

Lisa Purdy

I am an Associate Professor in Laboratory Medicine & Pathology, the University of Alberta Director of the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program and a proud 25-plus year member of CSMLS. Education is lifelong for health professionals, and I’m proud to be a part of the foundational knowledge at the beginning of this journey. Within the division of MLS and the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, one of my concerns is student mental wellness and resiliency.

What is your involvement with the CSMLS Research and Special Initiatives Department?

The University of Alberta has been involved with the Simulation & Clinical Placement Initiative since it began in 2016. Recognizing a gap in the academic literature on simulation research in a medical laboratory professional context, the University of Alberta has undertaken a three-year research project to implement simulation initiatives in our program and evaluate the effectiveness of simulation as an enhancement to student assessment and clinical training. This work is supported by a University of Alberta Teaching and Learning Enhancement Grant and Alberta Public Labs.

Why do you value your partnership and project(s) with CSMLS?

As the national organization, CSMLS’s input and perspective on issues facing all medical laboratory professionals is very valuable. I’m honoured to partner with an organization that continues to find innovative and creative ways to advance the clinical laboratory!

How will your project(s) help the medical laboratory profession?

Simulation has been proven to be effective in the assessment of clinical skill development. There is an opportunity to potentially decrease clinical training time if we implement robust, high-fidelity simulations that allow students to develop clinical judgement. The goal is sharing simulation tools across the CSMLS research network to increase capacity of all education programs.