

Developing Professional Forum Chair Candidates

Name: KayDen Carrion

School: University of Southern Mississippi

Degree and Year of Graduation: MS in MLS, 2027

What motivates you to apply for this office?

I am always looking for ways to be involved in the medical laboratory community. I believe I have the ability to lead a great group of members and make a difference in the healthcare community. I feel it is important to have a strong mentor to empower members to make a difference in their own life and be actively involved in the society. I also enjoy networking and forming connections because those relationships can be beneficial in the long run.

In what professional, educational, or community service activities have you participated? Please indicate any leadership positions you've held in these activities.

I am currently the president of the MLS club at my university. I also hold a leadership role as the president of ASCLS-MS student forum office. I have assisted in the ASCLS bi-state meeting for Louisiana and Mississippi in numerous ways. I created multiple games for students to help break the ice, I helped put together the silent auction fundraiser, assisted the board of director in any tasks, and I presented to students on what all entails as a president. I also made sure to tell students that I am their advocate and if they need anything, they can always reach out to me. I have a passion in helping individuals because I know what it is like when you are stuck and do not know which way to go.

I truly enjoy leading because I know I am inspiring others to come out of their shell and to lead in their own way as well. I also run two social media accounts that shows my life as a medical laboratory science student. My goal is to expose this amazing healthcare profession to the society and understand just how important we are in the field. It is slowly growing and I hope I get to inspire prospective students to take this path.

If you were to become a forum officer, what would you like to accomplish on behalf of the forum members?

I would like to see more student engagement. Currently, I feel that students do not know how to reach out to their officers or even know we can reach out to the officers. Before becoming the student forum president, I was not aware of such student officers. I think it is important to spread that resource out in order for the students to have someone to lean on when they need guidance or some resolution to an issue they are having.

Because I am actively posting on my social media about MLS, I think a Facebook page for

MLS/MLT students would be a great start. It can be a place of discussion, blog, advice, and a way to network with others. This can be a great place for students to also expand their professional development. For example, I can run workshops that can have volunteers come in and help build resumes.

We live in a world where technology is in everything we do and I would like to use it to our advantage to reach all the students and create an amazing networking system.

Name: Eleanor Guhl

School: Madison College

Degree and Year of Graduation: MLT, 2025

What motivates you to apply for this office?

I just recently started my journey in ASCLS and the Laboratory Technician profession, but the opportunities this Society has given to me will follow me forever. My time as the Developing Professional Vice Chair only reaffirms the importance of the APF/DPF forum and continues to teach me what it is to be a great leader. I've been and continue to be dedicated to bringing a voice to new professionals and increasing visibility to my profession. ASCLS means so much to me, and I hope I can continue to serve my community in a position of leadership.

In what professional, educational, or community service activities have you participated? Please indicate any leadership positions you've held in these activities.

Nationally, I've served at the Developing Professional Vice Chair and participated in the Lab Week Run Medal planning subcommittee and the Lab Week T-Shirt Design subcommittee. I've also joined the Leadership Development Committee as a member. On a state level I was elected as the Developing professional chair in 2025 and have served in the conference planning committee. I've also taken over most WI-ASCLS Social medias with plans to update them to draw more people and visibility to our profession.

I recently volunteered at my graduating college, MATC, to be a Facilitator between nursing and MLT students where we went over a case study about how both professions contribute to patient care. I was also given the opportunity to sit on a graduating student panel where I answered students' questions on the profession and what to expect when they get out into the field.

If you were to become a forum officer, what would you like to accomplish on behalf of the forum members?

I resonate deeply with the DPF Mission of empowering new professionals and facilitating their growth as they navigate the healthcare field, and professional societies like ASCLS.

There has been a learning curve for me, and I would be honored to use my knowledge to continue to improve the Developing Professional Forum. I've taken opportunities to speak with non-society members and new professionals about the importance of ASCLS and the opportunity's they can find within this society. I would love to continue to use the DPF resources to further my leadership capabilities so that I can continue to make positive changes in the laboratory community and nurture the future of our profession.

Name: Natalie Ishioka

School: Oakland University

Degree and Year of Graduation: Bachelor's, 2027

What motivates you to apply for this office?

My motivation to apply for this position is my passion for students and student members of ASCLS. I've been the vice president of my school's clinical & diagnostic science club for the past 2 years. In this role, I've been a consistent advocate for ASCLS, encouraging our members to attend state annual meetings and to join as developing professional members. Our club is able to cover registration fees for our state's annual meeting, and we were able to bring 14 students last year and 8 this year, some of whom have later joined ASCLS as a result of their positive experiences. I also care deeply about sharing this profession with students who are enthusiastic about science but who don't quite know the right path for themselves yet. I've had the opportunity to assist with some MLS outreach camps, and it was one of the most fun things that I've had the chance to do. Additionally, I'm passionate about providing meaningful educational experiences to students, and I'd love to participate in bringing online resources to students that answer their questions and improve their experience as they transition into the workforce. I would love to help develop some resources and materials to help current ASCLS student members discuss ASCLS and the laboratory science profession with their peers. Having a framework for the conversation and some guidelines on how to quantify their own experiences might be helpful in empowering students to recruit their classmates and coworkers to ASCLS.

In what professional, educational, or community service activities have you participated?

Please indicate any leadership positions you've held in these activities.

Below is a list of the organizations, activities, and positions that I'm currently involved with, both on and off of my university's campus.

ASCLS-MI Constituent Society | Developing Professional Director (2025-2026, 2026-2027),
Member (2024-ongoing)

Oakland University Clinical & Diagnostic Sciences Society | Vice-President (2024-2025,

2025-2026), Member (2023-2024)

Oakland University Residence Life Association | Coordinating Officer of Residential Engagement (2025-2026), General Body Member (2024-2025)

National Residence Hall Honorary - Golden Grizzlies Chapter | Coordinating Officer of Administration (2024-2025, 2025-2026), General Body Member (2023-2024)

Oakland University Honors College | Presidential Scholar Medallion Program (2022-2026)

Oakland University Student Activities Funding Board | Director of Audits (2024-2025), Associate Chairperson (2023-2024), Director of Outreach (2023)

Oakland University Housing | Resident Assistant (2023-2026)

Kaleo Arts | Assistant Director (2026), Volunteer (2017-2026)

If you were to become a forum officer, what would you like to accomplish on behalf of the forum members?

I've served in multiple programming roles such as planning events for the 2,100 students living on my school's campus or meetings for our Clinical & Diagnostic Science Society. Some examples include a formal charity gala, a campus scavenger hunt, and siblings weekend. Also, as CDSS Vice President, I helped plan a potion making event, making mocktails using dilutions, and an alumni panel for students to ask questions to current professionals. I believe that this experience will allow me to bring creative ideas to the table and increase the scope of what this forum offers. One idea I'd love to work on would be developing downloadable program kits that include instructions, supply lists, and marketing materials so that members across the country could host their own local versions of the event. I think this would increase a feeling of involvement and connection while decreasing some barriers to programming by eliminating the planning and assembling steps. Members may feel more connected to ASCLS when participating in student specific programming, and may also connect with students in other areas, knowing they are participating in similar events and talking about it after.

This could also be an outreach tool, as members can invite classmates and coworkers who aren't members and encourage them to join. I believe that with my experience with and passion for programming, I can bring in new ideas to attract new student members and to engage and retain those who are already here.

Name: LuAnn Tincher

School: UAMS

Degree and Year of Graduation: MLS, 2027

What motivates you to apply for this office?

I am interested in developing my career outside of the classroom and my work environment. Being involved in ASCLS is important to me and I am looking for the opportunity to grow in my service to others through ASCLS.

I am more interested in the Ascending Professional position, as I will finish my MLS next spring. I am currently working full time in the field, but technically a student until 5/27.

In what professional, educational, or community service activities have you participated? Please indicate any leadership positions you've held in these activities.

I have been involved in various community service activities.

Safety team member (Christ Community Church- Brookline, MO; 2023-2025)

Sunday school teacher and nursery volunteer (Mt. Pleasant Community Church- Lyndon, KS 2013-2020)

4H Parent Leader and Girl Scout Leader (Olpe, KS 2001-2012)

If you were to become a forum officer, what would you like to accomplish on behalf of the forum members?

I would like to encourage membership, not only with students, but at work. It is important that we are involved in professional societies such as ASCLS. Through these opportunities we can help foster change, growth and development in the laboratory.