

ASMBS Nomination Letter:

Dear Members of the Nomination Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to review my application. While my experience with ASMBS pales compared to the achievements of more qualified applicants, I hope to be vetted for this prestigious opportunity to serve.

About me: I was in private practice, where I did my fellowship training, and recently switched to an employed model. With the support from amazing mentors, I have become clinically very busy, averaging 550 cases a year and my practice consists of 20% of revisional bariatric cases such as reversal of RYGB, VBG conversions, EJ conversions, SADI, conversion of RYGB to DS, reversal of SADI/DS, type 1 distalizations, and resleeves. This real-world experience in complex bariatric cases and coming from a private practice perspective gives me a distinct perspective and representation of a large component of ASMBS members.

I am the co-Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and developed the ASMBS Surgical Mentoring Program. In addition, I am on several committees for ASMBS, and am the current California and Nevada ASMBS Chapter President, representing over 250 bariatric surgeons. I have worked to build our chapter to have a solid foundation while dealing with access to care insurance issues and organized our first joint chapter conference in Tahoe.

In addition, I have stayed academically active where many of my research projects, presentations, and conference attendance were on my own PTO and expenses. However, I have always been proud to be part of ASMBS and believe it takes a tremendous personal commitment to ensure ASMBS is successful for future challenges ahead. I truly respect ASMBS for its value to its members and I am honored to be part of any way I can to be of service.

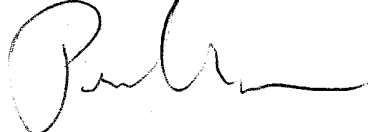
A few areas the society could work on:

1. Connectedness of members and network. I created the Surgical Mentoring Program because our society is unique in its members who are so passionate about treating obesity and advancing their skills. I would love to expand into surgical coaching with intraoperative live coaching. In addition, expansion of a format that can share videos and discussion on clinical matters in format more comprehensive than the current format of DocMatter.
2. Access to Care and Medical Tourism: The rise of bariatric surgery performed within and outside the US has exponentially increased (over 1200 bariatric surgeries a week in Mexico) reflects the slow ability for insurers to respond to

access to care. Tracking complications and medical tourism has been a issue not just here in the US but internationally. A database to capture this data would be essential.

3. Protection of ASMBS branding. Several bariatric programs use the ASMBS logo to signify an endorsement of the center as ASMBS approved. This is an area we can protect the brand of ASMBS and minimize false advertising.

Thank you for your consideration.



Sincerely,

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Co-Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Committee ASMBS

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