

2016 #11

April 4, 2016

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**Business & Leadership Forums Aim to Bridge Gaps and Unveil New Opportunities for Growth at the 54<sup>th</sup> ABC Annual Meeting**

The Business Forum at last month's ABC 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting addressed a very important issue that continues to challenge the blood community. Discussions involving pathogen reduction technology (PRT) took center stage. PRT plays a major role in increasing the perceived value of blood, which in turn raises the cost of producing blood products. It was the featured topic for the first half of the Business Forum. Chris Nare, lead executive Laboratory and Hospital Services at Blood Bank of Delmarva, Newark, Del., and Alicia Prichard, senior vice president, Biologics, at OneBlood shared the different approaches of how their blood centers are implementing PRT. Attendees heard about the main challenges each blood center overcame. Additionally, attendees learned how PRT has changed the relationships each blood center has with its hospital customers, and saw two different business models that can be considered for their own organizations.

Next, Louis Katz, MD, chief medical officer at ABC discussed the blood sustainability study being conducted by Rand Corp. to assess the sustainability of the U.S. blood supply model. This study aims to provide blood centers with proactive solutions to maintain a safe and adequate blood supply for donors and patients, and is a collaborative effort featuring ABC, AABB, the American Red Cross, and other blood community experts with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The audience heard how the study was being approached and learned about the statistical parameters being used directly from Andrew Mulcahy, PhD, policy researcher, associate research director for Economics, Sociology, and Statistics Department at Rand Corp. Several ABC



Rand Corp.'s Andrew Mulcahy, PhD

members participated in focus groups during this session to help with the study. A lively discussion followed Dr. Mulcahy's presentation as he addressed questions on how the study was including the efficiency of blood centers, services provided, the competitors of blood in the market place, disruptive technology and services that impact the utilization of blood, and the commercial impact of innovation and R&D on this industry. He assured Business Forum attendees that the inclusion of all stakeholders is important to understanding what makes a sustainable system in the long run. Dr. Mulcahy's team has been invited back to share their preliminary findings from this study at ABC's Summer Meeting, August 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> in Hawaii.

(continued on page 3)



## OUR SPACE

**Thomas Abshire, MD, Senior Vice President, Medical Sciences Institute; Chief Medical Officer, BloodCenter of Wisconsin; Senior Investigator, Blood Research Institute**

### Hematology and Transfusion Medicine: A More Perfect Union

Hematology and transfusion medicine have a long and integrated history solving diseases of the blood. These two disciplines were thrust into the modern era after the Second World War, driven by research advances and clinical need. However in the last 15 years, there are growing concerns surrounding translational research and workforce adequacy. Accordingly, the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) convened two “State of the Science” symposiums in 2009 and 2015 and launched the Transfusion Medicine and Hemostasis Network (2002), which have begun to deliver on translatable clinical discoveries. Additionally, a new KL2 initiative *Clinical Hematology Research Career Development* was initiated in 2006 in order to enhance training for the next generation of clinical hematology researchers. Sustained support for these disciplines in clinical care, research, and training by the American Society of Hematology and the NHLBI (Hoots, WK, et al *Blood*. 2015; 125: 2745-2752) is well recognized. Despite this backdrop, hematology and transfusion medicine need tighter integration.

I am a pediatric hematologist and clinical researcher, recruited to BloodCenter of Wisconsin (BCW) to lead the *Medical Sciences Institute* (MSI). The goal of the MSI is to integrate clinical care, translational research and training across pediatric and adult medicine within the disciplines of hematology, transfusion medicine and transplantation, while singularly focused to enhance patient outcomes. I came to BCW for its excellence in research and the resources to grow and support the effort (75 percent) of junior clinicians in a culture of research. The return on investment (new grant dollars and customers) has been excellent. We have added clinicians, many of whom are research focused as well as cross trained in adult/pediatric hematology and transfusion medicine. Collaborating with our local partners, we expanded program quality in pediatric bleeding disorders, adult benign hematology, and sickle cell disease. Hematology/transfusion medicine training for learners was strengthened and a clinical trials organization established. Finally, we deeply integrated blood center, hospital transfusion service and medical laboratory direction in immunohematology/RBC genotyping, platelet immunology, human leukocyte antigen, and hemostasis, all to provide greater customer value. The MSI focus and model could be replicated. During the next five years, the interaction between hematology and transfusion medicine should grow stronger with accelerated blood management, evidence-based hemostasis and transfusion guidelines, management of surgical bleeding, and development of thrombosis programs. Opportunities for innovation are abundant to lead in health systems hematology, focus on patient-centered outcomes research, maximize the use of digital health platforms, and explore new funding mechanisms. With continued emphasis, the hematology/transfusion medicine union will be strengthened.

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ABC is an association of not-for-profit, independent community blood centers that helps its members provide excellence in transfusion medicine and related health services. ABC provides leadership in donor advocacy, education, national policy, quality, and safety; and in finding efficiencies for the benefit of donors, patients, and healthcare facilities by encouraging collaboration among blood organizations and by acting as a forum for sharing information and best practices.

#### America’s Blood Centers

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### ABC Business & Leadership Forums (continued from page 1)

AABB CEO Miriam Markowitz concluded the Business Forum with a presentation on Medicare and hospital reimbursement strategies for transfusion services. She described and detailed Medicare's current reimbursement structure and model. Medicare and Medicaid, representing 40 percent of total blood purchasers, underpins the economic challenges in U.S. blood banking. Ms. Markowitz also provided insight and recommendations to modify hospital payment for blood services and products. She helped the audience better understand the economic relationships between blood centers, hospitals, and insurer reimbursements.

Face "today's challenges and meet tomorrow's opportunities" was the theme of this year's Leadership Forum. David Wellis, PhD, CEO of San Diego Blood Bank and Linda Barnes, MHSA chief operating officer of Bloodworks Northwest teamed up to share examples of additional services blood centers can provide in order to prepare for today's economic challenges and grow their organizations to meet budding opportunities that could sustain their future. Each provided strategies for diversifying revenue and differentiating ABC members from the competition. They explained the precision medicine initiative and strategies that blood centers should consider in order to be prepared to get involved, along with market strategies for blood establishments in personalized medicine and consumer wellness. Examples were provided on how to evaluate donor interest and synergies, as well as on how to create value for donors, workplaces, and campaigns.

Attendees also benefited from presentations by James Schaeffer, PhD vice president, External Relations of California Institute for Biomedical Research (Calibr) and Jan Jones, president and CEO of The Elizabeth Hospice, in which each shared the similarities in challenges to the changing landscape of blood banking. Dr. Schaeffer described internal and external factors that challenge the pharmaceutical industry and provided examples of how they are meeting those challenges, while Ms. Jones provided a case study of how her organization successfully collaborated with their competition in order to meet a new customer need. The question and answer session after these presentations provided even further explanations and insight into how such strategies could be applied in blood banking.

The final session of the Leadership Forum enabled ABC members to gain unique glimpse into blood banking in China as Yongmei Nie, MD, PhD, director of QM Department at Guangzhou Blood Center described how a blood bank in China is organized, funded, and regulated by the government health ministry. Dr. Nie compared key blood donation, transfusion, and quality practices and metrics in China to those in America. She discussed how change and innovation transpire in China and explained how the third largest blood center in China operates.

Upcoming ABC Meetings include the ABC Human Resources and Member Employee Training and Development Workshop San Antonio, Texas April 26-28, and the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii August 1-4, which provide offers opportunities to network with your peers and learn about innovative, scientific, and educational solutions that can benefit your blood center. ♦

Contributed by Rachelle Fondaw, ABC's Director, Education and Grants

#### **We Welcome Your Letters**

The *ABC Newsletter* welcomes letters from its readers on any blood-related topic that might be of interest to ABC members. Letters should be kept relatively short and to the point, preferably about a topic that has recently been covered in the *ABC Newsletter*. Letters are subject to editing for brevity and good taste. Please send letters to the ABC Publications Editor at [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org) or fax them to (202) 393-1282. Please include your correct title and organization as well as your phone number. The deadline for letters is Wednesday to make it into the next newsletter.



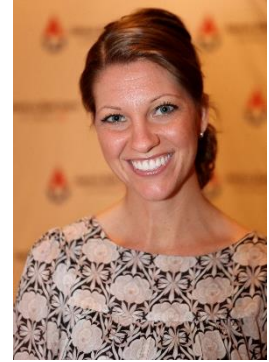
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## INSIDE ABC

*The programs and services described in the Inside ABC section are available to ABC member blood centers and their staff only, unless otherwise specified. ♦*

### Abbey Nunes Steps Down as Chief Member Experience Officer

Abbey Nunes recently announced that she was leaving America's Blood Centers after nine years. She has led the Membership Services department since April 2015 as the chief member experience officer. In this role, Ms. Nunes provided strategic and operational oversight for ABC's membership initiatives, with a focus on fostering and developing member relations by working to create and maintain resources of value for the membership; communicate and market these resources to the appropriate constituents; listen and act on member needs; and ensure that all members and their staff had easy access to all things ABC.



“The last nine years with America's Blood Centers has provided me with many amazing memories and experiences,” said Ms. Nunes. “I can honestly say that my favorite part of the job was working with our members. Thank you for all that many of you have done to help make my time at ABC a success, and more importantly a wonderful experience.”

Ms. Nunes joined ABC in 2007 as the marketing assistant, being promoted to various membership-focused roles and eventually to the position of chief member experience officer. Her accomplishments include leading the redesign of the ABC Member website, managing ABC's member-focused initiatives, and the Fund Development, Communications, and Donor Management workshops. Ms. Nunes last day was March 31. In the interim, inquiries concerning fundraising or sponsorships may be directed to [Jodi Zand](#) and membership to [Leslie Maundy](#) until Ms. Nunes' replacement is hired. “Abbey has been a highly talented team member and while we are sorry to see her leave, said ABC CEO Christine Zambricki, DNAP, CRNA, FAAN. “We thank Abbey for her dedication and innovative ideas and wish her and her family well in future endeavors!”

### Nexcare and ABC Partner Again for World Blood Donor Day Give Program

Now in its eighth year, Nexcare™ Bandages from 3M is partnering with America's Blood Centers on “Give”, an annual initiative focused on World Blood Donor Day to thank recurring blood donors and encourage others to join the cause. This year's program will take place the week of World Blood Donor Day (June 14); beginning on Monday, June 13 and extending through Sunday, June 19.

Through this alliance, Nexcare Bandages provides resources to participating ABC member blood centers including a supply of limited-edition Nexcare Give bandages, made with latex-free materials, for donors and an extensive media relations campaign. Resulting from these efforts, the Nexcare Give program is featured extensively in national and local magazines, newspapers, and broadcast TV outlets as well as online and blogs. This media coverage in the weeks leading up to World Blood Donor Day details the program and overall partnership and shares information about the local community blood centers where donors can get involved.

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## INSIDE ABC (continued from page 4)

Blood centers interested in participating in this year's *Give* program must fill out the participation form by April 5. The form and further information about the program can be accessed in [MCN 16-035](#), and questions about the program may be directed to [Mack Benton](#).

## Awards of Excellence and Casino Night Photos Now Available

Photos from the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual *Awards of Excellence* and the Foundation for America's Blood Centers (FABC) "Rolling on the River" Casino Night can be found on ABC's [flickr page](#). The first-ever FABC Casino Night raised \$5,243 for FABC, which provides funding for programs and initiatives that benefit ABC members. Both ABC and FABC would like to thank all sponsors, attendees, award winners, and the host of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, OneBlood, for their generous support and continued dedication to making events such as these a success. The evening was filled with laughter, food, fun, and networking as award winners, their guests, nominating blood centers, industry partners, and meeting attendees celebrated while trying their luck at blackjack, roulette, poker, and the craps tables for a chance to win prizes. We hope that you will join us in Hawaii at FABC's next event, the Links for Life Golf Tournament during the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual ABC Summer Meeting.



## ABC HR Committee Announces Employee Turnover & Retention Survey

ABC's Human Resources Committee is pleased to launch our annual Employee Turnover and Retention Survey for calendar year 2015. We would like to achieve a 100 percent response rate. Your participation in completing this survey will ensure that this will be a valuable tool for the entire membership. Survey results will be reported in the aggregate and made available on ABC's member website (click [here](#) for CY 2014 survey results). Additional information and a link to the survey is available to ABC Members in [MCN 16-033](#). 💧



America's Blood Centers<sup>®</sup>  
It's About *Life*.

# REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



### America's Blood Centers' Human Resources & Employee Training/Development Workshop

San Antonio, TX – April 26-28, 2016

Hosted by  **South Texas Blood & Tissue Center**

**Marriott Plaza San Antonio**  
Negotiated hotel room rate: \$149 + tax\*  
[www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/satpl-marriott-plaza-san-antonio/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/satpl-marriott-plaza-san-antonio/)

**2016 Workshop Schedule**  
Human Resources topics: April 26  
Joint HR & Employee Training/Development topics: April 27  
Employee Training/Development topics: April 28

**2016 Workshop Fees (early bird/regular)**  
2-day registration: \$410/\$465  
3-day registration: \$485/\$540

*South Texas Blood & Tissue Center is excited to host ABC members in San Antonio for the 2016 Human Resources & Training/Development Workshop. We look forward to a dynamic exchange of new ideas and best practices from across the country. I hope to see you in San Antonio in April!* 🙌

Linda Myers, Chief Executive Officer  
South Texas Blood & Tissue Center

Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact Leslie Maundy at [лмаundy@americasblood.org](mailto:лмаundy@americasblood.org) for details.

The America's Blood Centers Professional Institute Scholarship Program offers scholarship opportunities to ABC members to cover the cost of registration fees and help with travel expenses. Application form and details will be made available once registration opens.







San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is served by all major US airlines, including discount carrier Southwest. It offers non-stop service to/from 27 major and secondary US airports; check [www.sanantonio.gov/SAT](http://www.sanantonio.gov/SAT) for more information.



## RESEARCH IN BRIEF

**In an early-phase study, Japanese investigators from Showa University and Chugai Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. have described the pharmacokinetics and safety of a recombinant, bispecific humanized antibody that binds activated factor IX to factor X to mimic the procoagulant activity of Factor VIII.** Sixty-four healthy males received escalating doses of the antibody, ACE910, demonstrating a half life of 4-5 weeks, decreasing the partial thromboplastin time and increasing thrombin generation in factor VIII depleted plasma. They conclude that “(T)he PK and PD profiles of ACE910 were similar in healthy Japanese and white subjects and suggest that ACE910 will be an effective and convenient prophylactic treatment of hemophilia A.” No serious adverse effects were attributed to the drugs. Antidrug antibodies were observed in two subjects, one prevalent and one incident to treatment. In an editorial comment, Michael Makris, MD of the University of Sheffield, compared substitution therapy, the standard of care, with the new preparation saying “ACE910, however, offers the option of a disruptive technology that could potentially alter the way hemophilia care is delivered in the future.”

**Citation:** Uchida N, Sambe T, Yoneyama K et al. A first-in-human phase 1 study of ACE910, a novel factor VIII-mimetic bispecific antibody, in healthy subjects. *Blood*. 2016. 1633-41.  
Makris M. Hemophilia A treatment: disruptive technology ahead. *Blood*. 2016. 127:13;1623-24. ♦

## RECENT REVIEWS

**Authors in the United Kingdom and Denmark have performed a systematic literature review and meta-analysis comparing restrictive and liberal transfusion triggers in patients with cardiovascular disease who did not undergo cardiac surgery.** Eleven of 41 randomized trials (published and unpublished) enrolling 3,033 patients were included in the meta-analysis. Thirty-day mortality was not different with restrictive versus liberal transfusion, but the risk of acute coronary syndrome was higher in the restrictive group (nine trials; risk ratio 1.78, 95 percent confidence interval 1.18-2.70,  $p=.01$ ). Within the limitations of the study, the authors conclude that “(T)hese data support the use of a more liberal transfusion threshold ( $>80$  g/L) for patients with both acute and chronic cardiovascular disease until adequately powered high quality randomized trials have been undertaken in patients with cardiovascular disease.”

**Citation:** Docherty AB, O'Donnell R, Brunskill S et al. Effect of restrictive versus liberal transfusion strategies on outcomes in patients with cardiovascular disease in a non-cardiac surgery setting: systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ*. 2016;352:i1351 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i1351>

## BRIEFLY NOTED

**Investigators from the Australian Red Cross Blood Service have described a modification of the Spielberger state-trait anxiety inventory that uses six questions to provide a validated and standardized measurement of donor anxiety.** It should be useful in both a research setting and donor rooms to predict the risk of reactions and to assess the impact of preventive interventions.

**Citation:** Chell K, Waller D, Masser B. The blood donor anxiety scale: a six-item state anxiety measure based on the Spielberger state-trait anxiety inventory. *Transfusion*. 2016. doi:10.1111/trf.13520. Early Online.

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BRIEFLY NOTED (continued from page 6)

**AABB recently launched the 2014-15 Blood Collection and Utilization Survey on March 16.** The survey will build on the [2013 AABB Blood Survey Report](#), and the data will describe changes in blood collection transfusion trends, clinical practices, and support policy for donors and transfusion recipients. The survey takes approximately 45 minutes to complete once background materials have been assembled. Data from individual organizations is and will be kept confidential and reported only as categorical aggregates. AABB will provide survey participants with early access to a complimentary report of the results and benchmark reports of their contributions. Institutional members may contact the AABB research department with questions by emailing [hemovigilance@aabb.org](mailto:hemovigilance@aabb.org) or calling +1.800.793.9376 (U.S.) or +1.301.215.6588 to request a link to the online survey when the data are assembled. Louis Katz, MD, chief medical officer of ABC, has encouraged every ABC member to participate in this survey, noting that a number of requested elements are distinct from those collected in the National Blood Collection and Utilization Survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 💧


## REGULATORY NEWS

**The Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research at the Food and Drug administration announced, on March 30, 2016, the availability of a polymerase chain reaction assay under an investigational new drug application (IND) to screen blood donations for Zika virus RNA.** The test is under development by Roche Molecular Systems for use on the **cobas® 6800/8800** instrument that is pending approval by FDA for use in donor screening for HIV, HCV, HBV, and WNV. The press announcement from FDA stated “(T)he FDA guidance further states that establishments in areas with active Zika transmission may collect locally if a licensed or investigational test for screening donated blood is available. Once screening of blood donations for Zika virus using the investigational test begins, blood establishments in Puerto Rico may resume collecting donations of Whole Blood and blood components. However, the [FDA’s recommendations for Zika blood donor deferrals](#) remain in place.” Representatives of Roche have indicated that they will initially prioritize the availability of IND testing to laboratories serving collection facilities in Puerto Rico and then in the southern tier U.S. states, where the risk of local transmission of Zika virus by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes is felt to be highest. Such laboratories can contact [Susan Galel](#), senior director of Medical Affairs, Blood Screening or [Tony Hardiman](#), life cycle leader, Blood Screening for more information. Roche’s media contact is Bob Purcell (888) 545-2443. (Source: [FDA Press Release](#), 3/30/16) 💧

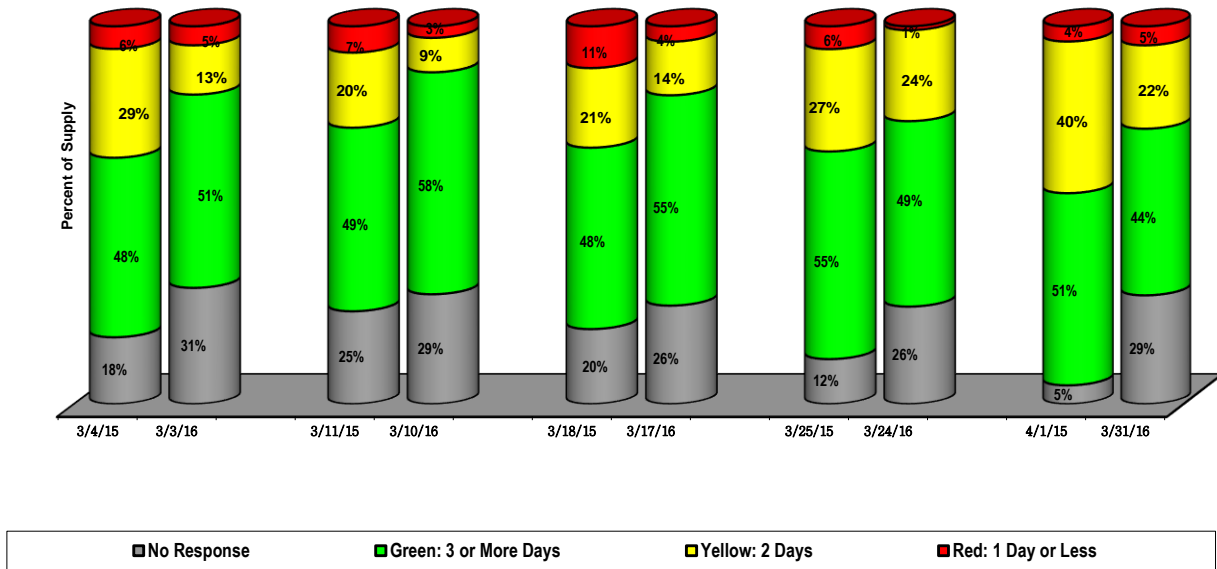
### We Welcome Your Articles

We at the *ABC Newsletter* welcome freelance articles on any subject relevant to the blood banking community. Writers are encouraged to submit short proposals or unsolicited manuscripts of no more than 1,100 words. While ABC cannot pay for freelance pieces, the writer’s name and title will be included at the end of the story, brief news item, or commentary. If proposing a story, please write a few paragraphs describing the idea and sources of information you will use, your present job and background, and your qualifications for writing on the topic. ABC staff cannot guarantee all stories will be published, and all outside writing will be subject to editing for style, clarity, brevity, and good taste. Please submit ideas and manuscripts to the ABC Publications Editor at [newsletter@americasblood.org](mailto:newsletter@americasblood.org). You will be sent a writer’s guide that provides information on style conventions, story structure, deadlines, etc.

## GLOBAL NEWS

The International Plasma Fractionation Association (IPFA) made available [online](#) the proceedings of the IPFA Asia Pacific Workshop 2016 on Plasma Quality and Supply in Taipei, Taiwan. Those interested can visit the [IPFA website](#) to find presentations on a number of topics including quality management, the unmet needs of plasma products for the patients’ perspective, and much more. (Source: IPFA website, 3/29/16) 

## STOPLIGHT®: Status of the ABC Blood Supply, 2015 vs. 2016



The order of the bars is (from top to bottom), red, yellow, green, and no response

## MEMBER NEWS

**Community Blood Center of the Carolinas (CBCC), Charlotte, N.C. announced on March 28 that it has begun producing pathogen reduced platelets.** CBCC became the fifth blood center in the U.S. to use the Intercept Blood System from Cerus Corp, which received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval in December 2014 for use on platelets and plasma. “This is an exciting time for the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas,” said Martin Grable, president and CEO of CBCC. “We are always working towards safer and higher quality products for the hospitals and patients we serve. The Intercept treated platelets and plasma that we are collecting will enable us to offer an ever safer choice of blood components in the Carolinas.” Bacterial contamination of platelets is an important cause of serious transfusion-related morbidity and mortality in the U.S. At this time, the Intercept Blood System is the only



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## MEMBER NEWS (continued from page 8)

system approved by FDA for pathogen reduction technology in the U.S. Earlier this month, the FDA issued a revised [draft guidance](#) that allow pathogen reduction technology to be used on apheresis platelets within 24 hours of collection, in addition to primary and secondary testing strategies, and a description of the route to extended platelet storage. (Source: CBCC press release, 3/28/16) ♦

## PEOPLE

Delaware Governor Jack Markell recently appointed Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD), Newark, Del., CEO Roy Roper to the Delaware State University Board of Trustees. Mr. Roper was hired in December 2009 as vice president of Administrative Services and promoted to CEO in January 2011, following the retirement of Robert “Bob” L. Travis. He has held numerous leadership positions throughout his career including stints with Cigna, United Healthcare, AstraZeneca, as well as chair of the Foundation for America’s Blood Centers Board of Directors. He holds a master’s degree in Organization Development from American University. (Source: *Dover Post*, 3/28/16) ♦



## MEETINGS

April 26 - 28    **ABC Human Resources and Employee Training and Development Workshop San Antonio, Texas**

The ABC Human Resources & Training/Development Workshop, hosted by ABC member South Texas Blood & Tissue Center, in San Antonio, Texas, will take place at the Marriott Plaza San Antonio. P.A.C.E. and HRCI credits will be offered. Online registration has been extended; register by April 8. Contact [Lori Beaston](#) today to register for this workshop!

May 3 - 4        **9th Annual Food and Drug Administration/AdvaMed Medical Devices and Diagnostics Statistical Issues Conference Arlington, Va.**

This annual workshop brings together leading authorities from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), industry and academia to address statistical topics through two tracks: therapeutic device and diagnostics. Robert M. Califf, MD commissioner for Medical Products and Tobacco for FDA, will be the keynote speaker. The program and registration information is [available](#).

June 9 - 11     **14<sup>th</sup> International Cord Blood Symposium San Francisco, Calif.**

AABB, with support from the Cord Blood Association, will host the 14<sup>th</sup> International Cord Blood Symposium from June 9 to 11 in San Francisco, Calif. The scientific program brings all of the umbilical cord blood related fields of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, cord blood banking, and regenerative medicine together in one interactive three-day conference. The [program](#), registration details, and other information can be found [here](#).

(continued on page 10)

MEETINGS (continued from page 9)August 1 - 4 **ABC 55<sup>th</sup> Summer Meeting Honolulu, Hawaii.**

The ABC 55<sup>th</sup> Summer Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, hosted by Blood Bank of Hawaii, will take place August 1-4, 2016 at the Hilton Waikiki Beach. It will feature the ABC Medical Directors Workshop and the Foundation for America's Blood Centers Golf Tournament. Registration information coming soon. 💧

**POSITIONS**

**Medical Information Systems Analyst 2121 (San Antonio, TX).** Responsible for defining validation requirements, developing system validation documentation, generating and executing test protocols, and summarizing validation activities in written reports. Will play an essential role from upgrade qualification of existing computer systems to validation of complete new systems assuring all remain current and in a validated state. Will work with in partnership with all divisions within South Texas Blood & Tissue Center (STBTC) and BioBridge Global (BBG) support services to ensure all meet our strategic goals and regulatory standards. Bachelor's degree (Medical Technology, Computer Science, IS, or Business Management), three to five years of industry related software validation experience preferred. Experience identifying, validating and implementing laboratory, blood-banking, manufacturing and/or other regulated operating systems and associated technologies. Blood Establishment Computer System (BECS) experience preferred. Three years driving experience with good driving record required. Texas operators driver's license required, MT/MLS (ASCP) or other professional credential(s) preferred. BioBridge Global and its subsidiaries are proud to be an EEO/AA-M/F/D/V/Genetic Data employer that maintains a Tobacco & Drug-Free Workplace. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, disability, veteran status, genetic data or other legally protected status. Apply online at: <http://bit.ly/1WURs9p>

**Advanced Clinical Lab Specialist (IRL – 2nd Shift).** Blood Systems Laboratories is searching for a 2nd Shift Advanced Clinical Lab Specialist to join its immunohematology reference lab (IRL) in Tempe, AZ! This position is responsible for routine testing of biological specimens. This position also provides skilled technical support in the laboratory and works with other team members to ensure timely, quality, test results. Requirements: Bachelor's degree; Must satisfy CLIA requirements for High Complexity Testing and California testing requirements must be met within one year; Certification as a Medical Technologist or Blood Banking Technologist (BB) by a recognized certifying agency; three years clinical laboratory testing; one year transfusion service. Preferred: One year IRL experience; SBB. For immediate consideration, please apply on our website [www.bloodsystems.org](http://www.bloodsystems.org) no later **Friday, April 8, 2016 -**

req # 16000131. Blood Systems offers a competitive benefits package such as: affordable medical, vision, and dental coverage, matched 401(k), education assistance and much more! Pre-employment background check and drug screen is required. Visit our [website](#). Blood Systems is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EEO/Minorities/Females/Disabled/Veterans

**Editor, Publications & Manager, Grassroots Advocacy.** America's Blood Centers is seeking a Publications Editor/Grassroots Advocacy Manager. This individual is responsible for overseeing the editorial direction and production of all publications provided by ABC and supporting the CEO and the Manager, Advocacy, Communications, & Public Affairs by leading grassroots legislative advocacy initiatives. The focus of this position is to report, write, and layout the *ABC Newsletter*, the weekly chronicle of blood banking and transfusion medicine news. The Publications Editor/Grassroots Advocacy Manager also produces the Annual Report, coordinates, edits and distributes the *Blood Bulletin* produced by subcommittee committee of physicians. Additionally, this person edits any other written content produced by ABC as needed. This role also leads in the development and implementation of ABC's social media strategy. Key responsibilities include: produce the *Weekly ABC Newsletter*, edit the Periodical Blood Bulletin, produce/publish the ABC Annual Report, work with the CEO & the Manager, Advocacy, Communications, & Public Affairs on Grassroots Advocacy Initiatives. **EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** BA in Journalism, Communications, English, or other related field; Experience in technical writing and reporting; and skilled in conducting online research. Experience in using social media for professional purposes. If interested, please submit your resume and cover letter to [Christine Zambricki](#). Additional information including the full job description is available in the [careers section](#) on the ABC website.

**Director, Information Technology.** America's Blood Centers is seeking a Director, Information Technology. This individual will develop and direct the IT infrastructure strategic vision for the organization and leads the

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POSITIONS (continued from page 10)

acquisition, integration, and implementation of that vision. He or she will be a hands-on member of the leadership team that is responsible for the conception, oversight, development, implementation, and maintenance of the organization's IT systems, databases, data warehouses, infrastructure, and Business Intelligence solutions. This position is responsible to establish company standards and ensure functionality, connectivity, security, and compatibility of all IT systems within the organization assuring a seamless enterprise-wide strategic solution. The Information Technology Director is responsible for demonstrating how data collected in the data warehouse can effect real cost savings or increased efficiencies in member blood centers. Key responsibilities include: oversee all aspects of the organization's IT infrastructure and requirements systems, data warehouse, networks and disaster recovery solutions and processes, oversee the ABC Data Warehouse (DW) project, and oversee all aspects of the organization's IT infrastructure and systems, networks and disaster recovery solutions and processes. Education and experience: A Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Business or related field required, advanced degree preferred; Minimum of 7 years of IT technical experience. If interested, please submit your resume and cover letter to [Christine Zambricki](#). Additional information including the full job description is available in the [careers section](#) on the ABC website. ♦