

I would like to thank my family and friends for being here. I would also like to thank them for their continued support without I would not have the courage to embark on this journey.

This past year the strategic planning committee has developed a new plan for the society. From this plan, I have reorganized the committee structure and I am starting 2 new task forces.

They are CT Mock Registry and Technology Innovations. I have selected Co-Chairs for these task forces but it will be vital to our plan to solicit help from the membership. Each Co-Chair will need help to complete the task that I am giving them. This is your opportunity to serve your profession.

I was a technologist like many of you out there coming to meetings for fifteen years without ever getting involved. Well now is the time to get involved. To be honest I don't know what I was waiting for, maybe my children to grow up, well you can see that has happened. Board members were shocked to find out how many years I had been coming to meetings because they didn't notice me sitting at that back table with the students. You need to give me your name so I can get you on a committee. I promise I will start you out slow, it took me over 20 years to get to this point.

For all the students in the audience I would like to try to instill a little bit of Professional pride in you tonight. When you begin, your profession remember it is not just a job and take some pride in it. You have all gone to school and studied very hard to get where you are today. According to Merriam-Webster dictionary profession means: a calling requiring specialized knowledge and often long and intensive academic preparation. Do not forget this when you begin working and take pride in what you do.

You do have specialized knowledge, I saw it first hand this afternoon at quiz bowl. As an educator I know you all put in long hours in clinical and in the classroom and even more hours studying. So good luck to all of you who are about to take your registry and once you get that RT behind your name I expect you to send me an email to join a committee or task force.