



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 was selected from many nominations across the country.

Meet Elizabeth Stepp, DCLS resident, MLS (ASCP)^{CM}, from Wellstar MCG Health in Augusta, Georgia.

Elizabeth has been a force for our profession for nearly a decade. She started her journey as a representative at the Colorado Student Forum and the National Student Forum secretary in 2015. The next year Elizabeth was a coordinator for Region VIII's New Professional New Member communications chair and Colorado fundraising chair along with serving on five other ASCLS committees. In 2018, Elizabeth was the chair for the ASCLS Ascending Professionals Forum where she worked to update the guidelines for the group.



These guidelines were used to help inform the ASCLS Developing Professionals Forum to update their own guidelines. Also, while Ascending Professional Forum chair, Elizabeth worked with the ASCLS Education & Research (E&R) Fund and Lab Week Committee to secure a portion of the profits to support travel scholarships for national ASCLS events and the E&R Fund Cynthia L. Breen Memorial Scholarship. She was the board liaison for two different committees in 2019 while also serving on the Annual Meeting Steering Committee. Elizabeth currently serves on the Membership Committee and, as of this year, has risen to the level of chairperson. As you can see, Elizabeth is truly dedicated to ASCLS and believes in the mission of our organization.

Elizabeth is not only a leader helping the organization via committees, but she has also written numerous articles and done several presentations. She has written articles in the *Colorado Clinical Laboratorian* discussing her first trip to the ASCLS Annual Meeting. Elizabeth helped others understand why they should stay members of ASCLS in an article in ASCLS Student Forum E-Newsletter. She has had two

articles in 2017 in *The Culture* discussing how to reduce stress and find balance working in the laboratory. Elizabeth defended why we as laboratorians matter in a 2016 *ASCLS Today* article. She was part of the DCLS Ask Me Anything Panel at the ASCLS Region III Triennial Meeting. Elizabeth also presented twice at this past year's Joint Annual Meeting about what is the DCLS and about when it is more than just a job.

Elizabeth says that "being involved in ASCLS gives me great pride and a sense of accomplishment. We are a vital part of the healthcare team and yet we are the most underrepresented group. I am motivated to remain active because I feel we maintain the position of being the profession's voice and our impact will continue to be felt as long as we have the membership dedicated to the work it takes."

Elizabeth's main role now is completing her residency as a DCLS in Augusta, Georgia. She is excited to make a bigger difference in the field as a newly minted DCLS. Elizabeth is taking on that role by being invited to speak at state meetings, Louisiana Society for Clinical Laboratory Science/ASCLS-Mississippi Joint Annual Meeting and Clinical Laboratory Collaborative Conference about DCLS programs. Elizabeth has been making a difference in our profession her entire career, and her role will only increase as she becomes one of our best advocates for our profession.

Congratulations Elizabeth!