



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 Zac Lunak, PhD, HTL, MLS from Grand Forks, ND.

Zac is employed by University of North Dakota as an Assistant Professor. His main responsibility is serving as program director for the Histotechnician Certificate Program. He teaches histotechnology and immunology for the department and also advises histo students and several MLS graduate students.

He serves ASCLS in many capacities including North Dakota President in 2018-2019 and most recently, ASCLS-ND Promotion of the Profession Chair 2019-2020. When asked why Zac continues to be involved, he had this to say, "I started getting involved in ASCLS about 4 years ago when I served as the Nominations Chair for ASCL-ND. I originally accepted this position because I wanted the opportunity to network after just moving from Wisconsin. Serving on the ASCLS-ND for that first year made me further understand the purpose of ASCLS. I no longer thought of it just as another organization that provides continuing education but an organization that truly advocates for the profession at the legislative level. This motivated me to stay involved, and I happily accepted the nomination for ASCLS-ND president the next year."



When asked what his favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Zac responded with, "Serving as president for ASCLS-ND was a great accomplishment for me. The national meetings are always memorable, but attending the legislative symposium is something that stands out for me. Educating the offices of congress from our state about lab issues was rewarding and I feel made a difference."

Zac was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of his nominators had this to say, "As a Department of Medical Laboratory Science faculty member, Zac consistently shows his passion for the profession to students through actions and words. He is involved in activities that promote the profession such as National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, as well as camps for introducing the laboratory to children in the community. He also encourages students to become

true professionals and seeks out opportunities to forward the initiative of increasing laboratory awareness and recognition.”

Outside of ASCLS, Zac said that his greatest achievement was raising his three kids with his wife.