



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 Julie Bayer-Vile from Henrico, VA.

Julie is currently a graduate student. "I am pursuing a master's degree in genetic counseling and am excited to use the skills and experience I have gained in the lab to benefit my patients. I am especially excited to work with laboratory utilization of genetic testing, to benefit my patients, the facility I will be working for, and the laboratories. My master's thesis is looking at ways to identify and implement a preferred laboratory structure for referral genetic testing. Having the background that I do makes me uniquely qualified for this type of work. The experience I have gained on the bench and with ASCLS is going to go far in enabling me to help my patients as best I can."



She has served ASCLS in many capacities on all levels of leadership and currently serves on the Abstract Proposal and Review Committee and the House of Delegates Engagement Task Force. "My motivation for being involved in ASCLS is having a better understanding of the field so I can be a better healthcare provider. I have served as a peer CAP inspector and that experience made me better on the bench. Understanding the "whys" help me to be a better laboratorian, which in turn helps me provide better patient care. ASCLS expanded this knowledge base exponentially. Whether it be from what I have learned as a member and leader in the Scientific Assembly community, to a better understanding of PAMA and fee schedule changes through participating in the Legislative Assembly, to developing my public speaking skills as a presenter at the JAM, it has all gone in to making me a more rounded healthcare professional. These are skills that have benefitted me in many areas of my life, not just professionally, and I am thankful for these experiences."

When asked what her favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Julie responded with "My best personal accomplishment within ASCLS was starting the dialogue regarding the future direction of the House of Delegates. I made a post on the ASCLS Connect Member Community in 2018, which discussed what I felt were barriers to involvement with the HoD and possible solutions to overcome

these barriers. The post at the time generated some controversy, but it led to the creation of a task force to evaluate the current state of the House of Delegates and ways to increase engagement as the Society and the field of medical laboratory science continue to evolve. ASCLS is an important resource to medical laboratory science and it is critical that we find ways to adapt to the changing reality of the scientists in the field. My original post was just meant to create a conversation around the topic in hopes that maybe other people agreed. I was excited, proud, and humbled when I was asked to be a part of the task force to evaluate this very issue. We worked hard and didn't always agree but being a part of this effort gave me a lot of hope and excitement about the future of the HoD, the Society, and the field in general."

Outside of ASCLS, Ms. Bayer-Vile's greatest achievement has been her family. "My proudest achievement is being a mom to a wonderful 6-year-old girl. I love being a scientist and showing her that women can succeed in STEM, or whatever they put their minds to. She is the reason for everything I do and every day I try to be a better person for her - so I can lead by example in shaping her to be a good person as she continues to grow. ASCLS has given me the opportunity to develop leadership skills that I hope to pass to her. I've had the opportunity to be a lot of things and do a lot of things with ASCLS, all of which set an example for her of which I am very proud. I am completing my second master's degree in the 6 years since we adopted her and while it has been excruciatingly hard in that time, seeing her succeed because she sees me succeed makes every second of it worth it."