



# NSH

## HISTOTECHNOLOGY CONVENTION

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**  
SEPTEMBER 25-29, 2026

- ★ Four immersive days of expert-led workshops and hands-on histology training
- ★ Discover the hottest emerging specialties shaping the future of histology
- ★ Explore the largest histology-focused Exhibit Hall in the U.S.
- ★ Build lasting professional relationships that support your growth long after the convention ends
- ★ Four ways to attend to meet your budget & schedule

**HISTOCONVENTION.ORG**



**NSH**  
**Booth 809**  
San Antonio, TX

Is your research harming you  
more than you realize?

**XUP™**

In histology, xylene has long been used as a clearing agent, but its toxic nature, strong odor, and long-term health risks are well documented. XUP™ is a next-generation xylene substitute developed to address these concerns while maintaining clarity, tissue transparency, and laboratory workflow compatibility. XUP Mounting Medium extends this protection by significantly reducing xylene exposure during the mounting stage, ensuring a fully aligned xylene-free process from clearing to coverslipping.

**XUP is a next-generation  
xylene substitute  
designed to minimize  
toxic exposure risks in  
histology laboratories.**

**Xylene-Free  
& Low Odor**

Reduces respiratory and skin exposure risks in laboratory environments.

**Reliable Clearing  
Performance**

Delivers excellent tissue transparency for consistent staining and embedding.

**Workflow  
Compatibility**

Seamlessly integrates into manual and automated histology processes.

**Eco-Conscious  
Formulation**

Low VOC profile with safer solvent handling.

**A Safer Laboratory**

**Begins with a Safer Working Environment**

A safer laboratory cannot be achieved by PPE alone. It requires reducing exposure to hazardous chemicals in the environment where professionals work every day.

Visit us at **Booth 809** for more information





**JOIN NSH FOR THE LARGEST  
HISTOLOGY CONVENTION  
OF THE YEAR!**

Immerse yourself in four days packed with the latest advances in research, engaging workshops led by industry experts, and practical histology training in emerging fields. Discover the nation's premier histology Exhibit Hall, where leading vendors showcase state-of-the-art equipment, essential supplies, and innovative services designed to elevate your laboratory. Build lasting connections with fellow histology professionals, gaining a supportive network that will help you grow and succeed long after the convention ends.

## REGISTRATION OPTIONS FOR EVERY BUDGET & SCHEDULE

**FULL CONFERENCE PASS** – Full In-Person Access for 4 Days + On-Demand Streaming

**WEEKEND PASS** – In-person access to all activities on Saturday & Sunday, including the Exhibit Hall

**VIRTUAL PASS** – Live stream workshop, view keynotes and review digital posters from your lab on Monday & Tuesday

**EXHIBITS-ONLY PASS** – Local technologists and pathologists access industry leading exhibits anytime during scheduled exhibit hall hours

## WHEN

Convention Dates: September 25-29, 2026

Exhibit Hall & Poster Gallery: September 26-27, 2026

## WHERE

The 2026 NSH Convention is taking place at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. Refer to pg. 32 for hotel information.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Histology and Cytology Technicians working in Clinical, Veterinary, Research, and Academic laboratories
- Study Directors, Monitors, and Project Managers overseeing laboratory research or clinical trials
- Mohs Technicians and Specialists involved in dermatologic histopathology
- Laboratory Aides and Support Staff Assisting with Study Setups or Laboratory Operations
- Pathologists, Pathology Assistants, and Clinical Consultants
- Professionals Engaged in Tissue Sample Collection, Processing, Evaluation, or Histotechnological Innovation
- Laboratory Supervisors, Managers, and Quality Assurance Specialists
- Equipment and Reagent Suppliers, Industry Representatives, and Vendors specializing in histology products
- Scientists, Investigators, and Biomedical Researchers
- Educators and Trainers in Histology, Cytology, or Laboratory Sciences
- Students and Trainees Pursuing Careers in Histology, Pathology, or Laboratory Medicine
- Anyone interested in advancements, best practices, or trends in histotechnology
- Sample Management Technicians and Biorepository Personnel

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**VISIT US  
ONLINE @  
HISTOCONVENTION.ORG**

# SCHEDULE @ A GLANCE

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

8:00 am – 6:00 pm Registration Open

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm First Timer's Reception

## SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 9:30 am Keynote & Attendee Breakfast

9:45 am – 12:00 pm Biological Stain Commission  
Annual Meeting

10:00 am – 11:00 am Workshops & Learning Labs

11:00 am – 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall & Scientific Posters  
Open for Attendees

11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm Express Talks

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Welcome Happy Hour

## SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 9:30 am Keynote & Attendee Breakfast

9:45 am – 10:45 am Workshops & Learning Labs

11:00 am – 4:30 pm Exhibit Hall & Scientific Posters  
Open for Attendees

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm Express Talks

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm Express Talks

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm Snack, Sip & Win!  
(in Exhibit Hall)

## MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 9:30 am Keynote & Attendee Breakfast

9:30 am – 3:30 pm Virtual Program

10:00 am – 11:00 am Workshops & Learning Labs

11:15 am – 11:30 am Express Talks

11:30 am – 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2026

7:30 am – 4:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 9:00 am Keynote & Attendee Breakfast

9:15 am – 10:15 am Workshops & Learning Labs

10:45 am – 11:45 am Workshops & Learning Labs

11:45 am – 1:15 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Workshops & Learning Labs

All times subject to change. All times are local. To view the schedule for the virtual program, see page 26.



# REGISTRATION FORM

## STEP 1: REGISTRANT CONTACT INFORMATION

REGBR026

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Credentials (HT, MD, Phd etc) \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required for registration): \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 2: GUEST CONTACT INFORMATION

☐ I don't plan to bring a guest
 ☐ I would like to bring a guest (\$129.00)

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 3: CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS (THIS INFORMATION DETERMINES CONVENTION PRICING)

- |                                                                         |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Member, my dues are paid               | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member, I would like to join today: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Member, I would like to renew for 2027 | <input type="checkbox"/> Core Membership (\$80)                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renew at Core Membership (\$80)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced Education Membership (\$139)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renew at Enhanced Education Membership (\$139) | <input type="checkbox"/> No thanks, I am not a member.           |

## STEP 4: ATTENDEE DEMOGRAPHICS

**Position Description** – select the one that best describes your current position.

- |                                                 |                                              |                                     |                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator               | <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Manager         | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor | <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pathologist            | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired             | <input type="checkbox"/> Student    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Technical Rep | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathology Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Trainee    |                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technician/Scientist   |                                              |                                     |                                        |

**Practice Area** – select the one that best describes your current position.

- |                                                         |                                            |                                            |                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract Research Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals         | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Vendor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmaceutical Co. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private Lab                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Government Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Reference Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Research           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Research Facility     | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary        |                                            |                                             |

### First Time Attending the Convention?

- ☐ Yes & I plan to attend the First Time Attendee Reception on Friday, 9/25/26 (ticket required)
- ☐ Yes & I WILL NOT attend the First Time Attendee Reception on Friday, 9/25/26 (ticket required)
- ☐ No, I am a return attendee

Source Code: REGBR026

**STEP 5: PRIMARY REGISTRATION TYPE**

NSH Histotechnology Convention (see page 34 for rates)

- ☐ NSH Full Conference Pass    ☐ NSH Weekend Pass  
☐ NSH Virtual Pass    ☐ NSH Exhibit Hall-Only Pass

BSC Annual Meeting (see page 8 for details)

- ☐ BSC Annual Meeting  
☐ BSC Annual Meeting Pass + NSH Weekend Pass

**STEP 6: EDUCATION ADD ON'S (LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE, SOLD ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVE BASIS)****LEARNING LABS**

(see descriptions starting on page 13)

- ☐ LL-01 (\$125)   ☐ LL-02 (\$100)   ☐ LL-03 (\$100)   ☐ LL-04 (\$100)   ☐ LL-05 (\$75)  
☐ LL-06 (\$75)   ☐ LL-07 (\$125)   ☐ LL-08 (\$75)   ☐ LL-9 (\$50)   ☐ LL-10 (\$75)  
☐ LL-11 (\$75)   ☐ LL-12 (\$75)   ☐ LL-13 (\$75)   ☐ LL-14 (\$100)   ☐ LL-15 (\$75)  
☐ LL-16 (\$50)

**NSH COLLABORATES  
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS  
(SEE PAGE 25)**

- ☐ Research Core Laboratory    ☐ Resin & Bone    ☐ Mohs  
☐ Spatial Omics    ☐ Contract Research Organization

**STEP 7: PAYMENT INFORMATION**

(Please note that funds must be in US Dollars on a US Bank) \*Returned checks will incur a \$25.00 charge

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| GUEST                | \$        |
| MEMBERSHIP           | \$        |
| PRIMARY REGISTRATION | \$        |
| EDUCATION ADD ONS    | \$        |
| <b>TOTAL DUE:</b>    | <b>\$</b> |

- ☐ Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Purchase order (copy of executed purchase order included)  
☐ Charge my credit card \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Visa, Mastercard, AmEx, Discover)

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

CC #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date. \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address For Card: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**NSH Tax ID#: 52-1111284****STEP 8: SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION**

Please note that submitting your registration binds you to all NSH registration policies found in the NSH Convention Registration Brochure and listed on the NSH Convention website, [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).

**Email:** [histo@nsh.org](mailto:histo@nsh.org)

**Via Mail:** National Society for Histotechnology, PO Box 715914, Philadelphia, PA 19171-5914

# TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

## YOUR TICKET TO SAN ANTONIO AWAITS!



Dreaming of attending the NSH Annual Convention but worried about the costs? NSH is here to make it happen! Whether you want to soak up knowledge, connect with top histology professionals, or showcase your groundbreaking research, our travel scholarships are your golden opportunity to shine in sunny San Antonio, Texas.

If awarded either scholarship you will receive:

- \$750 to cover travel expenses, including airfare, hotel, and food.
- A complimentary full conference pass to the 2026 NSH Annual Histology Convention in San Antonio, TX.

*Scan to access the scholarship application forms*

### TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

Take your career to new heights with the Travel Scholarship! This scholarship is designed to give histology professionals the chance to advance their education and knowledge by attending the NSH Convention — without worrying about travel costs.



#### What You Need to Apply:

- Be a current NSH member.
- Provide a letter of intent supporting your financial need and why this is important to you.
- Submit a letter from your Department Chair or Supervisor explaining why you should attend the convention.
- Share your CV/Resume.

Apply here: <https://forms.gle/gfAyQB6AcHRwWx979>

### POSTER TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

Ready to share your research with the world? The Poster Travel Scholarship is for histology professionals eager to present their scientific poster at the NSH Annual Convention. We'll help cover your costs so you can focus on showcasing your work and making an impact!



#### What You Need to Apply:

- Be a current NSH member.
- Submit a letter of intent explaining why attending the convention is essential to you and outlining your poster topic.
- Complete the poster presentation submission form for the NSH Convention.
- Share your CV/Resume.

Apply here: <https://forms.gle/9C2h46wDcDdXaUH96>

**Application Deadline: July 1, 2026**



**CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIPS POWERED BY YOU!**



Thanks to the incredible support from ticket purchases at the 2025 NSH Histology Convention and the enthusiasm behind our Histology t-shirts, NSH is proud to sponsor these scholarships and invest in the future of our profession!

# EMPLOYER SUPPORT TO ATTEND THE 2026 NSH CONVENTION



Scan the code to access a Word  
version of the template

In a perfect world, your boss will jump at the chance to send you to the preeminent histotechnology convention of the year. But if you need some support to justify your registration, please consider the following email template (and adjust the elements that apply to you ).

## SAMPLE EMPLOYER SUPPORT LETTER/EMAIL

### Subject: NSH Convention Attendance Proposal

Dear [Supervisor],

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to propose my attendance at the upcoming NSH Histotechnology Convention, scheduled to take place September 25th-29th in San Antonio, TX. This convention is the premier educational and technology event in our industry, and I believe my participation will bring significant value to both my professional development and our company's goals.

### CONFERENCE DETAILS:

- 2026 NSH Histotechnology Convention
- September 25-29, 2026
- Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX
- Agenda Highlights: 100+ educational workshops; keynote presentations by industry leaders; the largest histology exhibit hall in the world
- Attending this convention will provide me with valuable learning opportunities to address challenges and explore innovations relevant to [specific lab focus, e.g., ***"streamlining workflows,"*** or ***"implementing new techniques"*** etc]. Sessions such as [list examples of workshops or topics from the agenda] are tailored to advance both my individual expertise and our organizational outcomes.

By attending, I will:

- Gain new insights and tools to improve [specific processes, skills, or areas of expertise]
- Engage with industry leaders and peers to exchange knowledge, best practices, and ideas.
- Learn about emerging trends and technologies that can help us [specific benefit, e.g., ***"reduce costs,"*** ***"improve efficiency,"*** or ***"enhance service quality"***].

I have reviewed the costs associated with attending, and I believe the investment is justified by the long-term benefits. Additionally, I have identified cost-saving opportunities, such as early registration discounts and reduced rates by joining NSH as a member. A detailed budget is attached for your review.

To ensure the value of this opportunity extends to our entire team, I could lead a post-conference session where I will share key takeaways, resources, and actionable insights. If there are specific topics you believe would benefit our team, I'd be happy to prioritize attending those workshops.

Attending the 2026 NSH Convention would be a strategic investment in both my professional development and our company's growth. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to represent our team at this prestigious event and bring back valuable insights that will contribute to our collective success. If needed, I am available to discuss this further at your convenience.

Thank you for considering this opportunity.

Sincerely,

[Your Full Name]

# YOUR PARTNER IN HISTOTECHNOLOGY - *AND YOUR HISTOLOGY CREW*

## Empowering Histotechnologists Every Step of the Way

Since 1973, NSH has been powered by members who bring passion, curiosity, and a love for all things histology. Not everyone understands the satisfaction of a crisp microtomy ribbon or the excitement of trying a new staining technique... but your crew does. NSH is your circle of slide-loving, detail-obsessed professionals who speak your language.

Being part of NSH means connecting with people who understand your work, celebrate your wins, and share your drive to keep learning and growing together.

### Membership Benefits Include:

- **Save up to \$280 on NSH 2026 Convention**
- Complimentary subscription to the Journal of Histotechnology
- Year-round access to troubleshooting guides, protocols, and competency tools
- Real world support through NSH's online community, The Block
- **Free, histology focused continuing education** — on demand, on your schedule
- Career development resources and scholarship opportunities



NSH is here to support you with education, resources, and a network of professionals who understand your work in a way only fellow histology colleagues can. Staying connected means being part of a squad that grows together and supports one another through all the challenges and opportunities in our field.

### Membership Rates:

**Student: \$40/year**

**Core: \$80/year**

**Enhanced: \$139/year**

Join NSH during registration to unlock convention savings and stay connected to a community that understands your work and supports your success.

\*Student membership requires a current higher-education transcript.



# BIOLOGICAL STAIN COMMISSION 45TH ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday, September 26 - 8:00am – 12pm**

NSH is proud to partner with the Biological Stain Commission (BSC) to host the BSC Annual Meeting as in conjunction with the NSH Convention. This collaboration brings together shared expertise and a mutual commitment to quality, standards, and innovation in histotechnology—creating added value and educational opportunity for attendees of both organizations.

The meeting agenda features morning lectures that delve into the essential function of special stains in histotechnology. In the optional afternoon session, participants can join a hands-on learning lab where histology scientists will learn practical techniques for manually performing several special stains.



To Learn More About the  
Biological Stain Commission visit  
[biologicalstaincommission.org](https://biologicalstaincommission.org)

| TIME           | TITLE                                                                                        |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am        | NSH Convention Keynote, Sponsored by BSC (breakfast served)                                  |
| 9:45 am        | Welcome to the BSC                                                                           |
| 9:50 am        | A Century of Certainty: Navigating the Complexities of BSC Stain Certification for histology |
| 10:15 am       | Special Stains and ASCP Preparation                                                          |
| 11:15 am       | A Stain in the Life: Real World Examples                                                     |
| 11:45 am       | BSC Business Meeting (Members Only)                                                          |
| 12:00 pm       | Lunch                                                                                        |
| 12:30 pm       | Visit NSH Exhibit Hall & Scientific Digital Poster Gallery                                   |
| 1:00 - 5:00 pm | Optional Learning Lab: Learning H&E Plus 6 Special Stain Procedures                          |

## Registration Fees: BSC Annual Meeting Pass: \$75

**The BSC Annual Meeting Pass includes** a welcome packet at check-in, Saturday continental breakfast, Saturday Keynote sponsored by the BSC, admittance to the BSC Annual Meeting morning workshops, the NSH exhibit hall, and digital poster sessions. BSC Pass Attendees receive 4 CEUs.

## Two Ways to Upgrade Your Registration

### BSC Annual Meeting + the Learning Lab: \$175

This pass includes the same access as the BSC Annual Meeting Pass PLUS attendance at the afternoon hands on Learning Lab: H&E Plus 6 Special Stain Procedures sponsored by the BSC.

### BSC Annual Meeting + NSH Convention Weekend Pass: \$354

This upgraded experience includes a welcome packet at check-in, continental breakfast, admittance to the BSC Annual Meeting morning workshops, 2 keynotes, the welcome reception, exhibit hall, digital poster sessions, and the event's mobile app on Saturday & Sunday.

## MORNING SESSIONS

### **A Century of Certainty: Navigating the Complexities of BSC Stain Certification for Histology**

*Presented by Chad Fagan, MS, Biological Stain Commission*

For over a century, the Biological Stain Commission (BSC) has served as the gold standard for certifying histological stains. Join us for an in-depth exploration of the rigorous certification process and discover how our laboratory's stringent testing protocols directly improve your diagnostic reliability. We will pull back the curtain on how the BSC Assay Laboratory utilizes human quality control tissues to validate performance and ensure your vendors maintain a fully traceable management chain for every certified stain you purchase. This session will go beyond theory to address the real-world technical hurdles laboratories face, providing a unique look at the "how" and "why" of stain failure.

### **Special Stains for the ASCP Exam: What They Show and Why They Matter**

*Presented by Carol Bain, DVM, HTL(ASCP)CM, Indiana University Medical Center*

Special stains account for approximately 30–40% of the ASCP Histotechnologist certification exam, making them a critical area for focused review. The ASCP content guideline lists 33 special stains; in this one-hour session, a representative subset will be covered and organized by diagnostic purpose rather than memorization. Stains will be grouped by what they are designed to demonstrate, including connective tissue, carbohydrates, minerals, pigments, nerve tissue, and microorganisms. Immunohistochemistry, enzyme histochemistry, and H&E will not be discussed.

Participants will identify the primary diagnostic purpose of commonly tested special stains, including the tissue components they demonstrate and the clinical questions they help answer. Key stains will be matched to their target structures and expected staining results using cues such as characteristic color reactions, appropriate positive controls, and classic associations. Exam-relevant reasoning strategies will be emphasized to help distinguish look-alike stains and avoid common pitfalls related to fixation, controls, and expected colors.

### **A Stain in the Life – Real World Examples**

*Presented by Brian Finkelman, MD, PhD and Bradley Turner, MD, MPH, MHA, University of Rochester Medical Center*

Through a real-world case-based discussion, this lecture

will introduce participants to commonly used special stains, focusing on how these stains are used by pathologists for diagnosis, what they look like under the microscope in different tissues, and how these diagnoses can affect patient care. Through these cases, participants will learn about the diagnostic process, seeing how pathologists use an H&E slide to form a differential diagnosis and can use a special stain to narrow a differential to arrive at a specific diagnosis. Participants will also learn how these diagnoses are used by clinicians and patients to understand their disease, determine their prognosis, and help guide clinical management. Examples will focus on special stains that are commonly used in clinical practice, with an emphasis on stains that are also being covered in the afternoon wet lab to provide a synergistic learning experience.

## AFTERNOON LEARNING LAB

Apply the insights gained from the morning sessions during an interactive, practical experience in the afternoon. Participants who attended the morning sessions may add the learning lab at the time of registration. **CEU: 4 hours**  
**Cost: \$100**

### **Learning Lab: Learning H&E Plus 6 Special Stain Procedures**

*Presented by Sheila Criswell, PhD, HTL(ASCP)CM, University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center*

This fast-paced learning lab is designed to teach histology scientists the way to perform several special stains by hand. Many histology laboratories outsource their special stains or use instrumentation which, although effective, is detrimental to scientists wishing to understand the theory and, more importantly, how to troubleshoot when things go wrong. This laboratory session is open to anyone wishing to expand their special stains knowledge and may be of particular benefit for those people interested in taking the HT or HTL examinations, those who are new to the histology lab, or those whose laboratories use automated staining instruments exclusively. Stains to be performed by the attendees include hematoxylin and eosin, Verhoeff van Gieson elastic stain, trichrome stain for fibrosis, von Kossa stain for calcium, Wright stain for mast cells and eosinophils, rhodanine stain for copper, and Prussian blue stain for iron. One control slide will be provided for each attendee per stain. However, attendees are welcome to bring their own slides (maximum 2 per stain for a total of 14) if they prefer.

# KEYNOTE LECTURES

The Keynote Lecture Series at the 2026 NSH Convention brings together the histology community for inspiring, high-impact sessions that highlight fresh perspectives, and emerging innovations shaping the field. Designed to energize and unite attendees, these featured presentations offer a broader view of the science and industry while setting the tone for the entire convention experience. Held across multiple days, the keynote lectures also feature breakfast and networking opportunities. Join us each morning to learn, connect and be inspired.



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026**

## Histopathology of Live Tissues for Surgical Guidance

***Presented by Dr. Michael Giacomelli***

Advances in optical imaging increasingly allow rapid and 3D molecular imaging of whole, live tissues, providing more rapid histology than using conventional methods. I present an overview of recent technical developments and results from a clinical trial of 133 skin cancer surgeries using two-photon microscopy to evaluate margins. I show that 3D imaging of the fresh tissues can provide faster and significantly more accurate evaluation of tumor margins than freezing and sectioning into slides.



**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2026**

## Build Your Leadership Toolkit: Five Essential Attributes for Outstanding Leaders

***Presented by Ritu Ward, FACHE, MAOM, MT(ASCP)***

You are busy building and growing your laboratory, but are you doing the same with your career? In this session you will build a practical toolkit for navigating today's fast-paced, complex work environment by focusing on five essential leadership attributes—self-awareness, adaptability, vision, accountability, and empathy. Participants will learn actionable strategies to enhance their effectiveness, inspire trust, and drive sustainable performance.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026**

## Intelligent Histology - The Future of Predictive, Explainable, and Multimodal Computational Pathology

***Presented by Dr. Quincy Gu***

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming pathology and histotechnology practice, redefining how tissue is processed, analyzed, and translated into clinical insight. In this keynote, Dr. Quincy Gu will present a forward-looking perspective on the evolution of computational pathology, highlighting how advances in whole slide imaging, multimodal data integration, and explainable AI are shaping modern histology workflows.

Drawing on his works across industry and academia, Dr. Gu will showcase innovations including virtual staining, interpretable quantitative cellular feature-based models, anomaly detection for tissue analysis, and AI-driven automation frameworks for histopathology imaging. The session will emphasize how these technologies could be practically integrated into laboratory workflows to enhance efficiency, reproducibility, and diagnostic precision.

This keynote will conclude with a vision for 2030, where human expertise and AI systems work collaboratively within a connected, multimodal ecosystem, enabling more predictive, scalable, and personalized pathology. Attendees will gain actionable insights into how histotechnologists and pathologists could engage with and lead this transformation in the era of intelligent histology.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2026**

## Professional Advocacy Update

***Featuring NSH CEO, Aubrey Wanner and members of the NSH Public Policy Task Force***

Stay informed and empowered in a rapidly evolving laboratory landscape. This keynote will deliver timely updates on professional advocacy efforts impacting the histology laboratory across clinical, research, and industry settings. Attendees will gain insight into regulatory developments, workforce challenges, and emerging priorities shaping the future of the profession. Learn how national initiatives and policy changes translate to day-to-day practice—and how you can play a role in advancing the voice of histotechnology. Leave with a clearer understanding of where the field is headed and how to stay engaged and influential.

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

At the 2026 NSH Histology Convention, you'll find engaging education in a variety of formats—thoughtfully designed for every career level and area of practice. Whether you're just starting out or bringing years of experience, you'll discover sessions that meet you where you are.

# HISTOLOGY FOUNDATIONS: TECHNIQUES, STAINING SCIENCE, CONCEPTS

## (INCLUDING HARD TISSUES AND FROZEN SECTIONS)

These courses emphasize technical excellence, performance, and troubleshooting across the histology laboratory. This includes essential histology practices across routine, complex, and intraoperative workflows.

## WORKSHOPS

- Eyes in Focus: Histopathology Across Species
- Resin Embedding Methods For Light Microscopy Histology
- Hi Ho Silver Stains!
- Bone Histomorphometry in Orthopedic Research
- Histology in Medical Device R&D
- The Power of Alcohol
- When Things Go Wrong: Horror Stories in the Histology Lab
- Cry No More for Cryosectioning: Practical Solutions for Frozen Sectioning on Challenging Tissues
- The Other Side of the Slide: From Discovery to Diagnosis
- Breaking the Acid Habit: Smarter Bone Decalcification with EDTA
- Crash Course in Histology – Foundational Tissues: bone, cartilage, collagen, smooth muscle, kidney, skin, fat, lung
- By the Numbers – Laboratory Math
- The Stain Game: Special Stains

- Gynecologic Cytology – Thinpreps, What The Cytologist Sees Under The Microscope
- Code of Ethics in Histotechnology
- Crash Course in Histology – Those pesky look-alikes: small intestine, stomach, salivary gland, pancreas, breast, liver, thyroid
- A Chromatic Portrait of Collagen by Picrosirius Red- “Where Structure Becomes Color”
- Remembering the H&E
- Crash Course in Histology – Nervous, reproductive, and immunological structures: ovary, testes, fallopian tube, spleen, lymph node, brain/central nervous system, and peripheral nerves
- The Importance Of Fixation: Visualizing The Impact Of Improper Fixation
- From Produce Aisle Staples to Laboratory Heroes: Humble Crudités Vanquish Decalcification End-Point Testing Bogeyman in Epic Training Exercise.
- Before the Microscope: Winning the Diagnostic Race in the Pre-Analytical Leg
- The Importance Of The Histology Laboratory In The Diagnosis And Prognosis Of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)
- Optimized Protocols for Fixation, Trimming, Processing, and Sectioning of Non-Clinical Ocular Samples
- From Sections to Striations: The Core Skills of Muscle Histology

## EXPRESS TALKS:

- An Introduction to the Histology Of Bioengineered Tissues: Patient Cell Repopulation of an Acellular Tissue Engineered Vessel (ATEV)
- Optimizing the Gram Stain; the Positive and the Negative
- Ready, Set, Cut! Tips & Tricks to Sectioning Decalcified blocks and how to get 'em to Stick Around
- Comparison and Assessment of Aloe Vera Gel as a Plant-Based, Natural Fixative for Insect Tissues

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

## LEARNING LABS

### LL002 - Smarten Up on Brain Sectioning for Research: Special Techniques for Cutting Paraffin & Frozen Brain Specimens

**Napoleon Law**

**Saturday, Sep 26 • 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**Cost: \$100 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

Brain: Are you pondering what I am pondering? As pinky and the brain and trying to conquer the world every day, we human are trying to find ways to conquer the blood-brain barrier for drug delivery in treating brain diseases. As neuroscience research accelerates and novel drug delivery approaches such as nanoparticles, liposomes, and ultrasound-based methods are developed to cross the blood-brain barrier, the need for high-quality brain sections for histologic evaluation continues to grow. Yet the brain's delicate structure and high lipid content make both paraffin and frozen sectioning uniquely difficult. This hands-on learning lab session is designed to give histotechnologists the knowledge, technical adjustments, and practical experience needed to confidently produce high-quality brain sections. Participants will begin with a focused lecture covering specialized fixation, grossing, and processing considerations for brain tissue, followed by a comparison of preparation methods for both FFPE and frozen specimens. We will then explore key microtome and cryostat setup modifications that improve ribboning, reduce compression, and minimize common artifacts such as wrinkling, folding, and chatter. Building on this foundation, attendees will learn how to adapt sectioning techniques to meet research-specific needs, including thicker free-floating sections used in immunofluorescence workflows. The session transitions into guided hands-on practice, where participants will apply these techniques by cutting and mounting thin paraffin brain sections, producing high-quality frozen sections at multiple thicknesses, and preparing free-floating cryostat sections for staining applications. By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to describe best

practices for brain tissue preparation, adjust equipment settings for both paraffin and frozen brain sectioning, troubleshoot common brain-specific artifacts, and perform specialized sectioning approaches used in modern neuroscience research—leaving them better prepared to tackle complex brain specimens with skill and confidence. So next time when pinky is asking our histotech what are we doing tonight, we will answer by saying that we are ready to conquer the challenges in the brain research world!



*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

## LL003 - Learning H&E Plus 6 Special Stains Procedures, Sponsored by the BSC

**Sheila Criswell**

**Saturday, Sep 26 • 1:00 PM-5:00 PM**

**Cost: \$100 • CE Credits: 4**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

This fast-paced wet lab experience is designed to teach histology scientists the way to perform several special stains by hand. Many histology laboratories outsource their special stains or use instrumentation which, although effective, is detrimental to scientists wishing to understand the theory and, more importantly, how to troubleshoot when things go wrong. This laboratory session is open to anyone wishing to expand their special stains knowledge and may be of particular benefit for those persons interested in taking the HT or HTL examination, those who are new to the histology lab, or those whose laboratories use automated staining instruments exclusively. Stains to be performed by the attendees include hematoxylin and eosin, Verhoeff van Gieson elastic stain, trichrome stain for collagen, von Kossa stain for calcium, Wright stain for *Helicobacter pylori*, mast cells, and eosinophils, rhodanine stain for copper, and Prussian blue stain for iron. One control slide will be provided for each attendee per stain. However, attendees are welcome to bring their own slides (maximum of 2 per stain for a total of 14) if they prefer. Sponsored by the Biological Stain Commission.



## LL006 - Mad for Mucin: The Art of Mucin Staining

**Nicole Leon • Paule Alphonse**

**Sunday, Sep 27 • 9:45 AM-12:45 PM**

**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

Join us for an engaging, fun, hands-on staining session where we'll explore the world of mucin stains. It's time to learn about the beauty and advantages of Alcian Blue 2.5 and Mucicarmine stains. We will also discuss the different variations of Alcian Blue stains.

## LL014 - Everyday Specimens, Critical Decisions: Grossing Basics and Collaborative Decision-Making in Pathology

**Roseann Vitale**

**Monday, Sep 28 • 1:00 PM-5:00 PM**

**Cost: \$100 • CE Credits: 4**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

This workshop introduces foundational principles of gross examination for histotechnologists, emphasizing patient safety, scope awareness, and collaborative decision-making within the pathology workflow. The session is structured into three focused didactic segments, each immediately followed by a corresponding hands-on laboratory exercise to reinforce practical application. The first segment reviews core specimen handling principles, including identification, orientation, measurement, documentation, and safe instrument use. Foundational concepts will be applied to common gastrointestinal biopsy specimen types, with emphasis on tissue submission techniques and accurate handling. Participants will then engage in guided hands-on exercises to practice these skills in a structured laboratory setting. The second segment focuses on gross examination of the appendix, highlighting anatomic landmarks, measurement, appropriate planes of sectioning, and routine submission practices. The associated hands-on session will allow

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

participants to apply these principles while reinforcing safe technique and structured evaluation. The third segment addresses gross examination of the gallbladder, including orientation, measurement, and common pathologic findings encountered in routine practice. During the accompanying laboratory session, participants will practice systematic evaluation and documentation strategies. Throughout all components, recognition of pertinent findings and scenarios that require collaboration or escalation to a pathologists' assistant or pathologist will be integrated into case-based discussion and hands-on scenarios. Participants will practice identifying when to proceed within scope and when to pause and engage the pathology care team, supporting safe specimen handling and effective interprofessional communication in everyday laboratory settings.

## LL015 - Learn How To Troubleshoot: A Step By Step Guide

**Ada Feldman • Jamie Pert**

**Tuesday, Sep 29 • 9:15 AM-12:15 PM**

**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

Pre-analytics is a term used to describe all steps performed on a specimen from the moment tissue is removed from the patient until the slide is microscopically examined. Each step, such as fixation, processing, embedding, sectioning, staining, cover slipping, and labeling, plays a vital role in ensuring diagnostic quality. Any error in one of the pre-analytical steps can affect the quality of the final slide and, consequently, the accuracy of diagnosis. Considering each step has its own variables (e.g., time, temperature, volume, solvent quality) finding the error(s) can be challenging. This learning lab will guide participants through the troubleshooting thought process to help identify which step(s) may have been compromised. After discussion of the flowchart, the learning lab will show images of stained slides with artifacts along with the processing/staining procedures that produced the slide. Participants will work as groups to apply the troubleshooting flowchart to identify the source of the artifacts. Faculty invite participants to

submit JPEG images of problematic slides in advance for inclusion in the workshop. Please contact the NSH office for submission instructions.



# MULTIOMICS, ASSAYS, & MOLECULAR APPLICATIONS

This track integrates histology with next-generation diagnostics and precision medicine. This track highlights emerging technologies and biomarker-driven diagnostics that expand the role of histotechnology in modern pathology and patient care.

## WORKSHOPS

- The Science of Antibodies
- Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe, Which Antibody Should Go? – Deciding of the Most Optimal Marker for Particular Species
- Go Beyond Simple IHC Visualization- Study Protein Function With A Novel Spatial Proximity Assay On FFPE Tissues.
- MiRNAscope ISH Assay For The Detection Of Unlabeled Therapeutic Antisense Oligonucleotide's In Rat And Rabbit Whole Embryo Culture.

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

- Fitting a Round Peg in a Square Hole: The Art of Sectioning for Spatial Transcriptomics
- Molecular Quality Control for Histology Professionals
- The Stain Game: The IHC Assay Edition
- Diagnosing Breast Cancer Today and Tomorrow: 3 Perspectives
- ISH vs. IHC vs. Molecular Assays: When Morphology Meets Molecules
- EDTA Decalcification: Preserving Molecular Integrity While Optimizing Histology Workflow
- Spatial Biology: The Critical Role Of Holistic Histology In The Spatial Omics Era
- Guide to Starting Your Own Histology-Molecular Laboratory
- Translating Spatial RNA Biomarkers into Point-of-Care Lateral Flow Assays
- Vial Trick: The Collaborative Journey to Publication
- Integrating 3D Organoids into Molecular Histotechnology Using Whole-mount and Section Techniques
- Who's Who in the Zoo, Enabling Technologies, and What They Do
- Two Lenses, One Diagnosis: Why Both Flow Cytometry And Immunohistochemistry Matter
- When RNA ISH Beats IHC: High-Performance RNA Detection in Routine Anatomic Pathology

## EXPRESS TALKS

- Streamlining Multiplex IHC, IF, and TSA Workflows with VectaPlex™
- Practical Optimization of Combined Special Stains and Immunohistochemistry
- Practical Optimization of Sequential Multiplex Immunohistochemistry
- Barcodes, Libraries, Reads - An Introduction to Basic Molecular Pathology Terminology



## LEARNING LABS

### LL004 - Empowering Histotechnology Professionals to Drive Spatial Omics Success

**Yongfu Wang • Colleen Forster •**

**Gabriela De la Cruz**

**Saturday, Sep 26 • 1:00 PM-4:30 PM**

**Cost: \$100 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

Histology is not limited to cutting and staining. As spatial omics platforms become increasingly integrated into research and translational workflows, histotechnologists are being asked to support sophisticated, high-cost molecular assays. Yet the success of spatial transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, and lipidomics fundamentally depends on the quality of tissue preparation and handling. This three-hour Learning Lab bridges morphology and molecular science. Participants will gain a clear understanding of the molecular targets underlying spatial

***Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).***

assays, the scientific principles of different technology platforms, and the critical impact of FF tissue handling and QC decisions on assay success. Through expert mini-lectures, interactive case studies, and hands-on scenario discussions, attendees will learn how to apply advanced histotechnology skills to overcome practical challenges such as multiple tissue embedding, various tissue size, region-of-interest selection, post-mounting constraints, and preservation of molecular integrity. The session culminates in collaborative troubleshooting and dialogue between histotechnologists and spatial technology providers, reinforcing the message that histotechnology is not peripheral to spatial omics — it is foundational. By the end of the Learning Lab, participants will leave equipped with practical strategies, increased confidence, and a collaborative framework to support high-quality spatial assay implementation in their own laboratories.

## **LL010 - Spatial Omics Sectioning Lab: Cutting-Edge Skills for Spatial Success**

**Gabriela De la Cruz**

**Sunday, Sep 27 • 1:00 PM-4:00 PM**

**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

Step into our spatial corner for a hands-on Learning Lab focused on spatially slicing FFPE tissues with confidence. This session is built for histology professionals who want practical, hands-on training to produce high-quality FFPE sections for spatial workflows while protecting RNA integrity, preserving tissue morphology, and landing the right region of interest (ROI) exactly where it needs to be: inside the capture area. We'll kick off with a fast, focused overview that follows the "life of a spatial section" from the first cut through slide preparation for storage and transport. Along the way, we will highlight the small deviations that quietly derail spatial results such as tissue loss, preventable artifacts, and avoidable threats to molecular quality while we build a workflow that holds up under real lab conditions. Next, we'll set the foundation: RNA-safe habits that start before the blade ever touches tissue. Participants will learn

how to establish RNase-aware practices from microtomy station set-up through sectioning and slide preparation. We'll cover contamination controls appropriate for molecular work, including sterile water, molecular-grade reagents/consumables, clean techniques, and the time/temperature precisions that matter most during cutting, handling, drying/baking, and downstream storage or transport. Then comes the "ROI detective work." Using an H&E slide, image of any stain, or other infographic as your guide, you will practice using the most relevant ROI to align tissue onto the assay capture area. This is especially useful when tissue is oversized or when specific features must be prioritized. We'll focus on practical strategies to document orientation cues and tissue landmarks so the ROI can be reliably located during subsequent sectioning. Finally, we will translate planning into precision. You will learn section preparation and transfer techniques for all sizes of tissues so that morphology is preserved all while fitting the capture area and with minimal artifacts. This includes when and how to trim excess tissue and paraffin before water bath floatation, how to manage section orientation, and how to position the ROI within the capture area with confidence. We'll also troubleshoot the "usual suspects" such as folds,



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compression, tears, and tissue loss with prevention tips and real corrective actions. This is a hands-on learning lab. A significant portion of the session is dedicated to guided practice and instructor-supported troubleshooting, giving participants time to apply each objective, compare approaches, ask questions, and leave with techniques they can implement immediately in their own labs.

# LABORATORY MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

This track focuses on providing knowledge and skills to build and maintain compliant, efficient, and safe laboratory environments. This track addresses operational excellence, regulatory readiness, and workplace safety.

## WORKSHOPS

- When Histology Isn't the Problem: Managing Specimen Handoffs, Communication, and Workflow Interfaces
- Training And Competency In The Histology Laboratory
- From Frustration to Fluency: A Prompt Engineering Workshop for Histology Professionals Using Generative AI
- Regulatory Readiness in the Histology Lab: Building Confidence, Competency, and Quality
- Fixing More Than Tissue: Retaining Talent in the Histology Lab
- Lean, Mean, Histology Machine: Building a High-Performance Lab
- Developing A Quality Management System In The Histology Laboratory
- That Tracks: Do You? End-to-End Specimen Tracking in Histology Administration
- Designed to be Inspection-Ready: Leadership Strategies for Sustainable Laboratory Preparedness and Compliance
- Active Shooter/ Emergency Situations in The Lab
- The Huddle Board: Introducing and Maintaining Lean in the Histology Laboratory
- Troubleshooting the Impossible Slide: A Systematic Approach to Histology Problem Solving
- How to Handle a CAPA (Corrective Action and Preventive Action)
- Routine or Risky? Rethinking Safety in the Histology Lab
- Reinforce User-End Maintenance Procedures and Environmental Concerns on Common Histology Equipment to Improve Instrument Reliability.
- Tissue Management Guidelines and Best Practices to Protect Specimens Across the Histology Workflow
- Microtomy; Basic Theory And Troubleshooting Microtomy

## EXPRESS TALKS:

- The Errors That Don't Trigger an Incident Report: Hidden Quality Risks in Histology
- Transforming the Histology Workflow: Achieving the "Triple Win" of Quality, Efficiency, and Economics
- Guiding Excellence: Histology Consulting For Modern Laboratory Demands
- Stretching The Budget Without Breaking The Lab: Practical Cost-Saving Strategies in Histology Operations
- Make Me
- Kaboom on the water bath: A trouble shooting guide
- SBAR for Workflow Wins: A Practical Guide For Lab Leaders

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*



workshop introduces participants to the development of a simple digital block and slide check-out/check-in system using Microsoft Power Apps and SharePoint lists. Through a guided build-along format, histotechnologists and laboratory professionals will learn how to structure SharePoint lists to capture key tracking data and connect them to a Power Apps canvas application that supports real-time visibility, check-out and return workflows, and filtered views for laboratory staff and pathologists. The session addresses common challenges encountered when digitizing laboratory workflows, including handling choice and lookup fields and designing intuitive user interfaces for busy laboratory settings. By the end of the workshop, participants will have a functional prototype application and a framework they can adapt to their own laboratory environments to improve traceability, accountability, and compliance with quality management programs.

## LEARNING LABS

### LL016 - Building A Block And Slide Check-Out / Check-In App With Microsoft Power Apps

**Tori Smith**

**Tuesday, Sep 29 • 9:15 AM-11:15 AM**

**Cost: \$50 • CE Credits: 2**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

Accurate tracking of paraffin blocks and histologic slides is essential to maintaining workflow efficiency, diagnostic integrity, and quality assurance within histology laboratories. Many laboratories continue to rely on paper logs or spreadsheets to document block and slide movement, which can be difficult to audit, prone to errors, and insufficient for high-volume diagnostic environments. This hands-on



# CAREER EXPLORATION, GROWTH, AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

This track focuses on the development of resilient histology professionals and future-ready teams. It emphasizes strengthening individual career pathways, certification support, skills for leading strong teams, and the broader profession- on and off the bench.

## WORKSHOPS

- Resolving Invisible Workplace Friction: Biological Literacy And Behavioral Coaching Before Escalation to HR
- From the Lab to Industry: A Practical Guide to Career Transition
- Creating Psychological Safety in the Workplace
- The Leadership Mindset: From “Doer” to Leader
- Communication Is Our Control Slide
- Beyond Discrimination & Bias: Navigating the Hidden Forces That Shape Workplace Culture”
- BFF to Boss
- Using AI As a Tool In Histology Laboratory Management
- From Bench to Boss: What New Histology Managers Get Wrong in the First 90 Days—and How to Get It Right
- Careers Beyond The Bench
- Change the People? or Change the People? A “How To” Guide to Transform Your Lab Culture

## EXPRESS TALKS:

Promoting Retention by Navigating Trust, Caution, and Belonging in the Histology Workforce



## LEARNING LABS

### LL012 - Preparing for HT or HTL Certification Exam

**Jamie Pert**

**Monday, Sep 28 • 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

This workshop will help individuals who are looking to take the HT or HTL exam from ASCP. It will cover general information about the exam, provide content that can be used in preparation for the exam and also cover techniques and tools that can be used to prepare for the exam. Topics to be covered will include fixation, processing, microtomy, staining and some laboratory operations.

## DIGITAL PATHOLOGY, IMAGING & DATA SCIENCE

This track provides training and education on technology transforming slide-based diagnostics. This track covers hardware, software, and computational elements.

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

## WORKSHOPS

- Going Digital in a Glass Slide World: How to Support and Prepare Your Lab
- Our Digital Pathology Journey
- Introduction to Virtual Staining
- Digital Pathology: From Concept to Implementation
- Implementing AI in Digital Pathology for Histotechnology: Standards, Validation, and Laboratory Practice
- From Glass To Algorithm: Why Histotechnology Determines AI Pathology Quality
- Integrating Digital Pathology and Spatial Transcriptomics into the Histology Workflow

### Express Talks:

- Comparative Evaluation of Automated Coverslipping Films from Multiple Vendors  
Automated film coverslipping is widely used in high-throughput histopathology laboratories due to its efficiency, consistency, and compatibility with digital pathology workflow
- Impact of Background Staining on Digital Slide Scanning: Implications for File Size, Storage, and Scanning Efficiency
- Reagent Lot-to-Lot Validation and use of Quantitative Image Analysis

## LEARNING LABS

### LL005 - From Training to Trust: Practical AI Validation for Image Analysis

**Levi Maston • Sara Amirault**  
**Saturday, Sep 26 • 1:00 PM-4:00 PM**  
**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**  
**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

As AI becomes commonplace in the image analysis workflow in both research and clinical labs, researchers and analysts often need to answer the most common in the space - "How do I know if my AI model is good?". This workshop takes a deep dive into AI validation, exploring both semantic and instance validation examples in real-time to better understand the meaning of metrics like F-1 score and Segmentation Quality. Using a hands-on approach in the HALO platform, attendees will work with sample datasets to both train and validate several AI models and deploy them in an image analysis workflow.

### LL009 - Analysis of Histological Images with QuPath Software

**Madelyn Abraham**  
**Sunday, Sep 27 • 9:45 AM-11:45 AM**  
**Cost: \$50 • CE Credits: 2**  
**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

Once slides are digitalized, what next? QuPath is a free software that has powerful capabilities for image analysis. In this Learning Lab, I will provide a theoretical basis for how images are digitalized and visualized with image viewer software. Building upon this knowledge, participants will learn how to create a project in QuPath, upload and visualize images, perform basic analyses, and export representative images. In the second half of the Learning Lab, participants will learn how to classify cell phenotypes in highly-multiplexed images, as described in this publication: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s13578-024-01199-4>. Participants will specifically learn: - How to view bright field and fluorescent images in QuPath, and modify parameters like brightness and contrast for better visualization - How to export publication quality representative images - How to perform basic cell segmentation - How to calculate the percent positivity of H-Score of a particular marker - (Advanced) How to classify cell types in highly multiplexed images (20+ markers)

*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

## LL011 - Introduction To Whole Slide Image Management and Viewer Software

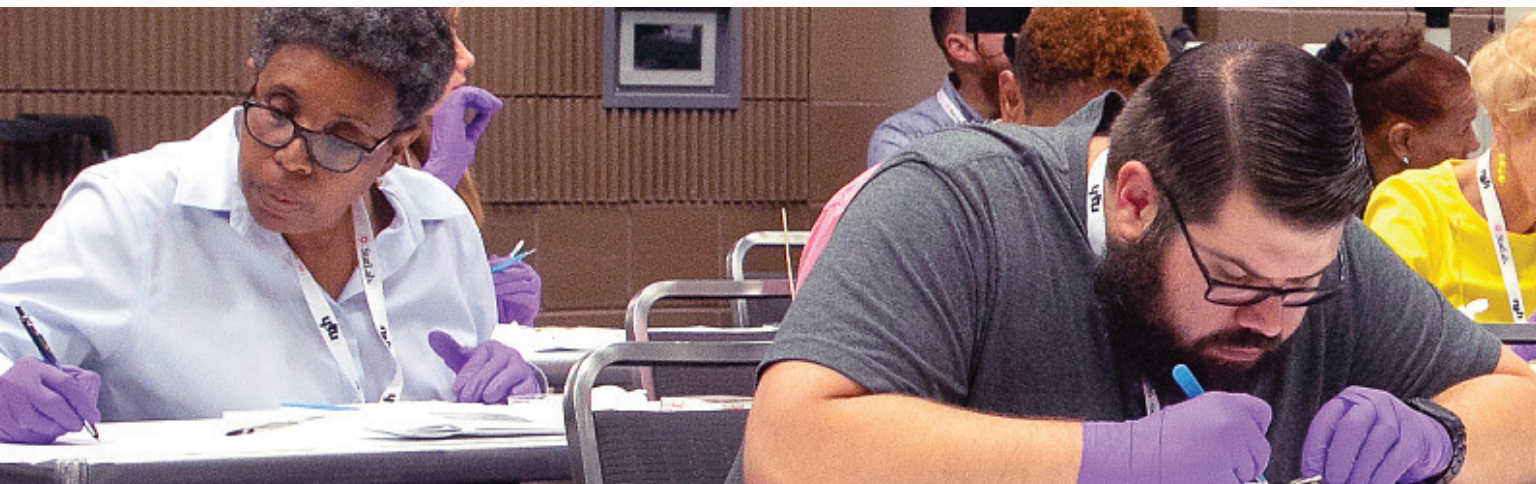
**Elizabeth Chlipala • Amber Moser**  
**Sunday, Sep 27 • 1:00 PM-4:00 PM**  
**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**  
**Instruction Level: Basic**

This workshop will provide a concise review of histology preparation fundamentals and how these pre-analytic steps directly influence whole slide imaging (WSI) performance and quality. Participants will examine key variables—such as section thickness, staining consistency, tissue orientation, and overall slide quality—that commonly introduce challenges during digital scanning and implementation. Hands-on demonstrations will introduce participants to scanning basics, including instrument operation, common troubleshooting steps, and best practices for achieving high-quality digital images. Attendees will also learn to navigate whole slide image viewers and explore essential tools and functionalities for evaluating digital slides. The workshop will highlight practical WSI use cases that provide value to the histology laboratory, with emphasis on routine staining quality control, and IHC assay development and validation workflows. Guided exercises will allow participants to review images containing artifacts, defects, and diverse specimen types. In addition, there will be a series of exercises that will review some of the more common histology use cases for whole slide images.

## LL013 - Introduction to Coding for Histologist: A Hands on Guide Using Python

**Nicholas Hoo-Fatt • Karam Park**  
**Monday, Sep 28 • 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**  
**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**  
**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

**Course Overview:** With the increase in digital pathology becoming an essential part of every lab setting. As laboratory professionals we need to stay open to learning new tools and systems that will inevitably be integrated into our work setting. Even if programming seems far from embedding and grossing, having basic understanding of what happens behind the scenes will allow you to better adapt when new technologies are introduced into your lab. **This course will teach you the fundamentals of Python Programming language.** By the end, you will be able to write simple codes and know how computers think and work. **Course Content:** This introductory course will teach histology laboratory professionals the basics of Python programming language starting with essential data types like string, integers, float, and Booleans. You will also learn more complex data types, like lists and dictionaries that are key for organizing and managing data that are associated with the histology laboratory. we will cover topics like naming conventions and key operators that let you perform calculations, compare values, control the flow of your program, and check for membership in collections. Additionally, you will also learn how to use conditional statements to make decisions in your code, as well as how to set up for-loops to automate repetitive tasks. Lastly, we will move on to functions which is heart of programming.



Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).

# SPECIALIZED HISTOLOGY TECHNIQUES

This track focuses on advanced microscopy and techniques. This track includes specialized modalities and evolving areas of practice such as electron microscopy and microarrays.

## WORKSHOPS

- From Core to Clinic: Practical Tissue Microarray Techniques for Hospital Labs
- Clinical, Preclinical, and Research Electron Microscopy: Applications and Specimen Preparation Workflows
- Tissue Micro-Arrays: A Core Understanding

## LEARNING LABS

### LL008 - Tissue MicroArray 101: The Basics

**Colleen Forster • Jennie Brokesome • Adam Lewis**

**Sunday, Sep 27 • 9:45 AM-12:45 PM**

**Cost: \$75 • CE Credits: 3**

**Instruction Level: Basic**

With the rapid interest in new biomarkers, Spatial Omics, QC and the ever-rising costs of high complex testing, budget cuts and workforce shortages, the tissue microarray (TMA) may offer a good solution. This workshop will concentrate



on these key aspects for good TMA production: purpose, design, tissue selection, annotation of slides, TMA map design, sectioning and staining. Participants will get a chance to construct a simple TMA using a microarray mold.

# MOHS HISTOTECHNOLOGY

This track is a focus on the specialized techniques, workflow, and quality considerations in Mohs surgery laboratories.

## WORKSHOPS

- Special Sites in Mohs Surgery: Histotechnology Decisions and Communication That Support the Surgeon
- Same Tissue, Different Mission: Comparing Histology and Mohs Laboratory Workflows and Skillsets

### Express Talks:

- Mohs Special Sites: Orientation, Embedding, and Cutting Strategies for Histotechnicians



*Full session descriptions can be found on [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org).*

## LL001 - Mohs Hands On Training

**Barbara Beck • Amanda Whaley •**

**Kaylee Kennedy**

**Saturday, Sep 26 • 10:00 AM-2:45 PM**

**Cost: \$125 • CE Credits: 4**

**Instruction Level: Intermediate**

In this learning lab we provide technical training and consulting for Mohs Histotechnology. Our slogan is "Training techs to be a cut above the rest". We provide complete technical assistance and full training to create proficiency in cutting Mohs frozen section slides. This workshop will help you understand the concept of Mohs and will increase your efficiency in any cryostat sec

## LL007 - Interactive Learning Laboratory Procedures Involving Embedding, Sectioning and Staining in Mohs Practice of Histological Techniques

**Behzad Shams • Guy Orchard**

**Sunday, Sep 27 • 9:45 AM-1:45 PM**

**Cost: \$125 • CE Credits: 4**

**Instruction Level: Advanced**

Mohs' micrographic surgery is the most accurate of all surgically driven procedures. It has the highest cure rate of between 95-99% depending on anatomical site. It is intricately associated with the accuracy and abilities of the histological practitioners that embed, cut and stain

tissue for microscopic evaluation. A comprehension of best practice with all the procedures involved within the histological techniques required is central to improved surgical outcomes and patient care. This interactive workshop aims to direct learning outcomes that focus on embedding of variable tissue types from hair bearing sites to those with cartilaginous and mucosal tissue types including conjunctiva. How best to perform the tissue embedding procedures, to ensure the tissue is optimally orientated employing best practice and most effective equipment. Consideration of the skills required to perform fast and efficient cryotomy of frozen tissue will be explained.. Indicators of what problems can be encountered will be explored and discussed. i.e. how to effectively cut fatty tissue pieces, how to deal with cartilaginous tissue pieces and also how to maximize the presentation of thin mucosal tissue pieces that involve both the cutaneous and mucosal tissue junctions such as eye lid tissue going onto conjunctiva. This interactive workshop will also include the most efficient staining processes and procedures and will include both H&E staining as well as Toluidine Blue staining. Finally an open question and answer interactive session focusing on tissue artefacts that can be encountered whilst performing the Mohs' histological procedures will be explained with key examples given throughout the discussion. This will include identification of the artefacts, plus the potential causative reasons and how best to then rectify the problem in a practically orientated fashion for improved outcomes. The interactive and directed workshop will then finish with discussions around specific issues or problems the delegates have around performing Mohs' procedures within their working environments. This will be a tailored approach to specific issues they may be having or have encountered.



# NSHCollaborate ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

**Be sure to select your Roundtable sessions during convention registration!**

These small group discussions have limited seating, and spots fill quickly. Select an NSHCollaborate Roundtable as part of your registration to secure your place in the conversations that matter most to your work.

These dynamic, peer-led groups create a welcoming space to share insights, ask questions, and tackle real-world challenges within your specialty. Connect with colleagues in an intimate setting as you exchange perspectives, uncover practical solutions, and spark new ideas that support both career growth and scientific innovation.

## **NSHCollaborate: Research Core Laboratory** September 26, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Research Core Laboratories, also known as Shared Resource Facilities, are distinctly different from hospital, clinical, commercial, or contract (CRO) laboratories. This group is designed for professionals working within academic research core or shared resource laboratories, providing a collaborative space to discuss specialized services, operational challenges, technologies, and best practices unique to these environments.

## **NSHCollaborate: Bone & Resin** September 27, 12:05 - 12:55 PM

The Bone & Resin group is specifically for members who work with these mediums, providing a focused space to discuss techniques, troubleshooting, workflow challenges, and best practices unique to bone processing and resin embedding.

## **NSHCollaborate: Spatial Omics** September 28, 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

The Spatial Omics Community supports histology professionals working within the rapidly advancing fields of spatial transcriptomics, proteomics, and multi-omics. This group provides a collaborative space to explore best practices, platform implementation, troubleshooting, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and training pathways for entering spatial biology.

## **NSHCollaborate: Mohs** September 28, 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

The Mohs Community is a professional discussion forum for Mohs histotechnicians and histotechnicians with an interest in Mohs laboratory practice. The group hosts roundtables and discussions focused on Mohs techniques, workflow optimization, and troubleshooting, and also provides guidance for histotechnicians seeking cross-training or a career transition into Mohs histotechnology.

## **NSHCollaborate: Contract Research Organization** September 29, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Contract Research Organization (CRO) laboratories provide fee-for-service histology support for preclinical, translational, and clinical research. This group is designed for professionals working in histology CRO environments, offering a collaborative space to discuss workflows, client expectations, quality standards, and regulatory considerations.

If you are interested in joining one or more of these communities before the convention, you can sign up at [www.nsh.org/nsh-collaborate](http://www.nsh.org/nsh-collaborate).



# VIRTUAL EDUCATION PASS

Can't join us in San Antonio? The 2026 NSH Convention offers a virtual experience, so you to take advantage of the best in histology education without having to leave your lab.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE VIRTUAL PASS?

- Access to 8 live streamed workshop sessions featuring Q & A with the speakers
- Rebroadcast of Saturday and Sunday keynote lectures with on-demand recordings for the 4 Keynote Sessions (each worth 1 CEU)
- Access to the Scientific Posters Digital Gallery
- Access to the on-demand library of all virtual sessions for 2 weeks following the event

## COST

NSH Member Virtual Pass: \$329

Non-Member Virtual Pass: \$429

## VIRTUAL SCHEDULE - TIMES FOR THE SESSIONS LISTED BELOW ARE CENTRAL

**Monday, September 28: 11:00am central time - Keynote Rebroadcast: Histopathology of Live Tissues for Surgical Guidance**

### Monday, September 28: 12:30-1:30 pm central time

|                                                                                                                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Reinforce User-End Maintenance Procedures and Environmental Concerns on Common Histology Equipment to Improve Instrument Reliability. | Laboratory Management & Safety |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

|                                                                                                       |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Optimized Protocols for Fixation, Trimming, Processing, and Sectioning of Non-Clinical Ocular Samples | Histology Foundations |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|

### Monday, September 28: 2:00-3:00 pm central time

|                                                                 |                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Is the PAS Stain the most Diverse Stain in our Histology Quiver | Histology Foundations |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|

|                                                       |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tissue Micro-Arrays: A Core Understanding Specialized | Histology Techniques |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

**Tuesday, September 29: 11:00am central time - Keynote Rebroadcast: Intelligent Histology - The Future of Predictive, Explainable, and Multimodal Computational Pathology**

### Tuesday, September 29: 12:30-1:30 pm central time

|                                                                                          |                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Troubleshooting the Impossible Slide: A Systematic Approach to Histology Problem Solving | Laboratory Management & Safety |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

|                                                                        |                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Evidence-Based Guidelines for the Laboratory Evaluation of Amyloidosis | Histology Foundations |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|

### Tuesday, September 29: 2:00-3:00 pm central time

|                                                                              |                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| From Glass To Algorithm: Why Histotechnology Determines AI Pathology Quality | Digital Pathology, Imaging & Data Science |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                             |                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Resolving Invisible Workplace Friction: Biological Literacy And Behavioral Coaching Before Escalation to HR | Career Exploration, Growth, and Leadership Skills |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|

# POSTERS @ THE NSH CONVENTION

At NSH, we consider scientific posters one of the best ways to showcase professional insights, research milestones, and workflow innovations. Poster sessions provide an excellent opportunity for both new presenters to share their expertise and seasoned presenters to highlight proven strategies.

All posters are accepted and will be included in the digital poster gallery at the NSH convention and in the virtual conference platform. Please note, only posters selected for the Poster Showcase will be given a presentation time, however your poster will still be part of the gallery and scored by judges.



## Poster Showcase

A limited number of submissions will be selected for the 2026 Poster Showcase. The poster showcase is a curated series of live presentations held in a dedicated area of the exhibit hall, featuring a large screen and audience seating. Each showcase session will last 15 minutes, and selected presenters will deliver a 5–10 minute presentation highlighting their research. Participation in the Poster Showcase is a distinguished opportunity to elevate your work through increased visibility, engage directly with peers and industry leaders, and be recognized for excellence in research and innovation in a high-profile setting.

**Presenters selected for the Poster Showcase will be notified by August 10.**

## Poster Awards

In addition to the Poster Showcase, all posters will be formally scored onsite, with three award recipients selected. Posters do not need to be chosen for the Poster Showcase to be eligible for final awards.

Winning posters will receive a \$200 Amazon gift card, and two runner-up posters will each receive a \$100 Amazon gift card.

Posters will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Clarity and Conciseness (10 points) – The abstract clearly and succinctly presents the research question, methods, results, and conclusions.
- Scientific Rigor (10 points) – The study design, methodology, and data analysis are appropriate, well explained, supported by references, and aligned with the stated conclusions.
- Innovation and Impact (10 points) – The research demonstrates originality, advances the field, or offers meaningful real-world applications.

- Overall Presentation (20 points) – The poster effectively uses visual aids to support the research, is free of grammatical errors, adheres to word limits, and is organized in a visually appealing format.

## Poster Timeline/Important Dates

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Accepting Poster Abstracts:   | April 1     |
| Abstract Submission Deadline: | August 3    |
| Showcase Selection:           | August 10   |
| PDF Posters Due:              | September 4 |

## Convention Registration

To have your poster included in the poster gallery, you must be a registered attendee of the convention holding one of the following passes: full conference, weekend only, virtual, or exhibitor booth staff. Poster presenters receive a \$30 discount on any of the approved registration passes listed in this paragraph. Virtual pass registrants do not qualify for the Poster Showcase.



**LEARN MORE AND SEE POSTER EXAMPLES AND RESOURCES BY VISITING:**  
[https://www.histoconvention.org/poster\\_format.cfm](https://www.histoconvention.org/poster_format.cfm)

# VOLUNTEER IN SAN ANTONIO!

Volunteering at the NSH Convention is a unique opportunity to not only immerse yourself in the San Antonio experience but also enjoy valuable cost savings on your trip! By serving in vital roles—whether at the registration desk, assisting with workshops and Learning Labs, or hosting virtual sessions—you'll expand your professional network, foster a strong sense of community, and gain hands-on experience. Plus, Learning Lab Assistants and Virtual Hosts benefit from a reduced conference registration fee and funding at an official convention hotel. Make the most of your convention experience while saving on travel by stepping up as a volunteer!

## LEARNING LAB ASSISTANTS

### Duties:

Learning Lab Assistants will be scheduled to work/cover specific hands-on workshops (Learning Labs). Learning Lab Assistants set up and work hands-on training sessions, aiding the speakers as needed. Although you will be assigned a specific set of learning labs to cover, you may be called upon to fill in any gaps as needed. Learning Lab Assistant duties include a lot of walking and require the occasional lifting of boxes up to 50 lbs.

### Schedule:

Learning Lab Assistants will be provided with a schedule of assigned sessions by July 10, 2026. Your assigned sessions will occur over the course of two consecutive days between September 26-29.

### Funding:

As a Learning Lab Assistant, you will receive a reduced full conference registration fee (\$199.00). In addition, NSH will fund up to two nights at an official convention hotel. You will be provided with an expense report onsite to submit for reimbursement for your hotel room fees.

Requests to volunteer as a Learning Lab Assistant will be open through June 30th. Due to funding constraints, not all volunteers will be selected.

## VIRTUAL PROGRAM HOSTS

### Duties:

Virtual Program Hosts serve as the moderator for our virtual sessions which are presented onsite in San Antonio, in a dedicated recording room with the presenters. Virtual Program Hosts introduce the speaker and facilitate the Q/A. If there is a technical issue, Virtual Program Hosts will notify NSH staff to help resolve the problem. Virtual Program Hosts are not responsible for managing the webinar platform but must be comfortable with technology.

### Schedule:

Virtual Program Hosts will be assigned either September 28 or September 29 and asked to moderate 3-4 sessions on that day, based on the virtual program schedule. Virtual Program Hosts must be onsite during the conference.



**Funding:**

As a Virtual Program Host you will receive a reduced full conference registration fee (\$199.00). In addition, NSH will fund one night at an official convention hotel. You will be provided with an expense report onsite to submit for reimbursement for your hotel room fee.

**REGISTRATION DESK ATTENDANTS****Duties:**

The NSH registration desk is a great way to see old friends and meet new ones as you greet and check in Convention attendees, speakers and exhibitors. Volunteers at the registration desk provide conference materials to individuals checking in and answer general questions about the event.

**Schedule:**

Registration Desk Attendants are asked to sign up for at least one three-hour shift but may serve for multiple shifts. Volunteer shifts are available Friday, September 25 – Monday, September 28.

**Funding:**

Registration Desk Attendants volunteering for a minimum of two three-hour shifts will receive a reduced full conference registration fee (\$199.00). All volunteers receive a volunteer apron and CEUs for their volunteer time.

**WORKSHOP AMBASSADORS****Duties:**

Workshop Ambassadors are responsible for updating the workshop sign outside the entrance door and making announcements, including speaker introductions, at the start of the workshop or express talk.

**Schedule:**

Workshop Ambassadors are asked to volunteer for a minimum of three sessions over the course of the four days of the Convention, however they are welcome to sign up for more sessions. Ambassadors are asked to arrive to their assigned session approximately 15 minutes prior to the start of the session. Ambassador assignments will be shared with volunteers in early September.

**Funding:**

Workshop Ambassadors do not receive funding; however volunteers receive a volunteer apron, a guaranteed seat in the workshop and CEUs for their volunteer time.

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

# NETWORKING EVENTS

Imagine forging connections that shape the future of science—because that's exactly what awaits you at this year's NSH Convention! More than just a meeting, it's your gateway to a vibrant community where ideas spark, collaborations ignite, and enduring friendships are born. Step into an energetic atmosphere buzzing with opportunity: whether you're eager to make your very first connections in the histology world or can't wait to catch up with old friends, every event is crafted to inspire meaningful conversations and open doors to new possibilities. Don't miss your chance to be part of something bigger—come ready to engage, connect, and let your next big breakthrough begin!

## First-Time Attendee Welcome Reception

**Friday, September 25th**

If it's your very first time at the Annual Convention, you won't be navigating it alone! Join us for a warm welcome to the community—enjoy refreshments and meet other first-time attendees, along with NSH staff and board members who are ready to help you feel right at home. It's the perfect way to make instant connections, ask questions, and realize you're already part of a supportive network from the very start. Tickets are free, but you must pre-register.

## NSH Convention Welcome Happy Hour

**Saturday, September 26th**

Kick off the convention in true San Antonio style at our Welcome Happy Hour, set in the unforgettable Grotto along the iconic River Walk. Sip, mingle, and soak up the atmosphere as daylight fades and the River Walk comes alive. New this year, the Happy Hour runs from 6 – 8 pm, giving you the perfect early-evening gathering without keeping you out late. It's the ideal way to reconnect with colleagues, welcome first-timers, and still have the flexibility to enjoy vendor events or explore the city afterward. Consider this your warm Texas welcome: boots optional, good company guaranteed.

## Keynote Breakfasts

**Saturday through Tuesday**

Grab coffee, yummy breakfast options, and a seat at a roundtable with your colleagues to take in each morning's keynote address. Topics will include: Live tissue histopathology, intelligent histology, and more.

## NSHCollaborate Roundtable Discussions

These dynamic, peer-led groups create a welcoming space to share insights, ask questions, and tackle real-world challenges within your specialty. Connect with colleagues in an intimate setting as you exchange perspectives, uncover practical solutions, and spark new ideas that support both career growth and scientific innovation. See complete descriptions on page 25.

## Evening Hospitality

The Exhibit Hall is a large part of the NSH Convention experience. Our vendor partners bring the best the industry offers during the day and sponsor great opportunities for fun at night. Keep your eyes open for invitations to industry parties, dinners, and educational seminars.

## Convention Mobile App

Plan your week, message other attendees, post on the social feed, and discover new opportunities with the NSH Convention Mobile App. Available on both Android and iPhone, the app ensures you'll stay organized and never miss a chance to connect. The app is available to both in-person and virtual attendees.

## Connect with NSH Online!

Start the conversations before setting foot in San Antonio, and keep them going even after the convention ends. Follow us and stay engaged!



Official NSH Convention Website  
[www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org)



Like NSH on Facebook –  
[www.facebook.com/NS4Histotech/](https://www.facebook.com/NS4Histotech/)



Connect with us on LinkedIn –  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-society-for-histotechnology>



Follow us on Instagram –  
[@NS4Histotech](https://www.instagram.com/NS4Histotech)



# EXHIBIT HALL PREVIEW

## The NSH Exhibit Hall Brings Innovation, Science and Networking

Step into the vibrant heart of innovation at the NSH Exhibit Hall—your premier destination for forging valuable connections and immersing yourself in the latest breakthroughs in histology. As the largest exhibition of its kind, the Hall brings together leading industry providers eager to showcase cutting-edge technologies and services. Dive into our interactive scientific poster gallery, mingle with peers at the lively NSH booth, and experience the thrill of winning incredible prizes at our highly anticipated ticket auction. Don't miss your chance to be part of this dynamic event—join us in the Exhibit Hall and elevate your convention experience!

### Scientific Poster Gallery

Make sure to check out our Poster Gallery, featuring histology-focused scientific research. Our entirely digital gallery not only showcases innovative studies but also extends your learning far beyond the convention. Attendees can dive deeper into each poster by engaging with integrated audio and video presentations, fostering a richer understanding of the research. Downloadable portions are available, empowering you to bring new techniques and insights back to your own lab, continuing the educational experience long after the event concludes.

### Scientific Poster Showcases

Following last year's success, we're bringing back the Poster Showcase. These showcases are designed for attendees to present on their posters, creating an interactive environment where you can engage directly with researchers, ask questions, and gain deeper insights into new peer-developed research in an intimate setting with a dedicated audience of colleagues.

### Snack, Sip & Win

Join us in the Exhibit Hall on Sunday, September 27 from 3:15–4:30 pm for a lively closing-hour celebration. Grab a refreshing drink, enjoy tasty afternoon snacks, and soak up the buzz as vendor-donated prizes are presented throughout the hour. It's the perfect chance to relax, connect with colleagues and exhibitors, and wrap up your Exhibit Hall experience on a high note — with great food, great company, and maybe a prize to take home.

### Exhibit Hall Hours

The Exhibit Hall is located in Hall 4B of the Convention Center and will open to attendees on Saturday, September 26th, from 11 am to 5 pm and Sunday, September 27th from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

### Exhibit Hall Only Passes

The trade show floor is open to qualified individuals in histology and pathology only. This ensures a high buyer/supplier ratio. Local technologists and pathologists unable to attend the entire meeting are welcome to visit the exhibits anytime during scheduled hours with an Exhibit Hall Only Pass. Individuals under 18 are not permitted. Exhibit Hall Only passes do not provide access to education, social, or any other events outside of the Exhibit Hall.

### Exhibit Hall Only Pass Fees

\$75.00 for NSH members; \$99.00 for non-members



# HOTEL & TRAVEL INFO

## JOIN US IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

The 2026 NSH Convention will take place in San Antonio, Texas, home to the charming San Antonio River Walk, the iconic Alamo, and phenomenal Tex-Mex food. There's something for everyone, where it's historic exploration, thrilling theme park adventures, or vibrant cultural experiences.



### Hotel Reservations

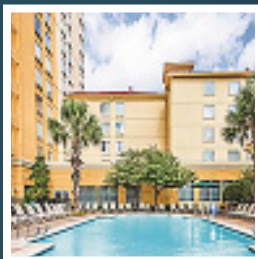
NSH has secured a block of hotel rooms with four different hotels at three sites, all within walking distance of the Convention Center. Each hotel is nestled in the heart of San Antonio, with plenty of dining and entertainment options nearby. Visit our website [histoconvention.org/travel](https://histoconvention.org/travel) to reserve your room at a discounted rate!

**DISCOUNTED RATES FOR ALL HOTELS CLOSE ON SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2026**

#### La Quinta River Walk

303 Blum Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Rate: \$199/night

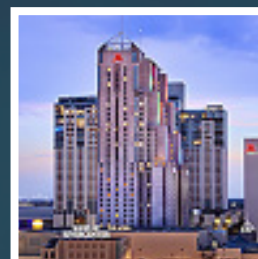
Less than one block from the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, the La Quinta River Walk hotel is ideally located just nine miles from the San Antonio International Airport, in the heart of San Antonio—putting you minutes from the River Walk and legendary Alamo.



#### Marriott Rivercenter on the River Walk

101 Bowie Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Rate: \$259/night

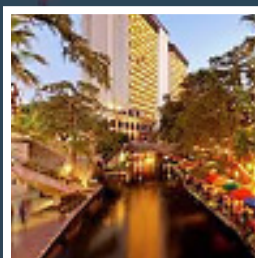
Located on the San Antonio River Walk this hotel places you steps from popular dining, shopping, and entertainment. Stroll to Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center which is just across the street.



#### Hilton Palacio Del Rio

200 S Alamo Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Rate: \$239/night

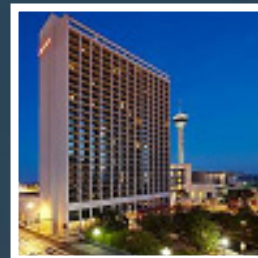
An hacienda-style hotel situated directly on the famous River Walk in downtown San Antonio, it was originally built for the 1968 Hemisfair. The hotel offers rooms with private balconies and city views and is across the street from the convention center and within walking distance of attractions like the Alamo.



#### Marriott Riverwalk

889 E Market Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Rate: \$259/night

This hotel greets you with the city's authentic culture and place you in the heart of the city, just steps from popular attractions, dining, shopping, and entertainment.



## Traveling to the Convention

### Flying to San Antonio

The San Antonio International Airport is just 10 minutes from downtown, has 40 non-stop destinations and continues to grow.

The San Antonio International Airport offers car rentals, taxis, and rideshare options. Visit the airport website for more information.

### Driving to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center

All convention sessions and events will take place at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, located steps from the River Walk at 900 E Market St, San Antonio, TX 78205. Go to [histoconvention.org/travel.cfm](http://histoconvention.org/travel.cfm) to see all of the different parking options available to you – including how you can reserve a spot in advance – as well as directions to the Center.

## Getting Around San Antonio

You can get around San Antonio by car, bus, and ride-share, and by walking or biking in certain areas. Renting a car is recommended for exploring areas outside the downtown core, while the downtown area itself is very walkable and can be navigated by the VIA Metropolitan Transit bus system, free downtown shuttles, or a Hop-On Hop-Off tour bus. Public transit options like VIA buses are affordable, and ride-sharing apps like Uber are readily available.

## Conference Attire

Although there is no formal dress code for the convention, business casual attire is recommended, with a focus on comfort. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes and bring layers to accommodate varying room temperatures. Please note that San Antonio typically experiences sunny and warm weather in September, with daytime highs in the mid-80s and nighttime lows in the mid-60s.



# REGISTRATION INFORMATION & POLICIES

## REGISTRATION FEES

|                                          | Enhanced Education Member  | Core Education Member | Student Member | Non Member |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------|
| <b>Advanced Rates (May 1- July 15)</b>   |                            |                       |                |            |
| Full Conference Pass                     | \$465                      | \$525                 | \$449          | \$649      |
| Weekend Pass                             | \$279                      | \$329                 | \$249          | \$379      |
| Virtual Pass                             | \$329                      | \$329                 | \$329          | \$429      |
| <b>Standard Rates (July 16- Sept 29)</b> |                            |                       |                |            |
| Full Conference Pass                     | \$519                      | \$599                 | \$469          | \$699      |
| Weekend Pass                             | \$329                      | \$349                 | \$339          | \$429      |
| Virtual Pass                             | \$329                      | \$329                 | \$329          | \$429      |
| <b>Special Rates</b>                     |                            |                       |                |            |
| Exhibit Hall Only                        | \$75                       | \$75                  | \$75           | \$99       |
| Group Rates for Organizations 5+         | \$25 off each registration |                       |                |            |

**Full Conference Pass includes** a welcome packet at check-in, breakfast, admittance to workshops, the keynotes, the welcome reception, exhibit hall, digital poster sessions, virtual program on-demand library, and the event mobile app. Please note: To qualify for the Student Member rate you must be an NSH Student member.

**Weekend Pass includes** a welcome packet at check-in, breakfast, admittance to workshops, 2 keynotes, the welcome reception, exhibit hall, digital poster sessions, and the event's mobile app on Saturday & Sunday.

**Virtual Pass includes** access to virtual program live-streamed sessions on Monday & Tuesday, the virtual program on-demand library (which includes recorded keynote sessions) for 14 days, and the digital poster gallery.

### Group Rates

To qualify for group rate pricing you must register your entire group at the same time. You cannot add to the group after registration is complete. Individuals that receive the group rate must also come from the same organization/company.

## 3 WAYS TO REGISTER


**ONLINE**
[www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org)

**VIA MAIL**

 National Society for Histotechnology  
 PO Box 715914, Philadelphia, PA 19171-5914

**EMAIL**
[histo@nsh.org](mailto:histo@nsh.org)

## EDUCATION ADD-ONS

|                                                                                               |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| LL-01 Mohs Hands-On Training                                                                  | \$125 |
| LL-02 Special Techniques for Cutting Paraffin & Frozen Brain Sections                         | \$100 |
| LL-03 Special Stains (sponsored by the BSC)                                                   | \$100 |
| LL-04 Empowering Histotechnology Professionals to Drive Spatial Omics Success                 | \$100 |
| LL-05 Practical AI Validation for Image Analysis                                              | \$75  |
| LL-06 Mad for Mucin                                                                           | \$75  |
| LL-07 Interactive Learning Laboratory Procedures Involving Embedding, Sectioning and Staining | \$125 |
| LL-08 Tissue MicroArray 101                                                                   | \$75  |
| LL-09 Analysis of Histological Images with QuPath Software                                    | \$50  |
| LL-10 Spatial Omics Sectioning Lab                                                            | \$75  |
| LL-11 Introduction To Whole Slide Image Management and Viewer Software                        | \$75  |
| LL-12 HT or HTL Certification Exam Prep                                                       | \$75  |
| LL-13 Introduction to Coding for Histologist: A Hands on Beginner's Guide using Python        | \$75  |
| LL-14 Grossing Basics and Collaborative Decision-Making in Pathology                          | \$100 |
| LL-15 - Learn How To Troubleshoot: A Step By Step Guide                                       | \$75  |
| LL-16 - Building A Block And Slide Check-Out / Check-In App With Microsoft Power Apps         | \$50  |



## Not an NSH Member?

**Join now and save up to \$280 on registration, + gain access to member benefits all year long!**

### Guest Passes

Full Conference Pass attendees can register one (1) guest for a fee of \$129. Guest badges will provide access to the vendor expo, breakfasts, and the Saturday evening Welcome Reception. Guests are not permitted into workshops or keynote lectures. Guests must be at least 18 years of age. Guest Passes are nonrefundable.

### Changes to Registration Rate

Attendees may upgrade their registration for no additional fee, but downgrading their registration will incur a \$75 administrative fee. For example, a Weekend Pass registrant may upgrade to the Full Conference Pass at no additional cost, but the Full Conference Pass may not downgrade to the Virtual Pass without incurring the administrative fee.

### Discount Codes/Special Offers

Use of discount codes is only valid at the time of initial purchase/registration. Refunds will not be authorized for existing registrations where the special

offer was received after the initial purchase. Discount codes cannot be applied to already reduced/discounted registrations. Limit one (1) special offer/discount code per registration.

### Registrants can pay by:

1. Check made payable to the National Society for Histotechnology (**Canadian and Foreign checks must be paid in U.S. Funds drawn on a U.S. Bank.**)
2. Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover)
3. Fully Executed Purchase Order – Purchase orders will be accepted through August 31, 2026; a copy of the purchase order must accompany your registration and include billing information. Registrations made via Purchase Order must be paid in full prior to the start of the Convention, September 25, 2026. Full payment must be received in order for registrants to gain entry to the Convention.

### Cancellations/Substitutions

#### Cancellations of Entire Registration:

All cancellations must be received in writing (email is acceptable) by August 29, 2026. Registrants who submit their cancellations in writing by this date will receive a refund minus a \$75 administrative fee. NSH Memberships, Guest Passes and Exhibit Hall Only passes purchased during registration are nonrefundable. Cancellations received after August 29th, (without provisions for a substitute) and no-shows are responsible for all convention fees. Full Conference Pass attendees that do not attend the convention will still have access to the virtual on-demand library for 14 days. Cancellations will not be accepted by phone.

**Cancellations of Learning Labs:** Cancellations for learning labs are eligible

for a refund if received by August 29, 2026; cancellations must be in writing (email is acceptable). Session costs will not be refunded after this date. NSH reserves the right to cancel a workshop, express talk, or learning lab due to circumstances beyond its control or for insufficient registration. Registrants for a canceled session will be notified immediately and allowed to substitute a session or obtain a full session refund. NSH is not responsible for penalties incurred as a result of canceled transportation or accommodations.

**Please note:** Cancellations, for any reason, will not be accepted for persons registering after the deadline of August 29, 2026. Substitutions will be accepted at any time, at no additional charge.

### Reimbursements

No cash exchange or refunds are provided on-site. Reimbursements are processed after the conclusion of the convention and will be sent to the payer.

### Schedule Changes

Program and speakers are subject to change. Efforts will be made to notify participants in the event of cancellations and/or schedule changes. NSH will not be responsible for any costs incurred, including airfare (or penalties) and hotel, as a result of a cancellation, instructor, or date and time change.

### Reasonable Accommodation Requests

If you wish to register for the Convention and you have an accommodation request or special need please submit your request in writing to NSH, [histo@nsh.org](mailto:histo@nsh.org). Requests for special assistance must be received a minimum of 30 days prior to the start of the meeting.

## Consent for Use of Photographic Images

Registration and attendance at, or participation in, NSH meetings and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to permit NSH's use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant or attendee's image or voice in photographs, videotapes, electronic reproductions, and audiotapes of such events and activities.

## Continuing Education Credits

All NSH sponsored educational sessions have been approved by ASCP and Florida's CE Broker.

## Badges

Attendees will pick up their badge & welcome packet at the NSH Registration Desk beginning on Friday, September 25th. Attendees will not be allowed to pick up other attendees' badges or materials. Badge sharing and splitting are strictly prohibited. Badge/ticket reprints will incur a \$25 fee – no exceptions.

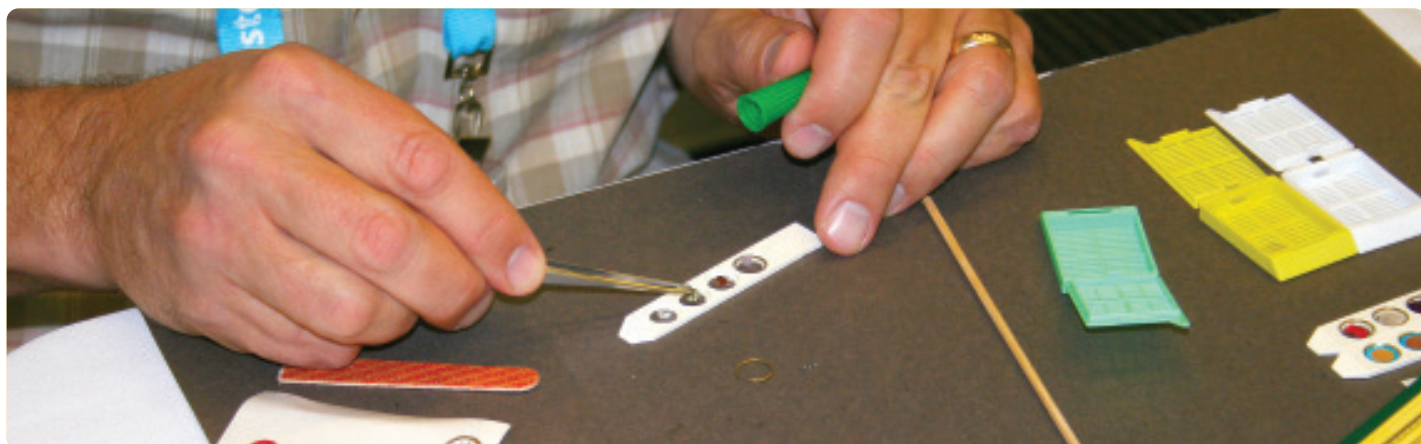
## Confirmation Letter

You will receive a confirmation email once you are registered for the convention. If you have not received a confirmation within three weeks of

submitting your registration, please contact an NSH staff member at 443-535-4060 or [histo@nsh.org](mailto:histo@nsh.org).

## Email Address

NSH requires a unique email address per registration. This email is used for communications between NSH staff and the registered attendee including the registration confirmation, workshop cancellations or changes and vendor announcements. NSH will not register multiple people with one email address nor will NSH register an individual without an email address.





# NSH Histology Training Program

***TRAIN NEW STAFF - EXPAND YOUR HIRING POOL -  
SAVE TIME ONBOARDING!***

The NSH Histology Training Program is intended to create a histology training/onboarding resource for individuals with relevant education and/or experience to become a histotechnician/histotechnologist. This program leverages both self-paced didactic training that aligns with the technical skills needed to perform core histology, as well as live support and sessions.

This program is intended to be completed online and will be flexible so that barriers such as time, geographic location, and other responsibilities do not prevent someone from pursuing a histology career.

**To Learn More,**  
Visit [nsh.org/learn/http](http://nsh.org/learn/http)



**HISTOLOGY**  
Training Program

[www.NSH.org](http://www.NSH.org)

**Questions?**

Email NSH Director of Education,  
Connie Wildeman, [histo@nsh.org](mailto:histo@nsh.org) or  
call the NSH office, 443-535-4060.



# NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HISTOTECHNOLOGY

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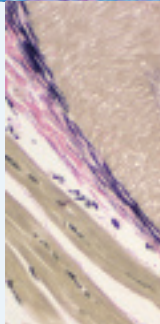
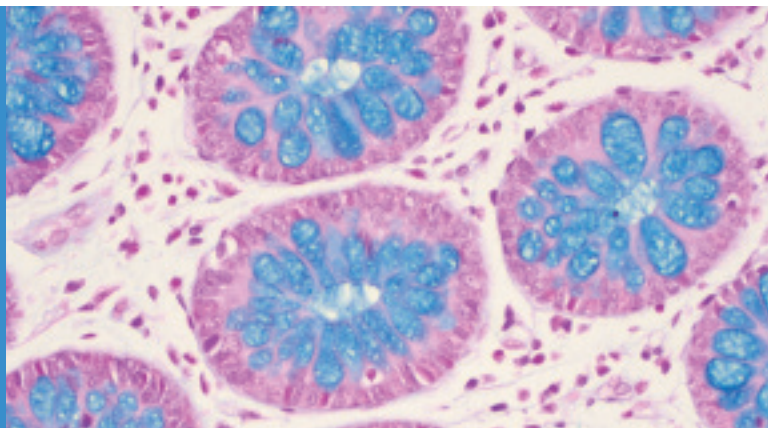
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