



In August we convened as a Board in beautiful Cascade Idaho for our annual strategic planning meeting. Building upon the strategic planning exercises of recent Past-Presidents such as Dean Gialamas, Beth Greene, Greg Matheson, Jill Spriggs, Jay Henry, Brady Mills, Jody Wolf, Jeremy Triplett, and Ray Wickenheiser, we went over all of our organizational documents. This was an amazing undertaking with a great deal of work

and effort to start this year. I have been able to sit in the ASCLD strategic planning meetings with the last six ASCLD Presidents and have learned a great deal from all of them. In preparation for our strategic planning meeting this year, I reviewed a strategic planning meeting presentation given by Dean Gialamas when he was President. It was fun to see what we have overcome and how the organization has progressed over the years! Our agenda this year was a packed with reviewing our mission statement, bylaws, strategic plan, administrative manual, and national outreach priority and agenda. In addition, we learned a few things about our history. New Board member Scott O'Neill really did his homework as a member of the bylaws committee. He pointed out that somehow our logo had drifted a little from the bylaw definition by not having an outer gold ring. We have started the monumental project of ensuring that all of our logos have the outer gold ring after reading what was intended and written in our bylaws by our founding members. I have included the wording below in case you are interested in reading about the symbolism of the logo.

“ARTICLE XI -- INSIGNIA

The Corporation has adopted an official seal which is tricolored: a purple circle that represents justice, surrounded by an outer blue circle that represents truth, and two gold circles representing science, one between the blue and purple and the other surrounding the blue circle. The acronym, ASCLD, is in the inner circle in the shape of a triangle with the points representing the fields of forensic science: medicine, science, and law. The Corporation's name, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS, is displayed in gold letters in the outer blue circle along with three gold stars that symbolize the branches of government served: federal, state and local agencies.”

I am thankful for the strength of our 2018 ASCLD Board. They are individually and collectively strong leaders that better this organization. The Board took action to organize the Board committees, restructure the task groups under the Board committees, and develop strategic goals for each task group and committee. In coming weeks the 2018 Strategic Plan will be available for your review. We are just putting the finishing touches on the formal strategic plan document and will be voting to accept it at the Board meeting this week. We asked each task group and committee to establish a handful of goals they will accomplish this year. The committees are laser focused on meeting these strategic goals. We are keeping the ASCLD conference line very busy with all the various committee meetings. We will also post links to other documents that were reviewed and updated during this meeting. I appreciate the dedication of this Board in moving ASCLD forward. We have a great year ahead.

Matthew Gamette
ASCLD President



Bottom Row (L to R)—Kris Deters, Linda Jackson, Brook Arnone, Jean Stover, Bruce Houlihan
Top Row (L to R)—Christian Westring, Matthew Gamette, Jennifer McNair, Arlene Hall, Erin Forry, Rita Dyas, Ray Wickenheiser, Scott O'Neill
Not pictured—Tim Scanlan (teaching the ASCLD leadership academy in Mexico)

