

APHL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2015-2016

President

JUDITH C. LOVCHIK, PhD, D(ABMM)
director, Indiana Public Health Laboratory

Judy Lovchik currently serves the Indiana State Department of Health as Assistant Commissioner, Public Health Protection and Laboratory Services. She has served as laboratory director since 2008, and was deputy laboratory director in 2007. Prior to that, she was virology director for the New York City Public Health Laboratory. Earlier in her career as a faculty member of the University of Maryland Medical School, she directed clinical virology

and microbiology laboratories in the University of Maryland Medical System. Judy has been certified by the American Board of Medical Microbiology since 1994. She also is a member of the Council Policy Committee of the American Society of Microbiology and has served on ASM's Finance Committee and Futures Group.



President-Elect

A. CHRIS WHELEN, PhD, D(ABMM)
laboratory director, Hawaii Department of Health State Laboratories

Chris Whelen has been the State Laboratories director for the Hawaii Department of Health since retiring from the US Army in 2006. He received his BS degree in microbiology from South Dakota State University in 1981 and his PhD in microbiology from the University of North Dakota in 1985. While on active duty, he directed stateside and overseas microbiology labs at four military medical centers, the Army Academy of Health Sciences, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and served as the executive officer to the Army Chief Scientist at the Pentagon. He completed a clinical microbiology fellowship at Mayo Clinic in 1994, is board certified in Clinical and Public Health Microbiology by the American Board

of Medical Microbiology, and holds a Hawaii Clinical Laboratory Director License. Chris holds academic appointments in three departments at the University of Hawaii, and is also an adjunct associate professor of pathology at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He has mentored six APHL EID fellows and provided public health lab outreach opportunities for numerous graduate and undergraduate students through internships, research projects, lectures and workshops. He served six years on the Board of Directors for the Society of Armed Forces Medical Laboratory Scientists, including as president.



Secretary-Treasurer

CHRISTOPHER G. ATCHISON, MPA

laboratory director, State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa

Christopher G. Atchison is the director of the State Hygienic Laboratory, Associate Dean for Public Health Practice and Clinical Professor in Health Management and Policy, College of Public Health at the University of Iowa. He serves on a number of state boards including the Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council, the Medical Home Advisory Council and as Chair of the Safety Net Advisory Council. Christopher is the past chair of the Des Moines-based Child and Family Policy Center and is Co-chair of Iowa's Partnership for Better Health. Prior to joining the University in 1999, Christopher served for eight years as director of the Iowa Department of Public Health. During his tenure,

he was elected the first chair of the Iowa Child Health Insurance Program (Hawk-I) Board. He was vice-chair of Healthy Iowans 2000 and 2010, the Long Term Care Coordinating Council and was a member of the Governor's Health Care Reform Task Force and the Iowa Empowerment Board. At the national level, Christopher served as president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) during the years 1994 and 1995 and was chair of the Joint Council of Official Health Agencies. In 1998, he received ASTHO's Arthur T. McCormack Award for his contributions to public health practice.



Member-at-Large

EWA KING, PhD

laboratory director, Rhode Island State Health Laboratories

Ewa King is the director of the Rhode Island State Health Laboratories in Providence, Rhode Island. She oversees state laboratory programs supporting public health, environmental and public safety agencies in Rhode Island. Ewa holds a PhD in chemistry and an MS degree in food chemistry and technology from the Technical University of Lodz, Poland. She was a recipient of research scholarships in biochemistry and enzymology at Brown University in Providence and the National Center for Scientific Research in France. After working at a commercial environmental testing

laboratory, Ewa began her career at the Rhode Island State Health Laboratories in 2000, holding positions of QA officer, chief of the Environmental Sciences Section, and finally, laboratory director. Ewa's recent scientific interests focus on relationships between human exposure to environmental contaminants and individual and public health. These interests are reflected in her long-standing membership and co-chairing of the Biomonitoring subcommittee as well as a membership in the APHL Environmental Health Committee.



Member-at-Large

GRACE KUBIN, PhD

director, Texas State Public Health Laboratories

Grace Kubin is the director of the Public Health Laboratories in the State of Texas. She has held various positions in the laboratory such as performing testing in support of foodborne outbreak investigations, managing biological and chemical threat testing, and serving in the State's Emergency Medical Operations Center. Under Grace's leadership the Texas PHL has built a Continuous Quality Improvement Team focusing on using Lean and Six Sigma principles to drive quality improvement. Grace received her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Texas at Austin.

Grace has been a member of the Public Health Preparedness and Response Committee since 2009 and has served as a member of the Business Operational Workgroup, the APHL-CDC Workgroup on Joint Data Collection, the Communications and Marketing Advisory Group, and the Network of Laboratory Leadership Alumni. Grace received the 2009 APHL Emerging Leader Award for her work in developing relationships with various groups involved with biological and chemical threat emergency response.



Member-at-Large

JOANNE BARTKUS, PhD, D(ABMM), MS

director, Public Health Laboratory at the Minnesota Department of Health

Joanne Bartkus is currently the director of the Public Health Laboratory at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH-PHL). Her duties include supervision of a management team responsible for oversight of environmental testing, infectious disease surveillance and outbreak investigation, newborn screening, and laboratory operations. Joanne received her BS and MS degrees in biology from Northern Illinois University and a PhD in microbiology from Cornell University. She conducted postdoctoral work in the Department of Biochemistry at Cornell University and was a National Research

Council Fellow at United States Army Research Institute for Infectious Diseases. She is board certified in medical microbiology by the American Board of Medical Microbiology and is certified as a high complexity laboratory director by the American Board of Bioanalysis. Joanne currently serves on APHL's Global Health Committee and is a member of the Emerging Technologies Workgroup. She has also served as a member of the steering committee for the Vaccine Preventable Diseases project and on the Planning Committee for the 2013 APHL Annual Meeting.



Public Health Associate Institutional Member Representative

MARIA LUCIA ISHIDA, PhD

food laboratory director, NY Department of Agriculture and Markets

Maria Lucia's interest in Food Safety started back in 2007 when she joined the USDA Bureau of Laboratories. Within seven years in the agency she transitioned from bench analyst and section supervisor before becoming bureau chief. As a leader, Maria is an APHL Network of Laboratory Leadership Alumni, Certified Public Manager and recipient of the 2012 APHL Emerging Leader Award. In consequence to

her engagement in Food Safety topics, she is an active participant of workgroups and committees providing the Agriculture laboratory viewpoint to national and state public health agencies. In the summer of 2015, Maria joined the NY Department of Agriculture and Markets as Director of Food Laboratory. Maria is currently part of the following APHL committees and working groups: Food Safety, Global Health, Network of Laboratory Leadership Alumni (NOLLA).



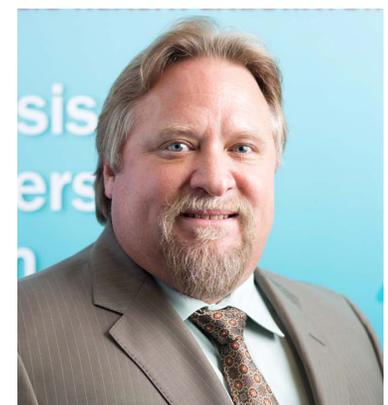
Local Institutional Member Representative

MARK WADE

laboratory services director, San Antonio Metro Health District Laboratory

Mark Wade has served as the Laboratory Services Director at the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) since 2008, following an extensive 20-year military career conducting clinical and environmental laboratory operations in such far-flung locations as Japan and Guam to Alabama and San Antonio. Mark is a medical technologist by trade with an extensive dual work history in environmental chemistry and industrial hygiene laboratory operations while assigned to the Air Force Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory. He went on to conduct and direct biodefense/counterproliferation research operations with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL). Prior

to accepting his current position, Mark was tasked to help design the science buildings that would house the new AFRL mission and continue to serve as a biocontainment consultant. Once at SAMHD, he and his team made extensive improvements to laboratory operations and brought the laboratory back from its downward trajectory. Under his leadership, the laboratory is now making significant contributions to the Public Health mission in San Antonio and the surrounding 29-county region in South Central Texas. Mark and his team have ably responded to two hurricanes, the H1N1 pandemic outbreak and large scale TB contact investigations.



Local Institutional Member Representative

TAMARA “TAMMY” THEISEN, MT(ASCP)

division director, Saginaw County Department of Public Health Laboratory

Tammy Theisen, division director of the Saginaw County Department of Public Health Laboratory (SCDPHL), has been in public health for over 25 years. She earned a BS in medical technology with a minor in chemistry and biomedical sciences from Western Michigan University, and became ASCP-registered after her internship at Flint Osteopathic Hospital in Michigan. Under Tammy's leadership, the SCDPHL has transformed from a single county laboratory to a Regional Laboratory, increasing the complexity and volume of testing. She facilitated the implementation of a LIMS, introduced new technology for both clinical and environmental

testing and has implemented insurance billing to increase revenue. She is also the laboratory director for the SCDPH clinics, and serves as technical consultant for 18 other counties, helping them meet and comply with CLIA requirements. Tammy serves on Saginaw County's outbreak investigation team and mentors quality improvement projects for their Health Department. She serves as a member of APHL's Local Laboratory Committee, Knowledge Management Committee and the Environmental Laboratory Science Committee.



Past President

CHRISTINE BEAN, PhD, MBA, MT(ASCP)

laboratory director, New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories

Christine Bean earned her PhD in microbiology at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) in 2003, MBA from Southern NH University and BS degree in medical technology at UNH. She has worked for the NH Public Health Laboratories since January 2005. Chris taught at UNH in the Medical Laboratory Science Program from fall of 1990 to January 2005. In her role, she was responsible for teaching undergraduate students Clinical Microbiology

and Laboratory Management as well as coordinating clinical internships with hospital partners in the state and New England region. Chris is a member of APHL's Workforce Development Committee and Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee. She is also a member of the newly formed CDC/APHL Fellowship Advisory Group and the Steering Committee for Public Health Competency Implementation and Adoption. She was a participant and graduate of the National Public Health Leadership class of 2010.



Ex-Officio

SCOTT J. BECKER, MS

executive director, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Scott Becker has served as the executive director for the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) since 1997. As the association's chief staff officer, Scott is responsible for programmatic and fiscal operations, liaison with APHL members and partners, and policy development. Under his leadership, APHL has doubled its staff, tripled its programs and more than quadrupled its budget. In 1999, he was recognized as one of the nation's top association executives under 40.

Prior to joining APHL, Scott served as deputy executive director for the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH). During a sabbatical from ASPH, he directed a WHO project to integrate HIV/AIDS into health profession curricula. He holds BS and MS degrees in business and non-profit management, respectively, from the University of Maryland.

The executive director also serves as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

