

ASHI Committee Highlights



Committee Name: Bylaws Committee

Committee Chair: Dr. Catherine F. Klimek, BS CT(ASCP) CHS

Committee Goals: Develop and maintain a comprehensive set of bylaws that promote ASHI's mission and vision and comply with all relevant regulatory bodies.

Committee Responsibilities:

- Review and update the ASHI bylaws
- Ongoing review of applicable bylaws of organizations with which ASHI has deemed status, e.g., CMS, UNOS, NMDP, FACT, etc.
- Prepare a summary of proposed bylaws changes and distribute them to the membership for comments
- Update and maintain the ASHI Standard Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM)
- Attend the annual committee meeting held in conjunction with the ASHI Annual Meeting whenever possible

Time Commitment:

The time commitment for the Bylaws committee varies each year depending upon the projects before the committee. Generally, a committee member may spend approximately 1 hour, 4 to 6 times a year on a Committee conference call to discuss project updates, in addition to the personal time spent on tasks related to the projects.

1. What is the biggest contribution this committee has made to ASHI and its members?

The biggest contribution made so far this year to ASHI and its members has been the collaboration between the Bylaws Committee and the ASHI Membership Committee in revision of the membership application process. The proposed application process for full membership (new and renewals) is more streamlined and electronic. The proposed auto approval process no longer requires the Membership Committee Chair to review each application.

2. Name a project this committee is most focused on right now.

The immediate future focus of the Bylaws Committee will be the annual review of the ASHI Standard Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM). The Bylaws Committee will be working with each ASHI Committee Chair to review current committee practices and policies for updates. This will become an annual process for the Bylaws committee to ensure continuous and timely updates to SPPM.

3. Why should members join your committee?

Members interested in ASHI committee work would benefit from spending time on the ASHI Bylaws committee. While on the Bylaws committee, members get a wonderful opportunity to experience the inter-connectivity of the ASHI Committees. Additionally, the committee is responsible for the update and maintenance of the ASHI Standard Policies and Procedures Manual (SPPM). Having that level of operational knowledge is a great foundation to build committee involvement.

4. As the committee chair, how has this volunteer position helped you grow professionally?

When you first volunteer for committee work; obviously, you do not climb immediately into the Committee Chair role. Serving as a committee member provides an opportunity for discovery and growth while serving. The Bylaws committee was the first ASHI committee for which I volunteered. That initial involvement led to additional committee work on Technologist Affairs. Each step has provided opportunities for collaboration and networking with fellow technologists and laboratory directors; all of which has helped me grow professionally.