

Education, Training and Collaboration at an Academic Reference Laboratory

Brian Jackson, MD, MS

Medical Director, ARUP Laboratories
Assoc Prof of Pathology, Univ of Utah

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100+

medical directors
& consultants

5000+

workforce

3,000+

tests and test
combinations



A nonprofit enterprise of the University of Utah and its Department of Pathology

Training and Education at ARUP

Medical Lab
Science Degrees
and Certification

Continuing
Education

Laboratory-
Specific Training

Univ of Utah Med Lab Sciences Program



Diana Wilkins, MS,
PhD
Division Chief,
Medical
Laboratory
Science



Takara Blamires,
MS,
MLS(ASCP)CM
Program Director,
Med Lab Science
undergraduate
program

- Roles played:
 - » Recruiting pipeline
 - » Career ladders

Numbers Problem

- ARUP typically has **>300** openings/year for med lab scientists
- Utah's MLS bachelors program has had **40** slots (expanding to 60)



Weber State University Partnership

- Medical Lab Science program in Ogden, UT
- Includes online-only program
- ARUP provides clinical rotations

- Role played: Recruiting pipeline for MT certified workforce

Continuing Education: ARUP Institute for Learning



James McVey
IFL Manager



Cherie Petersen
Distance Ed
Program Lead

- Roles played:
 - » Continuing education for ARUP and outside professionals
 - PACE, CME, Florida
 - » Internal workforce education
 - Compliance, safety, etc.

Lab-Specific Training



- Every position in every lab requires customized training
- Example: specimen processor
 - » 6 weeks of initial training
 - » 6 months to hit “good” productivity
- Training also pulls experienced staff away from testing
 - » Trainer:trainee ratios from 1:1 – 1:3



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