WSLH Financial Information
Fiscal Year 1999

Revenues

State Tax Support	$6,719,245
Laboratory service fees from:	
State Agencies	$4,214,932
Hospitals, Clinics, Physicians	$5,823,941
Environmental/Water Testing Services	$1,384,507
Occupational Health Services	$1,701,790
Outreach Programs	$1,573,999
Research, Service Grants, and Other	$2,113,421
Total Revenues	$23,531,835

Expenses

Salaries	$11,007,787
Fringe Benefits	$3,879,748
Supplies and Services	$7,323,031
Depreciation and Interest	$1,131,052
Other Expenses	$1,133,149
Total Expenses	$24,474,767
Net Decrease in Assets	($942,932)**

** This net operating loss is the result of one-time costs of equipping and moving into a new environmental health laboratory building. The additional costs were funded through the use of accumulated operating reserves.

Susan Buroker, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, representing Secy. Ben Brancel

Michael Cavanaugh, Veterans Integrated Service Network

John Chapin, Department of Health and Family Services, representing Secy. Joseph Leean

James Clawson, Sentry Insurance

Paul Harris, Davy Laboratories

Jeffrey Jentzen, M.D., Milwaukee County Medical Examiner

Mary Jo Kopecky, *Chair*, Department of Natural Resources, representing Secy. George Meyer

Ronald Laessig, Ph.D., Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (ex-officio member)

George Million, Marathon County Health Department

John Torphy, University of Wisconsin System, representing President Katherine Lyall, Ph.D.

Edward Treick, S-F Analytical Laboratories, Inc.

Deborah Turski, M.D., Associated Pathologists, S.C.

March 2000

Dear Partners in Public Health,

As we crossed the millennium barrier (at least in the popular press), I inevitably thought about the past and future of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene – and our dedicated staff who are committed to serving Wisconsin's public health needs.

From 1903 to 2000 a lot of "public health" happened. Dr. William Stovall, our long-time director, charted much of our course through the early and mid-20th century. Norma Arvold, Wisconsin's first Cytotechnologist, went to New York to study with Dr. Papanicolaou in order to bring the "new" technology of Pap Smear screening for cervical cancer back to Wisconsin. We had a team create a sample-and-test process for *Cryptosporidium* while Wisconsin's public health partners struggled with the largest point source outbreak in mankind's recorded history.

Some achievements were quieter. Eleanor Christenson, an enteric bacteriologist, single-handedly became a world recognized expert on *Yersinia.* Dr. Stanley Inhorn, our current emeritus medical director, made us one of the first public health laboratories to recognize the importance of tests that identify specific chromosomes and later specific genes. And on it goes, flow cytometry, Thin Prep™, PCR, FISH, tandem mass spectrometry, etc…

This new century will bring new names and new achievements at the WSLH. As the health care system in our country changes, so must our laboratory-based concepts of "public health" and "environmental health." So too will our testing mission change as we seek to partner with other laboratories to provide services. The recent change in membership on our WSLH Board—increasing the number of private-sector representatives—signals further changes to come. In the new century the Board and the WSLH's Strategic Leadership Team will engage in a strategic planning process focused on the needs of Wisconsin's citizens and their environment. Stay tuned – you'll be hearing a lot more from us on this subject.

Annual reports, of necessity look back. As 1999 becomes 2000 looking back is interesting – even useful. A nice pause in the journey. However, being part of creating a healthier population, one able to live in an improved environment is where the excitement lies. What could be better? It's going to be a great century.

Personal regards,

Ronald H. Laessig, Ph.D.
Director, WSLH
Professor, Preventive Medicine
Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

WSLH Highlights—Fiscal Year 1999

July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999

66,313 babies were screened by the Newborn Screening Program.

52,000 net square feet were occupied by 119 staff members as construction was completed on the new Environmental Health Division facility located on Agriculture Drive.

Laboratory professionals from 23 states attended the Virology Methods for Public Health Laboratories Conference sponsored by the WSLH and the National Laboratory Training Network.

546 samples from 64 outbreaks were analyzed by the Communicable Disease Division.

WSLH staff published 29 papers, made 78 scientific presentations and taught and/or lectured in 61 courses and workshops.

45,000 dollars was committed to the Wisconsin Occupational Health Laboratory from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to develop methods for metals and sulfur compounds.

8 students graduated from the WSLH School of Cytotechnology.

32 labs participated in the statewide TB lab network.

421,109 clinical proficiency test results were reported and scored for 8,598 programs ordered by 2,567 laboratories.

6,612 environmental proficiency test results were reported and scored for 4,039 sets ordered by 525 laboratories.

1 air quality expert arrived at the WSLH in the form of Jamie Schauer, Ph.D., who is expanding the WSLH's air quality program.