

## Developing Professional Forum Secretary Candidates

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.