



ASCLS is excited to introduce **ASCLS Voices Under 40**, recognizing our many, talented and committed young professionals under 40 years old. The ASCLS Voices Spotlight honors ASCLS members who have shown exceptional commitment to ASCLS, the laboratory profession, and their community at large at a young age in their professional career. This month we spotlight one of the 2016 ASCLS Shining Voices who was selected from nominations across the country.

Please take a moment to get to know our ASCLS Voices Under 40 Spotlight for the Month of February, Joanna Ellis from San Marcos, Texas!



Joanna is employed at Texas State University. Joanna became involved with the Texas Association for Clinical Laboratory Science (TACLS) as a student. She was voted the Student Forum Chair and represented Region VII at Legislative Day in Washington DC. Since this time, Joanna continued to be very active in the state organization. She has been a TACLS Board member, President-Elect, President, Past President, and Membership Committee Chair. She has served as the Co-Webmaster for the state organization and has played a vital role in bringing the TACLS website into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and has been a state convention committee member and chaired the 2013 TACLS Annual meeting.

Joanna's passion has been in leading the organization in the fight for licensure for laboratorians. She has testified before the State Legislature, the Sunset Commission and written dozens of letters to Senators and Representatives. Ms. Ellis is a graduate of the ASCLS Leadership Academy. She has promoted the profession to the public by publishing articles regarding laboratory testing, mentoring and networking. Joanna does not limit her activities to the profession but also found time to participate in community and civic organizations that support her daughter's interests.

One of her nominators wrote: "I have known Joanna for approximately 10 years. I first came to know her in 2006 when she began taking the first of several of my Clinical Laboratory Science courses...Since that time, I have witnessed her increasingly significant involvement on multiple levels of leadership,

scholarship, character, potential, and loyalty. It has been a pleasure to observe Joanna mature and grow with respect to the attributes that are inherent in an ASLCS Leadership Academy applicant.”

Congratulations Joanna on your selection as an **ASCLS Voice Under 40**. You are a shining voice for ASCLS and for the Medical Laboratory profession.