

## Leadership Academy Class of 2020 connecting members Off the Bench

By Charmaine Kuehne

How does a group of eleven individuals from Alaska to Puerto Rico successfully launch a dedicated, professional, and sustaining continuing education podcast? Just ask the ASCLS Leadership Academy's Class of 2020!

Let's rewind to JAM 2019 in Charlotte, NC where the members of the largest Leadership Academy met face-to-face for the first and ONLY time. Hands were shaken, contacts were exchanged, photos taken, and they got down to business.

About every other week, the class met virtually to brainstorm, discuss, and plan their project. They decided to utilize the existing podcast, Off the Bench and turn it into a time and budget friendly resource for ASCLS members to earn continuing education credits, connect and engage with one another, and become a source of revenue for the organization.

Every aspect of production was managed by the Leadership Academy members. From research and development to acquiring approval for PACE credits to marketing on social media, each member was involved in the production process.

During JAM 2020, each member explained their role in the development of the podcast toolkit which consists of SOPs on Pre-Production, Production, Post-Production, PACE approval process, Marketing, and Sustainability which will be available to future Leadership Academy members to continue the podcast.

Their first podcast available for CE entitled Acute Myeloid Leukemia Workup will be available soon through media links on the ASCLS website.

With most educational platforms going virtual, there is no better time to implement a podcast to connect ASCLS members and earn continuing education credits. Having a solid template to follow ensures reproducibility, something all laboratorians can appreciate!

The ASCLS Leadership Academy, Class of 2020 is truly an example of like-minded people coming together with a common goal despite the obstacles of time, distance, and a global pandemic!