

New York State Histotechnological Society

On Stage

Volume 29, Issue 1 Winter 2010

Education Update: SUNY Cobleskill

Pamela Colony, PhD

SUNY Cobleskill Histotechnology Program Director



All practicing histologists, HT's and HTL's alike, are now aware of the Clinical Laboratory Technology Practice Act that introduced licensure to the State of New York. And many of you may also have participated in the actions that resulted in the amendment of this Law in July 2008 which finally acknowledged Histotechnology as a unique profession. What you may not know is that the Histotechnology program at SUNY Cobleskill was forced to close after the original law was passed. Since the passage of the amendment, however, we have been allowed to reopen the doors of our school.



As Director of the Histotechnology Program at SUNY Cobleskill, I would like to extend an open invitation to any and all of you to the official re-opening ceremony of our program. This event will take place in the student histology lab, Wheeler 148, on Friday, February 5th from 2-4:00 P.M. I am particularly pleased that Assemblyman Pete Lopez will be in attendance. Pete has been a tireless advocate for our profession and was instrumental in working with the legislature to amend the original law. I encourage you to come and give him the thanks and recognition he deserves.

We have multiple reasons to celebrate the revival of our program. First and foremost, we are not only the oldest Histotechnology school in the country, but we are also the only school in New York State. Graduates have the classroom and technical training necessary for entry level competence and they are eligible for ASCP certification. The school will also be registered with the State so graduates will be eligible for the State exam once it is developed. In addition, graduates receive an AAS degree which can be a terminal degree or used for transfer into a Bachelor's degree program at a later date. Alternatively, a student can enter our combined Animal Science Bachelor degree program with the Histotechnology option and receive the four year degree here. Regardless of the degree program, all students receive excellent training on campus and at one of our 15 Affiliate hospitals.

We are fortunate to have state of the art equipment in our student histology lab. We have a brand new processor, a Leica ASP 300, two new embedding stations, and a separate microtomy station for each student complete

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OnStage is published quarterly by the New York State Histotechnological Society for its membership. Contributions, suggestions and advertisements are welcome. Please visit the NYSHS website for submission information and guidance. Permission to reprint is granted as long as source and author are acknowledged and a copy of the reprint is sent to the editors. Articles without bylines are written by the editors. Please submit manuscripts to the editor-in-chief:

Amy Farnan pita444@yahoo.com

Deadlines for Submission are:

December 1 - Winter

March 1 - Spring

June 1 - Summer

September 1 - Fall

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From The President

2010 is already in full swing, and the year promises to be filled with opportunity! The NYSHS will host our Spring Meeting in Buffalo on May 14 and 15th, co-chaired by Kate Caleri and Sandy Mendel. We are in the final stages of developing the educational program; stay tuned for the details! We are all very excited to host our first ever "Career Day" for high school students this year concurrent with our meeting. Laurie Marien from Buffalo has spearheaded this event and has been working tirelessly all fall and winter lining up vendors and supplies, and I am sure she will be needing plenty of helping hands. Thank you Laurie for making this happen! NSH Region 1 will also hold the Annual Symposium "A Sea of Opportunities" hosted this year by the Connecticut Society. The meeting will be held in Mystic, Connecticut on April 23 and 24th and promises to be a great time to connect with our fellow histotechs.

As we move towards spring we will be requesting nominations for the 2010 NYSHS Elections. I would encourage you to think about volunteering to serve as an officer or on the Board of Directors in the society. It is a great opportunity to get to know others in the field while at the same time working for excellence and advancement in our profession. As you probably can see we work very hard for you, our members, but we also have a great time working together! As someone who has served the NYSHS in every capacity I can truthfully say it has been a very rewarding and friend filled time, so please give some thought to volunteer!

In closing I send my most sincere wish for a New Year filled with the best life has to offer.

Yours,

Mary Georger





Mentoring Works in the Work Place.

By: Sarah Mack
University of Rochester

Mentoring in the work place is an increasingly widespread way to train employees. Employee mentoring programs can be very beneficial within the histology profession. Having a mentor is a great way to develop your skills, establish a professional network and look to the future with your career. Mentoring is beneficial not only for the employee but also for the employer.

Employers and supervisors are able to hire employee's that have skills necessary to work in the histology field, knowing that they will gain more skills and knowledge from an employee mentoring program. They can also breathe easy knowing that their employees will be highly skilled and reliable workers. Mentoring allows constant development of additional skills while allowing employees to advance internally. It also improves employee engagement and productivity. Employers are able to groom their workers to be the perfect fit in their field.

Employee mentoring programs are very beneficial to new employees. Mentoring allows the new employee to focus on the skills they currently have while developing the skills that they need. Mentoring enables employees to feel confident in their work, while gaining knowledge of histology and increasing their skills. When working under a mentor, a new employee can look to their mentor for career guidance and advice. Many employees who work under a mentor know that there will be potential for career advancement within their lab. Those being mentored have the benefit of learning their position in an effective way, making fewer mistakes along the way as well as the ability to effectively trouble shoot. Having a mentor is a great way to develop your skills, establish a professional network and look towards the future with your career.

Being a mentor can be rewarding, mentors know they are doing their part passing on their knowledge of histology to new technicians who will love their new job just as the mentor loves theirs. Senior lab members can gain satisfaction taking new employees under their wings. As a mentor you will experience professional growth and renewal.

In a lab setting mentoring can be a very useful tool. Experienced lab members can model new member's lab edict, attitudes and skills. Satisfied, confident and dedicated workers make a loyal and successful team. Mentoring establishes a team like atmosphere and enforces community in the work place.

Another aspect of mentoring is the importance of developing local networks within your workplace as well as exploring the role of professional societies. Mentoring can work for you, it works for me, it works for everybody!

The following sites provide information for establishing a mentoring program at work:

http://www.ehow.com/how_2076455_set-up-company-mentoring-program.html<http://www.allbusiness.com/human-resources/careers-career-development/257160-1.html>



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PolyScientific 2009 Fall Seminar

By: Linda Chen

Weil-Cornell Medical Center

Once again, the wonderful folks at Poly Scientific R&D Corp have out done themselves. The NYSHS and Poly Scientific came together and sponsored a free one day fall meeting that included a continental breakfast and a beautiful lunch. Due to an overwhelming response the meeting was moved to a larger venue at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Hauppauge, NY. The speakers were Dr. Steven McClain of McClain Labs, Dr. Richard Cartun of Hartford Hospital, Dr. Jennifer Defazio of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Dr. Shelly Tepper of the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's office.

Dr. McClain discussed the use of gross imaging to aid the pathologist in diagnosis and margin control. Dr. Cartun spoke about standardization in immunohistochemistry and how it can affect diagnosis and, ultimately, patient care. Dr. Defazio gave us an interesting lecture on the dermatoscope and how it works. She showed us the structures dermatologists use it to look for to make clinical diagnoses and how those structures correlate to histologic findings. Dr. Tepper, gave us a point of view from the Medical Examiner's office, and spoke to us about cases of sudden death. She presented some very interesting case studies and discussed how histologic findings aided in determining the cause of death. With over 150 attendees, the lecture hall was packed with people reconnecting with old colleagues and making new acquaintances. The 4 lectures provided by the very interesting speakers fulfilled a significant portion of the new education guidelines set by the New York State Department of Health.



Pictured From left to right; Kim Rhatigan with, Joe and Denise Caggiano of PolyScientific



The meeting was very well received and a great success. The NYSHS would like to give its most sincere thanks to Poly Scientific for sponsoring the venue and providing for the wonderful meals. We would also like to recognize and thank Kim Rhatigan and the staff at PolyScientific who worked so hard to bring this great meeting together.



NYSHS President Mary Georger with Dr. Richard Car-tun of Hartford Hospital who lectured on standardiza-tion of immunohistochemistry.



President Mary Georger with Dr. Jennifer DeFazio of Memorial Sloan Kettering who spoke about Dermoscopy

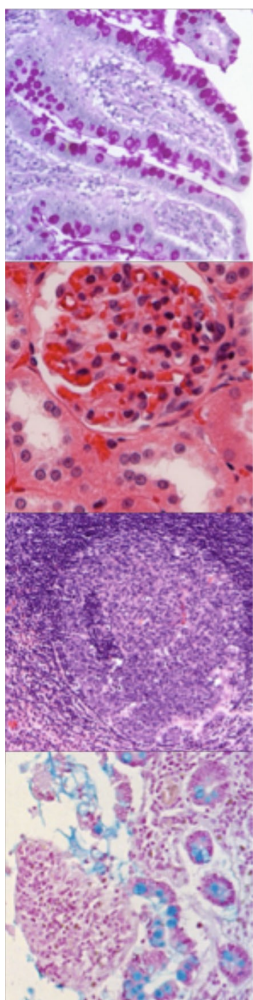


President Mary Georger with Suffolk County Medical Examiner, Dr. Shelly Tepper.



Seminar sessions were full with over 125 people attending the one-day symposium.





Save This Date May 14-15, 2010

NYSHS Spring Meeting



The Magic of Histology



Ramada University Inn Buffalo, New York

Watch the NYSHS Web site for more information
nyhisto.org

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with a water bath and choice of microtomes (Olympus 4055, Reichert-Jung 203 or a Shandon AS 325) In addition, we have a Microm HM 500 cryostat that was generously donated by Richard Allen Scientific.

Despite our facilities, the shortage of trained personnel and the best efforts of me and my colleagues in our affiliate hospitals, we still have problems recruiting. I encourage you to please have any interested individuals contact me directly to discuss options. Individuals with an Associates or Bachelors degree in science or those without an official degree but with college level biology, chemistry and a total of 33 credits can complete the program in one year. Furthermore, we are working on enhancing our program flexibility and availability by offering some online courses. So join us and become a member of the SUNY Cobleskill Histotechnology program.

I can be contacted by phone (518-255-5417) or e-mail (Colonyp@cobleskill.edu).





A Call for NYSHS Awards Applicants!!

The Awards Committee, formed from the officers and board of directors of the society, carefully evaluate all nominees and supporting documentation submitted for the awards. Recipients are presented their award at the New York State Histotechnological Society annual spring meeting. Applications and additional information, including awards criteria, is available on the NYSHS website (www.nyhisto.org). Please send applications to the awards chairperson specifying the award you are applying for (contact information below). This years awards include:



Leica Microsystems Award:

The Award is presented to a histology student or a histotech who wishes to attend a professional meeting. The \$200.00 award is sponsored by Leica Microsystems and must be used to defray educational expenses.



Thermo Scientific Anatomical Pathology Award:

The Award is presented to a histology student or a histotech who wishes to attend a professional meeting. The \$200.00 award is sponsored by Thermo Scientific and must be used to defray educational expenses.



Gulf Cost Instrument Award:

Two Awards are available and offered to histology students or a histotechs who wish to attend a professional meeting. Each \$500.00 award is sponsored by Gulf Coast Instrument Company and must be used to defray educational expenses.



Dominic Europa Award:

Awarded to a long-standing NYSHS member who serves as an inspiration to others in the histotechnology field. Candidate can be a bench tech or a supervisor. The \$500.00 award is sponsored by the NYSHS and must be used to defray educational expenses

Deadline Extended !!!

Applications are due March 30th 2010

We prefer e-mail submission of applications and letters. Please send documents to:

Cindy Kosuda
cindyk@centrexlabs.com



LICENSURE UPDATE ASCP TO THE RESCUE!!

By: Amy Farnan

Albany Memorial Hospital

Within the past few weeks, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) approved a contract with ASCP Board of Certification to administer the NYS histology licensing exam. During the five year period of the contract, applicants for licensure as a certified histological technician will use the same examination as is used by ASCP for certification purposes. The ASCP certification exam grade can be submitted to the NYSED directly from the ASCP. Based on your grade and assuming all educational requirements for licensure have been fulfilled, the State will issue the applicant their license. In essence, they are accepting the ASCP Board of Certification as the exam for NYS licensing. The down side to this is that two separate fees will be incurred for new applicants and for those that have a limited permit that have not yet taken the exam. A fee will be paid to the ASCP for the certification exam and also a separate fee to NYS to utilize this exam for state licensure. What if you already applied and are working under a limited permit? The NYSED has already received a number of score reports from the ASCP for applicants that have taken the exam after September 1, 2001 who currently hold a limited permit. The NYSED will be processing the applications for licensure and sending applicants their permanent license. If you have a limited permit and have not yet taken the exam, you will need to do so before your one year limited permit expires. If your limited permit has recently been renewed you will have year from the renewal date to take the exam.

In addition, there are many individuals who currently practice as histological technicians or technologists but who were originally licensed as certified clinical laboratory technicians and technologists. These individuals may also be licensed as certified histological technicians, carrying 2 separate licenses. For some people, the registration period for the license as a certified clinical laboratory technician/technologist may now be expiring. These individuals have the choice of re-registering as a certified clinical laboratory technician/technologist or placing that registration in an "*inactive status*," (they must inform NYSED if that is their intention) and continue to work under their certified histological technician license. For those individuals that have the clinical laboratory technician/technologist license and wonder if they should apply for the histology license: it is neither necessary nor required because histology is included in the scope of practice for the clinical laboratory technician/technologist classification. Once obtained, both the "clinical laboratory" and "certified histological" are for life unless revoked for disciplinary action. However, individuals may only practice in the areas authorized under the scope of practice for the profession in which they are licensed and registered.

For more information please visit the new Office of Professions website at: www.op.nysed.gov/prof/clt. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.



Office of the Professions

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NYSED / OP /



The Licensed Professions in New York State

In 1891, medicine became the first profession licensed by the New York State [Board of Regents](#). New York's unique system of professional regulation, recognized as a model for public protection, has grown to encompass nearly 800,000 practitioners and over 30,000 professional practice business entities in [48 professions](#).

Guided by the Regents, a citizen body, the professions are within New York State's [unified system](#) of education - The University of the State of New York. This recognizes the key role education plays in both preparing licensed professionals and in ensuring their continuous development.

The State Education Department, under Regents direction, administers professional regulation through its Office of the Professions, assisted by the twenty-nine [State Boards](#) for the Professions. Deputy Commissioner Frank Muñoz leads the Office.

Last Updated: December 17, 2009

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- [H1N1 & Executive Order 29](#)
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NYSHS Action Alert!

**University of the State of New York - New York State Education Department,
Office of Professions
Seeking nominees for the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology**

One of the amendments to the Clinical Laboratory Practice Act (article 165 of the New York State Education Law) passed in July, 2008 was the creation of a seat, to be filled by a histologist, on the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology. The law (Article 165, § 8604) specifically mandates "*...one of whom shall be a certified histological technician*" as one of the 12 statutory members of the State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology. The creation of this seat was the result of lobbying efforts on the part of the NYSHS in order to have representation on the only board that advises the State Education Department via the Office of Professions on matters relating to our profession. In the few years prior to the passage of article 165 (2006), we had no representative from the histotechnology community participating in the discussion or negotiations while the law was being crafted. Not only was this the main reason why Histotechnology was not included in the original language, but also the impetus for others not to include us in the negotiations. While today the law has been amended to better represent the histotechnology community, we need a representative on the board so that we can ensure that this does not happen again as well as to firmly establish Histotechnology as a discipline and profession in NYS. We cannot stress enough how important it is to retain this seat!

The Board of Regents which presides over the New York State Education Department appoints a State Board (there are 28) for each licensed profession to advise and assist the Board of Regents and the State Education Department on matters of professional regulation and conduct. The State Education Department administers professional regulation through its Office of the Professions which is lead by the Deputy Commissioner Frank Muñoz. Kathleen Doyle, the Executive Secretary for State Board for Clinical Laboratory Technology is the senior administrator and manages much of the board's functions. The board has a minimum total membership of 11 with at least 2 public members. Specific Board requirements include: 4 licensed clinical laboratory technologist, 2 licensed cytotechnologist, 1 certified clinical laboratory technician, 1 representative of the diagnostic/manufacturing industry and 1 director of a clinical laboratory who is a physician. We have included some excerpts from the Office of Profession website describing the State Board organization as well as highlights of key requirements for potential candidates below.

"The composition of each board is specified in Title VIII of Education Law. The Board and Committee composition should reflect the State's regions, cultural diversity, and the various aspects of the professions. Professional board members must be New York State-licensed professionals who are residents of the State. For many boards, professional member appointees must have at least five years of experience. Every State Board must also have at least one public representative (and in some cases up to five public members), who is a consumer of services of the profession(s) on which the board advises. The individual must be a New York State resident and meet various requirements to ensure that the public perspective is not compromised. A board member is appointed for a five-year term



and may be reappointed for a second term; receives an honorarium and is reimbursed for basic expenses. The number of meetings, professional discipline proceedings, etc. varies from board to board. "All professional and public members of the State Boards must be dedicated to public protection and quality professional preparation and conduct. Depending on the particular board, members of the State Boards advise on licensing requirements, licensing examinations and practice issues, as well as participate in licensure disciplinary and/or restoration and moral character proceedings."

Other important factors and considerations for applicants:

This is an appointed position not elected. Individuals must meet the Office of Professions criteria in order to be appointed. The office looks for diversity, specialty, judicial district, and knowledge of the field when interviewing, among other things.

Applicants/board members may not be officers, elected council members, lobbyists, or those in a position to be supporting policy or legislative positions for a professional association or society at a State or national level.

There is no deadline for nominations. There must be a position open for the person to fill (Currently the histologist seat is open). Otherwise, their nomination form will be kept for the next vacancy. However, Dr. Doyle has requested that applications be submitted no later than February 15th of 2010 so that the board can appoint a member before its first scheduled meeting.

The position must be filled with someone who would be licensed as a certified histological technician, or eligible to be licensed within the year.

There are time commitments and the person should be able to provide at least 15 days a year for the work. The number of meetings per year varies (depending on the agenda) and the meetings are usually held in Albany so travel is required.

Board Members receive an honorarium and reimbursement for basic expenses.

The Board is currently composed of the following individuals (followed by their expiry date):

Deborah K. Cornell - 11/14/14, Paul A. Elgert - 11/14/10, Martin R. Evans - 11/14/14, Todd M. Failing - 11/14/14, Martha Fairbairn - 11/14/13, Deborah K. Fawdry - 11/14/09, Shepard Goldberg, Public Member - 11/14/13, Debora L. Hunte - 11/14/10, Mary Anne Kowalski, Public Member - 11/14/14 , Bernard T. Ng - 06/30/11 , Julia E. Peacock - 11/14/10, Vivian Y. Stuart - 11/14/14

NYSHS Legislative Committee





Mark Your Calendars !

Upcoming events as posted on the NYSHS message board
<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/NYSHS1972/>

February 2010

[Printable View](#)

Add Event - Add Task							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 6	1 [Add] 12p Call for Nomination: NSH Histotech of The Year	2 [Add]	3 [Add]	4 [Add]	5 [Add] 12p Call for NSH Awards Applications	6 [Add]	7 [Add] 12p Call for Nominations for Region 1 Scholarship Award
	8 [Add]	9 [Add]	10 [Add] 12p Save The Date.... 2010 NYSHS Annual Meeting is Coming Soon	11 [Add]	12 [Add] 12p NYSHS Call for Awards Nominations	13 [Add]	14 [Add]
Week 8	15 [Add]	16 [Add]	17 [Add]	18 [Add]	19 [Add]	20 [Add] 12p Save The Date.....2010 Region 1 Annual Symposium Announcement Coming Soon	21 [Add] 12p Call for Nominations for Region 1 Scholarship Award
	22 [Add]	23 [Add]	24 [Add] 1p NSH Teleconference Series:Managing Stress in Times of Change	25 [Add]	26 [Add] 12p NYSHS FINAL CALL for Award Nominations !!	27 [Add]	28 [Add]
Week 10	1 [Add] 12a Deadline for Submission: Onstage Spring Issue 12p Call for Nomination: NSH Histotech of The Year	2 [Add]	3 [Add]	4 [Add]	5 [Add] 12p Call for NSH Awards Applications	6 [Add]	7 [Add]

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March 2010

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Add Event - Add Task							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 10	1 [Add] 12a Deadline for Submission: Onstage Spring Issue 12p Call for Nomination: NSH Histotech of The Year	2 [Add]	3 [Add]	4 [Add]	5 [Add] 12p Call for NSH Awards Applications	6 [Add]	7 [Add]
	8 [Add]	9 [Add]	10 [Add] Histotechnology Day !!!!	11 [Add]	12 [Add]	13 [Add]	14 [Add]
Week 12	15 [Add]	16 [Add]	17 [Add]	18 [Add]	19 [Add]	20 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting	21 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting 12p The Histochemical Society: 61st Annual Meeting
	22 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting 12p The Histochemical Society: 61st Annual Meeting	23 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting 12p The Histochemical Society: 61st Annual Meeting	24 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting 1p NSH Teleconference Series:Getting Started with IHC	25 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting	26 [Add] 12p USCAP 99th Annual Meeting	27 [Add]	28 [Add]
Week 14	29 [Add]	30 [Add]	31 [Add]	1 [Add] 12p Call for Nomination: NSH Histotech of The Year	2 [Add]	3 [Add]	4 [Add]

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Region 1 Histotechnologist News

HISTOLOGYREGION1

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100

days until
NSH Region 1
meeting

Home

To all CSH members: Please make sure to mark your calendars! The Region 1 meeting will be held in Mystic, Connecticut this year at the Mystic Hilton. The dates are April 22, 23 and 24th, 2010. There will be a wide variety of speakers and an exciting array of topics so don't "miss the boat". The Mystic Hilton is located within walking distance of the Mystic Village Shoppes, the Mystic Aquarium and the Mystic Seaport so it should be a fun and exciting conference. Please SAVE THE DATE!!



Nancy Troiano, President
Connecticut Society for
Histotechnologists, Inc.



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Region 1 has introduced their new website please visit:

<http://sites.google.com/site/histologyregion1/>

The website has information about the Region 1 meeting to be held in Mystic, Connecticut in April 2010. A preliminary program is also available. There is a link for Vendors interested in registering for the meeting. We hope to see you there!!

2010 Region 1 Symposium

"A Sea of Opportunities"

April 23-24, 2010
Mystic Hilton
Mystic, Connecticut

Lab Safety
Forensics
"Wax Museum"
Current IHC Topics
Civility in the Workplace
Special Stains
Veterinary Histopathology
Solvent Recycling
Insect Histotechniques
"Leadership Jazz"
Marine Mammal Histology
Tissue Processing Future
and more!



Vendor Hall and People's Choice Photo Contest

Awards presentation including
"2010 Region 1 HistoTech of the Year"

For Symposium and Scholarship info:
www.Connhisto.org
www.NSHRegion1.org

Don't Miss the Boat!

NEW YORK STATE HISTOTECHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP 2010/2011 APPLICATION



PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____
Address: _____

City: _____
State: _____

Zip Code: _____
E-mail: _____
Phone: _____ Home
Phone: _____ Work

Employer: _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Type of Membership: (check one)

- ☐ New
☐ Previous (date previous membership)
☐ Student (College name) _____

Instructor's signature _____

National Information: (check one)

- ☐ Member of the National Society for Histotechnology
☐ Non-Member
☐ Please send me an NSH application

Nature of Work: (check one)

- ☐ Clinical
☐ Research

Education (highest level): _____

- ☐ HT
☐ MT
☐ HTL
☐ Other _____

Referred by member: _____

Registration: (check one) Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30

- ☐ Education Annual Membership Fee (tax deductible): \$20.00
☐ Student Full Time Student Fee: \$7.00

Membership will expire June 30th,

Please send applications & check payable to NYSHS to:

Linda Chen , NYSHS Membership Secretary
256 Lower Rocky Point Rd
Sound Beach, NY 11789

