



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 Stephanie Jacobson, M.S. MLS(ASCP)^{CM} from Hermosa, South Dakota.

Stephanie is a MLS instructor at South Dakota State University. At SDSU, Stephanie is responsible for teaching a MLT-MLS transition introductory course, as well as courses in hematology, clinical chemistry, and urinalysis and body fluids. Additionally, she also teaches their Laboratory Management and Education course. She was recently awarded the MLS Faculty MVP award for her contributions in converting their laboratory and lecture sessions online during the early part of the COVID-19 pandemic. Stephanie is also currently a DCLS student at UTMB Galveston where she is planning to graduate during the summer of 2022.



Stephanie has authored several papers, publications, and presentations. These include A Case of Injury Associated HELLP Syndrome in a Native American from the *Journal of Clinical Case Studies* and Alcohol Induced Diabetic Ketoacidosis by an Acute Respiratory Infection with *Klebsiella pneumonia* published in the *Clinical Laboratory Science Journal*. She's edited several chapters of Bailey and Scotts Diagnostic Microbiology and is currently editing several chapters of Clinical Chemistry: Principles, Techniques, and Correlations while also serving as an expert content reviewer for International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science.

Stephanie serves ASCLS in many capacities. Her leadership responsibilities within her constituent society have included serving as ASCLS-SD Microbiology Scientific Assembly Chair, on the ASCLS-SD Nominations board, the ASCLS-SD Board of Directors, the ASCLS-SD Spring Symposium Planning Committee, the ASCLS-SD By-Laws Committee chair, and service as the P.A.C.E. coordinator for ASCLS-SD. Her leadership resulted in having been elected to President of ASCLS-SD. Additionally, Stephanie has served on the Region V planning committee for several

years having chaired the committee in 2021. She is currently also serving ASCLS on the national level as the Microbiology Scientific Assembly Chair.

Stephanie has a passion for laboratory science, education and service which fuels her desire to be involved in ASCLS. The interactions, and connections she's made in ASCLS have opened doors and allowed her to influence others' professional growth. These connections not only allow her to share her passion but keeps her passion vibrant and active. She states, "I am blessed and fortunate to have found such a great society that truly works for its profession and its members." Through these connections she has been elevated in her career having gained the opportunities for personal and professional growth that she doesn't believe she would have otherwise had outside of ASCLS.

Stephanie was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of her nominators had this to say "It is not often you are able to identify a professional of her caliber that not only works toward improving her own personal and professional knowledge but engages with students and other professionals to improve patient care and move medical laboratory science into the future by obtaining her advanced practice degree, the DCLS." Her recommender lauded her achievements in leadership within ASCLS-ND having revived the state newsletter and diligently worked to update the constituent societies by-laws to meet the national guidelines. Her continued work in the constituent society while maintaining her professional and family life as well as pursuing the DCLS demonstrates her dedication toward aiding students and existing professionals.

Outside of ASCLS, Stephanie's greatest achievement is being able to balance pursuit of the DCLS with a 4.0 while working as a full-time online educator, every other weekend at a local hospital laboratory, meeting her society leadership responsibilities and raising her two children with her husband Dan who is also a Medical Laboratory Scientist.