



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 Ogechi Ohaeto, MT(AAB), from Jacksonville, FL.

Ogechi is a Medical Technologist II at the University of Florida Health Jacksonville in Jacksonville, FL. At UF Health Jacksonville, she wears many hats! Ogechi performs simple and complex analyses on tissue, blood, and bodily fluids using laboratory instrumentation, manual methods, and procedures. She also approves the performance of tests by technicians; assumes accountability for patient tests by providing a high standard of quality, using independent judgment in the performance of standard operating procedures and complex instrumentation in varying sample environments.



In addition to her many professional duties, Ogechi has shown extraordinary dedication to ASCLS committees and task forces, as seen by her many roles: Ascending Professional Forum (APF) secretary and vice chair and Diversity Advocacy Council (DAC) councilor and secretary. Her dedication to the Florida Society for Clinical Laboratory Science is unmatched with many positions: developing professional representative, ascending professional representative, delegate, Scholarship Committee, District II director, and newsletter editor.

Outside of ASCLS, Ogechi was a guest speaker on the eLaborate Podcast, where she discussed diversity, equity, and inclusion in the laboratory. Additionally, Ogechi is the vice president of the Jacksonville Area Microbiology Society, where she presented a case study presentation entitled, "Urine Trouble."

In her role as vice president, she has been able to lead initiatives that foster collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and professional development among microbiology professionals in Jacksonville and beyond.

When asked about her most memorable accomplishments in ASCLS, Ogechi shared, "... organizing and leading a movie night hosted by the Diversity Advocacy Council. The featured film, 'Mixed Match,' shed light on the challenges faced by patients seeking bone marrow transplants, particularly those from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who often struggle to find compatible donors." She continued, "Through this event, I aimed to raise awareness about the critical need for increased diversity in bone marrow donor registries and the importance of equitable access to life-saving treatments for all patients."

Her hard work and commitment were recognized by the vice president of clinical operations at UF Health Jacksonville.

Ogechi Ohaeto is a hard-working laboratory professional, devoted to promoting the importance of the profession. Her motivation for being so highly involved in ASCLS is "rooted in her commitment to advancing the field of clinical laboratory science, as well fostering inclusivity and diversity."

We thank Ogechi for her loyalty and tireless efforts!

Congratulations Ogechi!