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.

Please meet Samantha Salm MLS(ASCP)CM from Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

Samantha is employed by Roche Diagnostics as a field application specialist. In her role, she supports laboratory professionals with Roche clinical diagnostic equipment so they are empowered to best serve their patients. Samantha performs her job by implementing new chemistry systems, assisting in verification studies, performing training sessions, and assisting customers in advanced troubleshooting.

Samantha served ASCLS in many capacities beginning as a student delegate and member of the Product Development Committee before joining the Leadership Academy. After graduating from the Leadership Academy in 2017, her service to ASCLS-Wisconsin expanded to serving as the Awards Chair, Marketing and Communications Chair, and the Sustainability Task Force Chair. Samantha’s nominator wrote “Samantha’s strength is definitely in the promotion of the profession, recognition of member contributions and communication to our membership.” Samantha also served at the national level as the chair of the Product Development Committee. Samantha has participated in legislative activities including meeting with members of congress and attending the Legislative Symposium. Finally, Samantha has given several professional presentations focused on leadership.

When we asked Samantha why she continues to be active in ASCLS she responded “ASCLS is such an important supporter, advocate, and voice for Clinical Lab Professionals, and it is important to me to have a role in that.” Samantha does not
see her role in the clinical laboratory as being constrained by the responsibilities of her job. Instead, she feels a responsibility to give all laboratory professionals a voice in healthcare.

When asked what her favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Samantha cited her work as chair of the ASCLS-Wisconsin Awards Committee. During her tenure in this role, she brought new life to her society by recognizing the contributions of their members.

Samantha was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of her nominators had this to say “One of Samantha’s best qualities as a volunteer leader is that she follows through and does what she says she will do. She is a great example of the future of our organization.”

Outside of ASCLS, Samantha’s greatest achievement was completing a half-marathon. She kept her resolve as she bundled-up for long training runs in the cold Wisconsin winter preceding the race. When spring finally came, Samantha found personal satisfaction and a new confidence in her ability to reach her goals.