On behalf of the MLS Division, we want to thank you for participating in the 1st Virtual Hike. Stay tuned for our second one! Pick a location that fits for you, download the GroupMe app and join the hike chat. We will be able to share our experience (videos/photos) live!

Don’t have enough time to go on a hike? No problem! You choose what is best for you. The idea is to get outside, stretch your legs, and enjoy the nice weather!

It is important that we are mindful of our own mental, emotional, and physical health to set ourselves up for a successful fall semester.

We invite all students to participate and stay #alonetogether.

**Featured Faculty - Karen Brown**

Professor Karen Brown has been elected to the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS) Board of Directors as an ASCP representative. The Board of Directors function as a governing unit of NAACLS and grants the final accreditation and approval awards to Medical Laboratory programs. The Board of Directors also formulates NAACLS policies.

Karen retired as a full time faculty member in the University of Utah’s Department of Pathology, Medical Laboratory Sciences Division, in the summer of 2018. She remains an adjunct professor. She was a long-time instructor of hematology, hemostasis, phlebotomy, and education courses. She also held many administrative positions in the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, including Program Director, Associate Program Director, and Clinical Coordinator. Karen is a veteran volunteer for several professional organizations, especially the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). She is a past member of the ASCP Board of Directors, past Chair of the ASCP Council of Laboratory Professionals and Board of Certification Board of Governors, and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Curriculum Educational Resource and Scientific Advisory Committee. Karen has also consulted extensively for ASCP’s Center for Global Health, assessing MLS curriculum and teaching educational methodology, hematology, and phlebotomy.

Karen Brown will be co-directing MDLB 5900 Clinical Correlations. This class is offered all semesters. We are very fortunate to have such a distinguished professor in the MLS program.

"Karen is one of the most passionate educators and laboratorians I’ve had the pleasure of working with. I loved taking her classes as a student in the MLS program, and so appreciate her mentorship and support now that I’ve begun a career teaching in the very program I came up through. I have a tremendous amount of respect for her, and admire her continual service to the laboratory profession and education programs." Lacey Murphy
Travel Award for Graduate Students

The graduate school is introducing a new "travel" award for both graduate students and postdocs. The Virtual Conference Award will be offered to those who wish to present their abstract at a virtual conference/meeting. This award requires verification of abstract approval. This documentation can be sent to the Graduate School at travel.verify-accepted@gradschool.utah.edu. This award is designed to cover the registration fee and can be awarded for up to $200, with no matching funds required. The Graduate School will be accepting applications for this award beginning Monday, July 6, 2020. Students can apply for this award via the travel portal which can be found on the Graduate School’s Travel Awards Webpage.

Summer in Social Distance

As the nation adjusts to the new reality of life under self-quarantine in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, a number of artists and musical institutions are taking the show online to share musical joy during these difficult times. Below you will find some recommendations/suggestions to enjoy from the safety of your couch:

- July 25–26: Tomorrowland presents “Around the World.” There are paid-for tickets, starting at $12.50.
- Every Wednesday at 8pm ET: Dave Matthews band Drive-In Series.
- Every Thursday: Radiohead will be posting weekly classic concert videos on their YouTube channel.


david cronenberg
The Medical Laboratory Science Professional Club - Who Are We?

The Medical Laboratory Science Professional Club is a registered student organization with the University of Utah. We aim to create a networking community for Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) students, Pre-MLS students, Biomedical Science graduate students, and MLSPC alumni. Throughout the year we host various events to build social connections and deliver professional growth opportunities that foster mentorship and promote academic success.

Our current executive board was elected in March and consists of:

- President - Christopher Wallace-Carrete
- Vice President - Joseph Everitt
- Secretary - Miguel Ventura
- Treasurer - Gabriela Varga
- Membership Chair - Maria Fernanda Chavez
- Pre-MLS Co-representatives - Annie Banks, Maddie Castillo
- Faculty Advisor - Lacey Murphy

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are still organizing events and finding creative ways to come together. For the month of July, join us on our summer reading challenge. Beginning July 13th, we are all picking a book (any genre), and meeting via Zoom August 7th. Bring your favorite treat (whether you make it yourself or grab it to go from your favorite joint), and come meet with us. We'll chat about each book, why you chose it, what you thought, and we'll also swap goodie recommendations. Come get to know our board and new members. For RSVP information, follow us on social media and check your email for an invite. If you need ideas for books to consider, check out our Goodreads bookshelf for recommendations. In August, tune in for a virtual presentation given by Jeff Chumley, MS, MLS(ASCP)CM the supervisor over ARUP's Molecular Infectious Disease laboratory, who will be discussing various aspects of COVID testing including the types of testing performed in his laboratory, different testing methodologies, and unique challenges laboratories are facing in light of the current pandemic. Upcoming in September we’ll listen to a Zoom lecture given by Dr. Wilkins to teach us how to tackle reading scientific journal articles, which will kick off our new journal club.

If you are Pre-MLS and looking for a lab community on lower campus, join us! We are working on study groups and networking for those who have not yet entered the program. Have questions for students who have already been accepted? We can put you in contact with current students to help mentor you as you navigate towards submitting your application to the program.

Have you recently been accepted into the program and have questions about studying and success over the next few years, or wondering what clinical rotations are like? Apply now to join our community and talk to students who have been there!

Are you a graduate student and find yourself looking to expand your laboratory science network, or would you like to mentor undergraduate pre-MLS students or students in the MLS program? Please apply! We’d love to have you.

Follow us on social media for reminders or more information and updates about what we have going on!