

John D. Scott, Short Biographical Statement

I am honored to be on the list of potential nominees for the Secretary-Treasurer of the ASMBS.

I have always believed the function of the ASMBS can be broken down into some simple, broad categories: unwavering commitment to quality surgical care, relentless advocacy for access to bariatric surgical care, resident and fellowship education, research toward improving metabolic surgery, collaboration with our bariatric surgical colleagues, commitment to the oncologic model for a continuum of obesity care, and service to the community.

As a leader of this great organization, I would serve as an active proponent to ensure that our collective energy would be directed at maintaining these objectives. I will work to ensure that members feel their investment in the AMSBS returns an ample dividend to their practice and professional growth.

We find ourselves at a critical juncture in the realm of metabolic surgery. While pharmacological treatments have proven effective and accessible for our members, their increasing utilization among general practitioners is a stark reminder that competition for our patients' attention has intensified. Fortunately, the ASMBS is strategically positioned to maintain a prominent presence across surgical, endoscopic, and pharmacological domains. Leveraging our expertise in the physiology of obesity, profound understanding of metabolic surgery's scientific underpinnings, and ongoing research endeavors to enhance patient health, the ASMBS is poised to assume leadership roles in shaping the national dialogue on obesity treatment.

As your delegate to the American Medical Association, I sense that the nation's eyes are being opened to the great benefits of the services that we provide for our patients. Primary care providers and referring specialists are becoming more familiar and comfortable with metabolic surgical procedures. However, we cannot squander that momentum. We must take advantage of the growing national discourse on the treatment of obesity in this country and continue to fight for increased access to surgical care and improved awareness of treatment modalities.

To achieve these objectives, it's imperative for the ASMBS to present a united front. We need to exhibit efficiency and coordination to alleviate the workload for our volunteer surgeon membership. Our messaging must be consistent, accompanied by purposeful and direct action. Furthermore, we must emphasize the power of our collective numbers to amplify our influence and impact at the national, state, and local levels.

As a past president of the Bariatric Society of the Carolinas, past chairman of the Access to Care team, and past Program Committee Chair, I am well-prepared to perform these tasks. If elected, I will be accessible and accountable to the membership, and I promise to listen to your concerns and work to address them. I will be a strong voice for our surgeons and integrated health allies, advocating for policies that help our patients and the growth of our specialty. We will be beacons for health, justice, and equity.

I look forward to having the opportunity to continue serving our membership as an officer of the ASMBS.