

**The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Biographical Sketch of Candidates for 2025 Election**

Candidate for the office of: Governance Committee

Name: Celine Heskey

Credentials: DrPH RDN

Title: Associate Professor

Agency: Employed at a Private University



ASPHN Activities:

- As a new member in 2024 I attended the Annual ASPHN meeting for the first time.
- I have actively participated in several continuing education/webinar events.

Briefly describe why you are interested in filling this position:

- I would like to actively participate and contribute in a meaningful way to ASPHN, including supporting the vision that 'all people live in thriving and resilient communities supported by sustainable food systems'. If I have the opportunity to be part of the Governance Committee, it will allow me to be more involved with ASPHN and explore additional opportunities to continue to be of service in the future. By serving on the Governance Committee, I would help to shape the future of the organization by the thoughtful selection and nomination of candidates for the board. Additionally, this opportunity will help to broaden my public health nutrition knowledge and skills in terms of practice and service, which will contribute to my overall professional development. These activities are key to supporting my role in teaching and mentoring future public health nutritionists in the academic setting. I will bring skills and knowledge related to problem-solving, research, and prior experience with the administration of non-profit professional organizations/initiatives, along with a diverse worldview to the team.

Other Related Activities (professional and/or personal):

- I am currently the program director of the MPH Nutrition Coordinated Program (for nutrition and dietetics) track in the School of Public Health at Loma Linda University, training future public health dietitians/nutritionists.
- My research focuses on examining the benefits of whole plant foods, including fruits and nuts, on risk factors for cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes.
- I currently serve on the Board of Directors of Food+Planet, which is a non profit organization committed to educating health professionals about sustainable food systems.
- I previously served as the assistant chair of the Nutrition Education Committee of the Adventist Nutrition and Dietetics International

Association (ANDIA) [3/2020-1/2023], where I worked with a team to cultivate and execute continuing education events for members.

- My research and service interests also have an international scope, which includes membership in the African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium (AC3) colorectal cancer working group.
- I am also a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the American Society of Nutrition.