

I am a practicing metabolic and bariatric surgeon, surgical educator, and health systems leader who has devoted much of my professional career to advancing high-quality, evidence-based obesity care through service within the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. My vision for the ASMBS is grounded in maintaining our strong clinical voice in obesity care and ensuring members are empowered and supported through an evolving landscape in the care we deliver.

My service to ASMBS has focused on producing clinically relevant work that reflects the realities faced by practicing surgeons and integrated health professionals. My contributions have centered on guideline development, literature reviews, and policy-informing projects that address areas of uncertainty, emerging technologies, and shifting care models. These efforts are intentionally designed to help members make informed decisions in daily practice. I have enjoyed being a part of the ASMBS' proactive approach to these challenges.

Looking forward, I believe ASMBS must continue to lead across three critical domains: clinical standards, policy and advocacy, and professional sustainability. Clinically, ASMBS should remain the trusted source for guidance on metabolic and bariatric surgery (including reoperative care), endobariatrics, obesity-modifying medications. As new therapies emerge and overlap, our Society must define standards that protect patients, preserve surgical excellence, and integrate innovation responsibly with our members as a priority in the delivery of that care. I am reminded of a saying that goes: "If you are not at the table – you are on the menu".

From a policy and advocacy standpoint, the ASMBS must continue to engage with payers, regulators, and CMS to ensure access to evidence-based care. Ongoing work supporting alignment with the 2022 consensus guidelines reflects the type of data-driven advocacy that will be essential in the years ahead. Ensuring equitable access to metabolic and bariatric surgery is inseparable from the mission of improving public health and sustaining the most cost effective and durable treatment for the most prevalent disease in our country.

Equally important is supporting the professional sustainability of our members. High-quality care cannot exist without viable practice models. The ASMBS has a responsibility to understand and communicate the economic realities facing surgeons and integrated health professionals, and to equip members with data that supports fair compensation, recruitment, and retention across diverse practice environments. We also have to advocate to continue our quality infrastructure via MBSAQIP that is built into the care we provide.

If elected to the Board of Directors, I would contribute by continuing to bridge clinical rigor with practical leadership—helping guide strategic priorities, supporting multidisciplinary engagement, and ensuring member voices inform our society decisions. I would be honored to continue serving ASMBS in leadership roles in the future and, if supported by Society leadership and the membership, to progress through the leadership pathway with the long-term goal of serving as President of the Society one day should those stars align.

The ASMBS has done a lot to shape my professional life, and I am deeply committed to helping it thrive. Serving on the Board would be both a privilege and a continuation of my dedication to advancing care for patients with obesity and supporting the professionals who care for them.