abroad opportunity for MSU students. 🌍

BLD Student Association update

By Hunter Trafton, BLD senior

The BLD Student Association (BLDSA) provides its members with the opportunity to become involved with the BLD Program and laboratory profession by hosting a variety of social and professional events throughout the school year.

The BLDSA kicked off the academic year with its annual fall picnic, where students and faculty were able to socialize at nearby Lake Lansing Park.

A number of presentations were given by BLD faculty and staff during the beginning of the semester on the topics of BLD career paths, student advising and test-taking skills.

Throughout fall semester, BLDSA worked to raise money for “Doctors Without Borders,” a key organization aiding in the response to the Ebola virus. In early October 2014, BLD professor Frances Pouch Downes gave a presentation titled, “What the Ebola Crisis in West Africa Means to YOU.” Students and faculty members from around campus attended the presentation, leading to the largest turnout ever for any BLDSA-sponsored event. All proceeds from the presentation were donated to Doctors Without Borders. In addition, the BLDSA held multiple fundraisers at local restaurants, and have been selling bracelets with “Spartans Fighting Ebola” embossed on them to raise money for the organization.

At the end of October, the BLDSA hosted an event where students were given the opportunity to learn about undergraduate research. Three current BLD students shared their research experiences.

November was an active month for the BLDSA. The association participated in the 21st annual Penn State vs. Michigan State Blood Donor Challenge. Thirty students worked with the American Red Cross, collecting 66 units of blood. Fundraising activities during the month included a student/faculty euchre tournament and the sale of BLD T-Shirts. Later in the month, BLDSA heard from Troy MacPherson, a recruiter from ARUP Laboratories in Utah; he discussed opportunities for laboratory professionals at ARUP. The lab also hires BLD majors and allows them to perform paid laboratory work while they gain experience required for categorical certification.

The BLDSA looks forward to a busy spring semester. It will again participate in the Gift of Life race, an annual competition between Michigan universities to see which school can sign up the most organ donors in a six-week



Students at the BLD blood drive (L to R): Ciana Hodges, Jenna Carter, Ian Thompson, James Carpenter (on knee), Caitlin Osborne, Nadine Bratu and Camille Sambar (on floor).

period from Jan. 16 to Feb. 27. During the event, students also strive to educate the public on the importance of organ donation.

The group also plans to work with the BLD Alumni Association on several events, including a bowling party in March and a golf outing in the fall.

The BLDSA is pleased to have the opportunity to make meaningful connections with fellow students, faculty and alumni. If you would like to make a presentation in the future, please contact us at bld@msu.edu.

Covance Alternative Spring Break Program

By Terra Livingston and Trang Huynh, MSU BLD 2014 graduates

In 2014, Covance Laboratories hosted their first Central Labs Alternative Spring Break Program in Indianapolis. The program, officially called Covance Careers & Connections, provides students with the opportunity to learn about medical technologists' job responsibilities and how the company functions.

We were selected to participate in this educational program. During our three-day visit, we were able to learn about Covance and meet employees who share similar interests and career goals.

Covance is a contract research organization providing drug development services to

pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. With global operations in more than 30 countries, there are a wide number of opportunities within the company.

During our visit to Covance, we went on a detailed tour of the labs, including microbiology, immunology, special chemistry, hematology, auto chemistry, and genomics.

The program also provided students a chance to meet employees not only from the laboratory,



(L to R): Trang Huynh and Terra Livingston.

but from other Covance departments. In addition to the spring break program, Covance offers other opportunities for students, most notably its global summer internship program.

We greatly appreciated the chance to participate in the Covance Alternative Spring Break Program. The passionate

staff and positive work environment is something we will never forget.



Meet your BLDAA Executive Board

By Kayla Kerr, President, BLD Alumni Association

The Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Alumni Association Executive Board is a group of elected alumni who strive to keep their fellow alumni actively connected with the current BLD students and to provide ways for alumni to help support the BLD Program. The 2015 executive board members are:

President: Kayla Kerr, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}
Immunohematology reference laboratory technician, Southeastern Michigan American Red Cross, Detroit, Mich.

Kerr received her B.S. in medical technology from MSU in 2009 and quickly fell in love with the art of blood banking during her internship at St. John's Hospital in Metro Detroit, Mich. Kerr enjoys traveling, baking and explaining the importance of the MLS profession to all she meets.

President-Elect: Sarah Siemiontkowski, MB (ASCP)^{cm}, CHT (ABHI)
Immunohematology and serology laboratory technician, Michigan State University

Siemiontkowski received her B.S. in diagnostic molecular science from MSU in 2012. In January 2015, she will begin her M.S. in clinical laboratory science at MSU. In her spare time, she enjoys running and baking.

Immediate Past President: Melissa Klimes (Czostkowski), MLS (ACSP)^{cm}
Supervisor, molecular diagnostics laboratory, BloodCenter of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Klimes graduated from the MSU CLS program in 2006 and completed her clinical internship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Mich. She made it her first home by accepting a position in the Core/Stat Laboratory. Eventually she transferred to the molecular microbiology/serology lab. She now lives in Milwaukee with her husband, Kris.

Rosemarie S. Brichta BS, MT (ASCP)
Retired, system education coordinator, Alverno Clinical Laboratories

Brichta is a long-standing member of the medical laboratory community. A Michigan native, her journey as a laboratorian started at MSU, where she earned her B.S. in medical technology in 1981. She continues to teach as an adjunct at Franciscan St. Margaret Health in Hammond, Ind. Brichta is the proud

mother of two girls and wife to a fellow avid Spartan.

Rex F. Famitangco, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{cm}, QLC, MT(AMT), CLC, AHI
Laboratory administrative director, Morrill County Community Hospital, Bridgeport, Neb.

Famitangco, who has worked in the medical laboratory setting for the past 17 years, is also instructor and director for the NAACLS-accredited Phlebotomy Technician and Medical Laboratory Assistant Program at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, Neb., and ASCP global health consultant for Guyana and Ukraine. He received his M.S. in clinical laboratory science from MSU and his B.S. from Trinity University of Asia, Quezon City, Philippines.

Jacqueline R. Copeland, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}
Quality improvement specialist, Henry Ford Health System, Detroit, Mich.

Copeland graduated from MSU with a B.S. in clinical laboratory science in 2010. She has since been employed with Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Mich., where she worked as a generalist in the Core/Stat Laboratory for three years prior to moving into her current position. She is currently pursuing an M.S. degree in health science administration. She is an active member of ASCLS and loves cheering on Spartan athletics with her husband, Ben.

Denise M. Elwart, MBA, BS MT
Business administrator, MSU Department of Physiology

Elwart began her career in hospital laboratories as a generalist after graduating from MSU in 1990. She subsequently completed an accounting degree and transferred to the accounting department at Sparrow Health System. She later pursued an MBA degree at the University of Michigan-Flint, graduating in 2008. She was a board member of the then-MSU Medical Technology Alumni Association from 1995-2001, serving as president from 1995-1997; she is also past-president of the Michigan Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (1999-2001).

Deb Loniewski, BS, MT (ASCP)
Outreach sales and marketing representative, Sparrow Hospital Laboratories, Lansing, Mich.

Loniewski received a B.S. in medical technology from MSU in 1993 and completed

her internship at Garden City Hospital in Garden City, Mich. Loniewski has 20 years of experience in the clinical laboratory industry and is an active member in, and presenter for, ASCLS and ASCLS-MI.

Keith J. Kaplan, M.D.
Pathologist and laboratory medical director, Charlotte, N.C.; publisher, tissuepathology.com

Kaplan is a graduate of MSU (medical technology, '92) and Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine ('96). He completed his residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. He is currently a member of the College of American Pathologists, American Society of Clinical Pathology and the American Society of Cytopathology, and is an executive board member of the American Pathology Foundation.

Hunter Trafton, BLDAA Student Representative (non-voting member)
MSU BLD senior; plans to graduate in May 2015

Trafton currently works in the emergency department at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Mich., and is in the process of deciding which medical school he will attend after graduation.

Contact Us

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Alumni....We need your help!

By Rosemarie Brichta, MT (ASCP), MSU, '81

Do you remember when you first entered the laboratory profession? I

remember my MSU graduation, the nervousness surrounding my internship, how thrilled I was to have passed the board and the excitement of accepting my first position.

It was the words of support and encouragement I received from MSU faculty members and experienced laboratorians during my internship that gave me the confidence I needed to succeed. Through my own experience in the field I have witnessed that MSU BLD

graduates are outstanding and, as alumni, we should encourage our newest graduates as they begin their career paths.

Would you be willing to write a welcome and words of encouragement to

our new graduates entering the profession today? What if we made it simple for you to do so?

Upon graduation each year, we would like to hand our students a small note from an alumnus. Many of us have or had very satisfying careers in laboratory science; conveying this to new graduates would be a way to connect with our future laboratorians. It just

might give them a boost of confidence as they enter the ever-changing world of the laboratory. It can be a simple welcome note or a story about your road to success. You may write one or more welcome notes as we have 60 graduates each year.

MSU would provide a pre-addressed, stamped envelope and note card for your use, which you would simply mail back to BLD after writing your note.

At this time we only need to know if you are willing to be involved in this new BLD tradition. Please contact **Ellen Rzepka at bld@msu.edu**.

I hope you will give this your heartfelt consideration. As the saying goes, "Spartans Will"—and we hope that you will. Go Green! 🍀

