

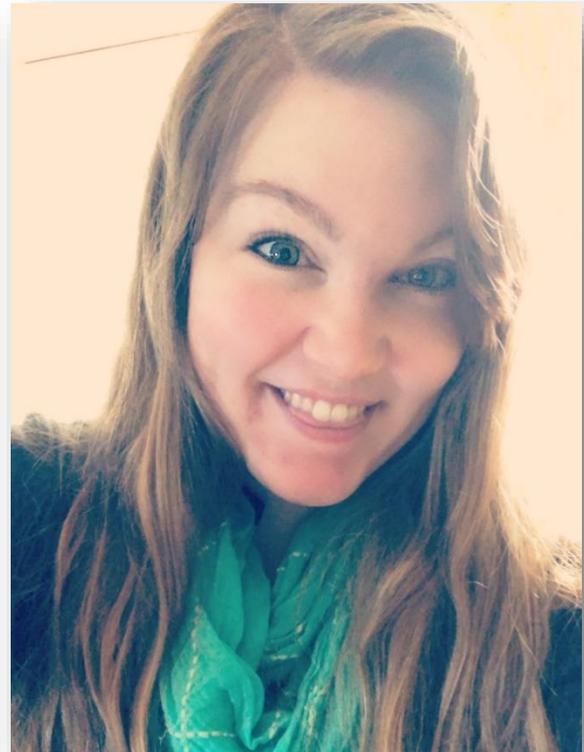
ASCLS is excited to introduce the ASCLS Voices Under 40, a monthly recognition of one of our many, talented and committed young professionals under 40 years old. The ASCLS Voices Spotlight has been developed to honor ASCLS members who have shown exceptional commitment to ASCLS, the laboratory profession, and their community at large at a younger age in their professional career. Each month we spotlight one of the Shining Voices who were selected from many nominations across the country.

Please meet Franki-Marie Herdt, MLS (ASCP)^{CM}, M (ASCP) Microbiology Lead Technical Specialist , from Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Franki is employed by Cheyenne Regional Medical Center as the Microbiology Lead Technical Specialist and serves as head of their Morale group.

She currently serves as the Wyoming state President.

"My motivation is for our profession. From the moment I heard about the organization, I realized we would not be anywhere without it. From the members fighting in Washington DC to the techs reaching out to one another to figure out best patient care, we are all making a huge difference and making sure we are doing what is best for our patients and each other. I also have such a deep connection with others in our profession. Something about the people being the in the trenches everyday alongside you makes me want to fight for better working conditions, wages, and safety for everyone. "



When asked what her favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Franki responded with "My best personal accomplishment within ASCLS would be involving Wyoming's only MLT/MLS program to be more integrated into the Wyoming ASCLS program. We have students that are more encouraged to join and be more involved. This year, we would have an entire class attending CLCC in Colorado before it was cancelled. We are still working with them to make sure they can attend IMSS as well. We have also discovered (with the help of WY Secretary/finance Barb Harvey) a scholarship program built into our Bylaws (it has

been quite a long time since they had been updated and leadership at our college had changed). We hope to move this forward this next year to make sure our students have the opportunity to obtain extra funds to help them with their education. Our educators seem to be getting more and more involved every year which is very exciting for the Wyoming society. I hope this will lead to a whole new class of new laborians that are more involved in the society.”

Franki was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of her nominators had this to say, “I worked with Franki directly when she was an Intern in the Region VIII Leadership Academy. She graduated in the 2016-2017 class of the Academy and was a delight to work with. She was engaged and showed that she was a team player from the very beginning. The class started the year with three Interns but one had to drop out due to life happens issues; Franki stepped up to fill the hole that he left behind in their project. Franki was one of two graduates of that class. They worked on a project focused on membership retention for Region VIII. Franki is one of the most positive, upbeat people I know! She is a huge asset to both the Wyoming Society and Region VIII and she is truly a Shining Voice for ASCLS! I am honored to recommend Franki-Marie Herdt for this well-deserved recognition. ”

Outside of ASCLS, Franki’s greatest achievement was becoming lead lab technical specialist in Microbiology. Although denied at first, she never gave up. She took every opportunity to improve herself and prove that she was willing to fight for what she so dearly wanted, learn, and be the best she could be to be worthy of the position. She could not be prouder of herself for sticking through and learning to be the best she can be for her staff and her hospital.