



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.

Meet John Ko, MS, MLS(ASCP), from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

John was formerly the Blood Bank Supervisor at the University of Michigan Hospital and is now Director of Laboratory Operations at the Detroit Medical Center in Detroit, Michigan. At Detroit Medical Center, he is responsible for ensuring that operations meet the needs of patients, laboratory staff, and clinicians. He does this by engaging in activities such as staffing requests, capital projects and process/workflow improvements. One thing he feels is most rewarding about his position is being able to mentor and guide staff to realize their own goals and aspirations.



John's ASCLS involvement has included being very active on the Emerging Managers Collaborative Conference (ELMC<sup>2</sup>) Steering Committee. He was a key contributor to the 2022 ELMC<sup>2</sup> educational program and volunteered to take on any tasks that were needed. John is currently serving as Vice Chair for the 2023 ELMC<sup>2</sup> Steering Committee.

John first joined ASCLS as a student and has held many roles at the state level since, including a term as President of ASCLS-Michigan. John considers it great to be part of a professional organization where members are engaged and empowered to achieve a mission that centers on making a positive impact on the delivery of patient care. His motivation to continue his involvement with ASCLS is because of the sense of community ASCLS affords him.

John is a true servant leader, and he finds reward in his leadership roles. As he states, "one of the most exciting aspects as a leader is being able to mentor and guide staff to realize and accomplish their own goals and aspirations. "

When asked about his most memorable accomplishments in ASCLS, he recalled when he received the Key to the Future Award in 2014. He felt it an honor to be recognized for his leadership potential and dedication to the profession. He also considers presenting two poster abstracts at JAM 2021 another personal accomplishment.

John is active in other laboratory professional organizations outside of ASCLS, such as AABB and the Philippine Association of Medical Technology-Michigan, the latter of which he has also served a term as President. John's nominator notes that he does not engage in this volunteer work for the recognition but for his sheer passion for the profession. As his nominator also states, we are eager to see where his professional and volunteer path will further lead him in the profession.

Outside of ASCLS, some of John's greatest achievements have been gained through serving and volunteering in various community events. Through serving, he has been able to form and build positive relationships with others. Professionally, he has completed his Master's degree and has been accepted to a Doctor of Health Sciences program.

Congratulations John!