



ASCLS is excited to introduce **ASCLS Voices Under 40**, recognizing our many, talented and committed young professionals under 40 years old. The ASCLS Voices Spotlight honors ASCLS members who have shown exceptional commitment to ASCLS, the laboratory profession, and their community at large at a young age in their professional career. This month we spotlight one of the 2016 ASCLS Shining Voices who was selected from nominations across the country.

Please take a moment to get to know our ASCLS Voices Under 40 Spotlight for the Month of December, Dr. Michelle Butina from Lexington, Kentucky!



Michelle is the Medical Laboratory Science Program Director at the University of Kentucky. She has served as the President of the Kentucky Society for CLS as well as a District Director for the Georgia Society for CLS. Michelle has served on the Abstract Review Committee for ASCLS as Chair, Co-chair and contributing member for 5 years. She has worked on the CLEC program committee as well as the CLEC abstract review committee numerous times. Michelle graduated from the ASCLS Leadership Academy in 2009 and currently serves as the Region IV Leadership Development Committee representative. She has been involved on Annual meeting planning committees in both Georgia and Kentucky since 2006. Michelle has given numerous professional presentations and has been published several times in peer-reviewed journals. She advocates for the profession in health fairs, career camps, career days, anywhere she can promote the profession, she will be there.

One of her nominators wrote: "Several years after graduate school I reconnected with Michelle when I attended her talk at the CLEC meeting in Biloxi, MS. I was so impressed with her knowledge of the topic, delivery of the presentation, and relevance to educators that I've since attended several of her presentations including a talk that she and a

colleague delivered at the Ohio Collaborative Conference this past April. Not only has she proven to be an expert and leader in educational best practices and in teaching in the MLS profession, but she has also become a mentor to other MLS educators and professionals by encouraging and supporting fellow and junior faculty members to engage in ASCLS activities. Michelle has established herself as a mentor, an important aspect of leadership that contributes to her esteem in ASCLS. This nomination letter serves to further support Michelle Butina as an **ASCLS Voices Under 40**, but I believe that her application is a testament to her personal commitment and leadership in ASCLS. I am humbled and inspired by her professional accomplishments and by her devotion to ASCLS. I can think of few others that deserve the **ASCLS Voices Under 40** Spotlight more than Michelle."

When asked what her motivation for being actively involved in ASCLS is, Michele replied: "My motivators for being actively involved in ASCLS include my passion for the medical laboratory science profession and my desire to promote this profession to the public. I became certified as a medical technologist in 1998 and, as many of my colleagues I stumbled upon the profession while investigating colleges. Once I entered the workforce, I realized the vital role medical laboratory practitioners serve on the healthcare team. However, I was disenchanted with the lack of knowledge about our role and recognition from other healthcare team members. This disenchantment contributed to my desire to pursue a graduate degree, to infuse in my students their value as medical laboratory practitioners, and sparked my interest in promoting the profession. Being an active ASCLS member allows me to interact with others that share my passion for the profession and provides me with avenues to consistently promote it. For me, this is a win-win situation as being active in ASCLS allows me to pursue my passions and strengthens my desire to do more for the profession at the same time." Michelle completed her doctorate degree with her research focusing on a qualitative study of the professional identity of medical laboratory practitioners and secondarily a quantitative survey of the perception of physicians on the education of medical laboratory practitioners.

Congratulations Michelle on your selection as an **ASCLS Voice Under 40**. You are a shining voice for ASCLS and for the Medical Laboratory profession.