



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 careers. Each month we spotlight one of the Shining Voices who were selected from many nominations across the country.

Please meet Stephanie Whitehead, MBA, MPH, MLS(ASCP), from San Antonio, Texas.

Stephanie is employed by University Health in San Antonio as the executive director of Pathology Services. In her role at University Health, she is also enthusiastically involved in the "eLABorate Topics" podcast, a weekly podcast hosted by herself, Tywauna Wilson, and Lona Small that is broadcast on all podcast platforms.

Stephanie serves ASCLS in many capacities, most notably as the recent vice chair of the Mentorship Committee. She also served on the Emerging Laboratory Managers Collaborative Conference (ELMC²) Steering Committee for the 2023 ELMC². Stephanie is also a recent presenter of several well-received presentations at ELMC² and the Clinical Laboratory Collaborative Conference.



Stephanie continues to be active in ASCLS because of her "deep involvement and passion for community service." She describes feeling a responsibility to volunteer, mentor, and lead where she can.

When asked what her favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Stephanie cited her role as a professional mentor. She said that through the mentorship connection, she has assisted mentees with creating a career blueprint, professional objective statement, and SMART goals to fill in the gaps in their personal timelines. She also states that she is proud to have presented at the 2021 and 2022 ELMC² virtual conferences to offer guidance to new laboratory leaders.

Stephanie was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of her nominators had this to say: "I feel blessed to have a front-row seat to all her amazing work and the opportunities she shares with others ... Stephanie has mastered the ability to contribute herself to our profession at this level. She has consistently demonstrated her willingness to serve and lead where needed."

Outside of ASCLS, Stephanie's greatest motivation and sense of achievement is derived from the weekly podcast that she co-hosts, eLABorate Topics, which features talks related to the laboratory and leadership focused on helping listeners succeed in their professional lives. As a co-host, she uses this platform to share weekly messages related to our profession, as well as helpful leadership tips for leaders. She states that the podcast has now surpassed 100 episodes, has listeners in Africa and Canada, and will be hosted by LabVine. She adds that with the national workforce shortage in the laboratory profession being a well-documented crisis, this podcast has been an important tool to give colleagues support and advice to manage and lead during these difficult times.