

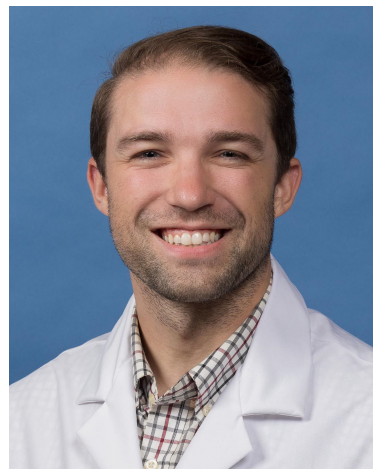


Residents Forum Executive Committee Elections

Candidate for Chair

Cullen M. Lilley, MD, MS, MA

UCLA Health
Los Angeles, CA



When are you taking your boards? – 2027

CAP Experience:

Activity	Position	Years of Service
Residents Forum	Delegate	09/30/2019 – 02/14/2023
Future Pathologist Champion	Member	07/18/2024 – Current
Residents Forum Executive Committee	Member-at-Large	10/19/2024 – Present

How did you become interested in serving on the RFEC?

My interest in serving on the Residents Forum Executive Committee (RFEC) grew from the immense value CAP junior membership has provided me throughout my training. Even as a medical student, I found the CAP RFEC to be a natural home for all those interested in pathology. Even before medical students had member status, the RFEC team found ways I could get involved. I felt welcomed and heard. Now as a resident, I've seen firsthand how the CAP offers not just education and professional development, but also a strong, supportive community that uplifts pathologists at every stage. I initially ran for a position on RFEC because I wanted other residents and medical students to recognize and benefit from these same opportunities.

During my time as Member-at-Large, I've had the privilege of connecting with residents and students nationwide, helping organize the spring and fall Residents Forum meetings, and contributing to impactful virtual programming throughout the year. That experience has only strengthened my desire to serve in a greater leadership capacity. Running for Chair is a big step, but it is one that would allow me to support our members, guide the Executive Committee, and help shape the direction of the Forum during a critical moment in pathology.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time, if elected?

If elected Chair, I would build on the work of those who came before me by expanding virtual programming between our annual spring and fall meetings and help medical students engage in meaningful ways with the Forum. As someone who contributed to these efforts even before joining RFEC—helping organize sessions for medical students on the Match process, residency selection, and career pathways—I've seen how valuable consistent, accessible content can be for junior members. I also contributed to the CAP subspecialty series as well as the spring session on communication in pathology. These types of programs are vital, and I want to see them grow.

As someone who was previously involved with RFEC initiatives as a medical student, I know how powerful their engagement can be in these initiatives, and I want to see more medical students becoming members of working groups, so we know what content is meaningful as well as how and when it should be delivered. This engagement could also serve as an early means of getting exposed to the CAP at an organizational level to help capture their attention early in hopes that they continue their engagement with the College in meaningful ways during residency.



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In addition, I'd like to enhance our communication between resident delegates and the RFEC. I want all delegates to feel that their ideas are heard and their feedback shapes what we do. To that end, I'd continue to use post-event surveys and direct outreach to make sure our programming remains relevant, timely, and trainee centered. I'd also love to explore engagement with state pathology societies to help junior members get more opportunities to connect with one another more regularly.

Please convey your understanding of the role of an Residents Forum Executive Committee member and their responsibility to the Residents Forum and the College of American Pathologists.

RFEC members serve as a bridge between pathology trainees and the CAP leadership. We're responsible for advocating for resident and medical student needs, curating programming that supports their educational and professional growth, and building a pipeline of engaged future pathologists. We organize both virtual and in-person educational events, create community, and promote the value of CAP membership to our peers.

As Chair, I understand I would lead the Executive Committee, issue calls for meetings, coordinate with CAP staff and leadership, and serve as a voting member of the CAP Board of Governors. I see this role as both strategic and collaborative—setting the tone for our committee while empowering each member to bring forward their strengths and ideas. Ultimately, the Chair must ensure the Forum delivers on its mission to support, represent, and connect pathology trainees nationwide.

Please address the time commitment for the office in which you are interested and your ability to fulfill it.

I am fully prepared to meet the time commitment expected of the Chair role. This includes planning and coordinating virtual and in-person programming, attending quarterly RFEC and CAP Board meetings, facilitating internal communication among the committee, and serving as the primary liaison to CAP leadership. I understand that this may include travel throughout the year, and I am ready and able to meet that expectation.

The timing works well with my clinical responsibilities: I will be finishing my term as chief resident and will be in my third year of residency, which means I won't have board exam preparation competing for time. I've already managed high-responsibility roles during residency, serving as chief, Member-at-Large, and a project lead on several CAP initiatives, and I've developed strong organizational systems to stay on top of deadlines, meetings, and ongoing work. I'm excited to fully dedicate myself to this role.

What talents and skills do you bring to the Residents Forum Executive Committee that you believe would benefit the Residents Forum?

I bring a diverse skill set that includes leadership experience, program development, communication, and digital strategy. As a co-founder of PathElective.com, I have learned how to create accessible, collaborative, and innovative learning tools. That experience has sharpened my ability to manage cross-



institutional teams and build tools that support trainees across all levels while continually improving by eliciting feedback and using such feedback to adapt and modify programming.

My work with the CAP spans several key initiatives, including the Virtual Programming Action Group, Medical Student Workgroup, and Future Pathologists Champions. I've led educational content creation, built engagement strategies for junior members, and helped residents and students find meaningful ways to get involved with the organization. My background in social media and digital communications also gives me the tools to amplify our reach and better connect with members by meeting them where they are.

Most recently, as chief resident, I've learned the importance of listening to peers, building consensus, and acting on feedback. I take pride in making sure initiatives reflect the real needs of those we serve. I would bring all of these skills to the Chair position with a deep commitment to collaboration, follow-through, and innovation.

What else should the Residents Forum know about you?

Serving as your Member-at-Large has been a true honor. I've loved getting to meet so many inspiring trainees through this work and have seen firsthand what's possible when we build spaces for connection, mentorship, and professional growth. The CAP has played a major role in shaping my journey in pathology, and I want to help others discover the same sense of community and purpose that I've found here.

More about me: I am originally a southern boy, born in New Orleans, LA and raised in Atlanta, GA. Now, I am in LA at my dream residency enjoying the beautiful weather year-round. I love going to new coffee shops and restaurants. I love fitness and hiking, and I am a huge pedagogy/andragogy nerd and love to think about innovative ways of delivering educational content in pathology.