

**Illinois State Assembly Annual Meeting
March 2018**

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY (vote for 1)

For those of you who do not know me, I am a past President of the Illinois State Assembly and being a surgical technologist and member of the assembly is my passion. I have served as a Director for 2 terms and your President for 2 terms. The past few years I have had many changes in my life and felt like a part of it was missing and that very special part was being an active part of the your state assembly. We have very strong leadership in our Illinois State Assembly and it would be a great privilege to work with them again, side by side ensuring our assembly always has a future.

I have served as a secretary in a local chapter of the Illinois Order of Jobs Daughters in years past so I am very familiar with the duties of a secretary and my past experiences as your President will only enhance that.

So I am asking for your vote in March to elect me as your secretary for the next 2 years. It would be an honor to serve again on your Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha M. Brook, CST

My name is Julie Wedster and I am seeking my second term as secretary for our state assembly. As an educator, I understand the importance of education in the operating room. As Certified Surgical Technologists, you have all graduated from an accredited educational program and understand our evolution. Many, many years ago, one did not need an education to do what we do. Many believed you could take any bystander walking down the street and teach them to “pass instruments” to a surgeon, with no education needed. Many that was a good theory years ago, but today we need to know the why behind the action. For example, “Why does the surgeon use a Metz scissor instead of a Mayo?” OR “Why must we anticipate the surgeon’s next move?” Being a member of the board, we are working to require an education for mandatory certification. All individuals in the operating room must understand the “Why”, by being certified and or licensed and this must include surgical technologists. As the Secretary, I want to work with all other members of our board to push Illinois into forcing education into all operating rooms and requiring mandatory certification.

Julie Wedster, CST

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CANDIDATE FOR BOARD OF DIRECTOR (vote for 3)

I would like to introduce myself to my fellow ISA members. I am Phyllis Biever, CST, from Minier, Illinois. I am running for the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Assembly of AST. I have been an active member of AST for 35 years. I have served our ISA as a former Treasurer and served one term as a board member. I am employed at Unity Point Proctor in Peoria, IL. I love being a CST and I welcome each new day and the opportunity to serve the patients entrusted to my care. The privilege and duty to care for our patients as Certified Surgical Technologists has never been more important than it is today. We are the experts on aseptic technique in the operating room and we must promote ourselves and our profession. We must hold ourselves to a higher standard if we want the respect and recognition we so deserve. This will be accomplished by Officers and the Board of Directors who give their time and talents unselfishly. I am committed to serving the members of the ISA as a Board of Director and I am asking for the opportunity to serve you, the members.

Phyllis Biever, CST

My name is Tiffany Allen and I am from Taylorville, Illinois and have been a CST for 3 years working in Springfield. My specialty service is plastics, burn and neurosurgery. I would like to represent the Illinois State Assembly as a Board of Director and am asking for your vote. One of my goals as a Board member is to act as a vessel for the ISA by encouraging employment of CST's through health care organizations as well as a voice of encouragement for all CST's in the state. I hope to be a valued member in the evolution of laws within Illinois for surgical technologists and to be a voice to legislation of the importance of being registered as a Registered Certified Surgical Technologist. I am asking for your support to serve you on the Board of Directors and will represent you, the member to the best of my ability.

Tiffany Allen, CST

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CANDIDATES FOR DELEGATE (vote for 6)

My name is Adele Alvarez. Five years ago I attended my first National Conference as a delegate. It has been incredible to be able to meet the candidates as a delegate and ask questions before voting for the candidate who will best represent the surgical technologists and our organization. Our profession has shown growth over the years, and I would like to continue to see our organization move forward and continue to meet and vote for the candidates who will best impact our profession and shape our future. It has been an honor to have your vote in the past, and I ask that you vote for me as a delegate to attend the AST Surgical Technology Conference in 2018.

Adele Alvarez, CST

It would be an honor once again to serve as a delegate to represent the State of Illinois at the AST national conference. To be able to impact what happens on a national level within our organization will eventually affect what happens on a state level. I will put the interests of the membership first in making voting decisions. Our profession needs to continue to move forward and in order to do that, the candidates that best represent all surgical technologists should be chosen. I promise to make the best decisions for our profession that will benefit every member in our organization. It is exhilarating to attend conference and network with surgical technologists from all over the country, but there is no higher honor than to have a voice in your profession and national organization for the future. I ask that you vote for me as a delegate to conference. Thank you.

Janice Lovekamp, CST/CSFA, CSPDT, FAST

My name is Casandra Clifton and I am interested in becoming a delegate to represent Illinois at the AST conference. I have a surgical technologist for 5 ½ years and have worked at a Level I trauma center and am now an instructor in a surgical technology program. I am very passionate about the field of surgical technology and I would like to give back in some way to the profession that has given me so much. By serving as a delegate, I believe I would be able to learn more about and interact with others from our profession, make a difference in the direction of our professional organization and grow personally from the experiences. As a delegate, I would make decisions based on what is best for all our members and would not take my responsibilities lightly. I appreciate your consideration in selecting me as a delegate to conference.

Casandra Clifton, CST

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My name is Julie Wedster and I would like to be a delegate for our state at this year's AST conference. I have been a surgical technology instructor for six years and a surgical technology program director for five years. I have also been part of the Illinois State Assembly for three years now. I want to be the voice of our state, the voice that through your issues and concerns, helps to choose our next board on the AST national team. Our issues and concerns from the surgical technologists in the State of Illinois is just as important to me as a fragile heart I held in my hands many years ago. Vote for me as I will not let you down. When it is time to make our voice heard, I guarantee, I will be the last delegate standing.

Julie Wedster, CST

When I first decided to run for a delegate seat for National Conference 3 years ago, my motivation was to be more involved with the profession and to give back to the profession that has given so much to me. My goal was to represent the State of Illinois on the national level to move the profession forward. This year I am still motivated by those things but I am also motivated to set an example for the future of the profession, which lies with our students and those just beginning their journey as members of the surgical team. I firmly believe that if I want to see our profession growing, alive and will it takes not only informing those behind us of how they can do their part but leading by example. It would be an honor to represent Illinois this year and take part in Mastery in the Making.

Chante Yearby, CST
