

ASHI Member Spotlight

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Name & Credentials: Reva H. Goggins BS

Job Title: Clinical Technologist III

Place of employment: Yale University School of Medicine

Graduated from: Marist College, Poughkeepsie New York

How long have you been an ASHI member? I'm not sure how long I've been an ASHI member, but I've been in HLA at Yale for 30 years.

When did you attend your first ASHI Meeting? My first ASHI meeting was in Newport, Rhode Island in 1992. I went with my supervisor, Maggie Marcarelli. I was pregnant at the time.

What made you decide to work in HLA? I started at Yale University right after college in the cytology lab as a prep tech and I wasn't really utilizing my degree. There was an in-house job posting for the tissue typing lab, so I went and interviewed. I started in the lab on January 3, 1988.

Most rewarding aspect: The most rewarding part of this job for me is that I started from the bottom up. I went from having pretty much no idea what I was doing to understanding the science and the nature of transplantation. I have worn many hats in the lab from the tech to the supervisor and then back being a tech. I have survived on the politics of the job so far and still love my job. Right there is a very rewarding aspect. Still loving your job!

Fun fact: I started in HLA at the age of 25 and I was the "kid" in the job. I knew pretty much no one except for people who worked at Yale with me. Now after 30 years with the help of great supervisors, I have given lots of presentations and case studies. I even won the case study presentation in Hawaii one year! It's very ironic that the things that my supervisors used to nag me about are becoming my pet peeves. I am usually such a down to earth person that I hope that I don't turn out to be the old nasty tech in the lab who complains about cleanliness and who left the microscope light on. I have been working third shift since 2014, so my only hobbies are sleeping and I love to travel and see my grandson in Virginia.