



Residents Forum Executive Committee Elections

Candidate for Vice Chair

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When are you taking your boards? – 2027

CAP Experience:

Activity	Position	Years of Service
Residents Forum	Delegate	04/02/2024 – Present

How did you become interested in serving on the RFEC?

As an aspiring pathologist dedicated to excellence in medical education and advocating for the welfare of house staff, I am excited to submit my candidacy for RFEC. My multifaceted experiences at Baylor College of Medicine testifies my commitment to education, leadership and my capacity to serve as an effective member. I am interested in serving as RFEC member because it would enable me to bring these commitment and experiences to a broader audience and platform, in the hope of implementing changes and positively impacting the future of pathology. Whether mentoring premedical students or representing the interests of residents at a national level, I've embraced leadership as a principle towards becoming an advocate for the needs and perspectives of fellow residents. In the role of preceptor for the premedical summer program, I've engaged in cultivating leadership skills among aspiring doctors. By supporting the professional development of future pathologists, I've guided them through hands-on experiences, boosting their confidence and competence in pathology. Additionally, my role as the CAP Resident Forum delegate involved effective communication and advocacy, as I've conveyed co-residents' concerns and presented resolutions to the CAP House of Delegates. As a CAP RF delegate, I believe in raising ranks and that time will eventually come to serve the public interest of the pathology residents' community. I have also actively engaged participants in case-based learning activities focusing on Patient Safety and Quality Improvement (PSQI), professionalism and supervision. This role has allowed me to contribute significantly to creating a positive and stimulating learning environment for incoming residents and fellows. By adapting and facilitating a style that suits diverse learning needs and encouraging active participation, I have successfully addressed the concerns of participants and collaborated with fellow facilitators. My dedication to continuous improvement and effective program coordination reflects my passion for enhancing and improving the pathology educational experience as member of RFEC.

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

Based on my previous experiences, I am committed to addressing residents' concerns, promoting educational excellence, and upholding values of integrity, collaboration, and compassion. If elected to the RFEC, my primary goals would center around enhancing leadership, well-being, collaboration, and professional development among trainees. Firstly, I would prioritize the development of leadership skills by organizing a series of workshops tailored to address the unique challenges faced by trainees. These workshops would focus on effective communication, conflict resolution, team building, and mentorship strategies, providing practical tools that trainees can apply to their clinical environments. Promoting the well-being of trainees would be another crucial goal. I would implement initiatives such as mindfulness sessions, stress management workshops, and wellness challenges to enrich a culture of self-care. Additionally, I would ensure trainees have access to counseling services in their institutions, ECFMG resources and peer support groups to support their mental and emotional well-being. As a small community, I believe we are missing a valuable opportunity in pathology to enrich collaboration, connection and a sense of belonging. By conducting interactive sessions where trainees can share their experiences and innovative ideas, I aim to facilitate engagement and networking



opportunities. These platforms would enable the exchange of best practices, enhancing the overall training experience. Lastly, I would focus on offering professional development opportunities. I would empower trainees to enhance their teaching skills and explore new approaches to medical education. Investing in their development as educators will enable them to make meaningful contributions to the advancement of pathology training and patient care.

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.

The RFEC members hold crucial roles in guiding and representing the RF and ensuring effective communication and engagement within CAP. Their responsibilities extend across leadership, administration, representation, communication, and digital strategy, all of which contribute to the goals of networking, education, discussion, and action.

The RFEC members play a vital role in ensuring that the RF functions effectively, advocates for residents' interests, and facilitates meaningful engagement within the CAP and the broader medical community through AMA. All RFEC members carry general responsibilities to facilitate networking opportunities among residents and CAP members through meetings, provide informational presentations on relevant topics and updates on CAP and AMA. Moreover, their role is not limited to only facilitating forums and breakout sessions for residents to discuss issues, share challenges, and brainstorm solutions, but also take actions by applying initiatives.

Furthermore, each member has specific roles to fulfil during their term. For instance, the Chair, as the principal officer, leads meetings, maintains order, appoints committees. Additionally, the Chair demonstrates effective communication to keep CAP members, CAP membership committee, and the CAP Board of Governors informed about RF activities. In addition to communication, the Chair transmits RF resolutions and actions to the House of Delegates. The Vice Chair assists the Chair in duties and acts as the principal officer in the Chair's absence.

The secretary carries administrative duties of recording meetings, maintaining lists of delegates and committee members, preparing presentations, and handling credentialing. On the other hand, the delegate and alternate delegate to AMA represent advocacy, attend AMA meetings, present RF resolutions, and keep CAP informed about AMA activities.

Delegate and alternate delegate to the CAP House of Delegates has both advocacy and communication roles required to attend CAP House of Delegates meetings, present RF resolutions, and inform about RF activities. On the contrary, member-at-Large main responsibility is to assist in recruiting junior members and facilitates communication between CAP and its junior members. And lastly, digital strategy liaison partners with the CAP digital team to enhance RF's digital and social media imprints.

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

The role of the Vice Chair of the RFEC demands significant dedication, organization, and time management. Understanding this commitment's nature and the role of assisting the Chair, I am confident in my ability to meet this asking position. My previous and current experiences have equipped me with the necessary skills to manage these responsibilities effectively.

Considering the RFEC requirements, which include travel commitments, the Vice Chair position requires attending several in-person meetings throughout the year. Specifically, 4 times annual committee meetings, one spring and fall RF meetings, an annual CAP policy meeting and AMA Meetings.

I have demonstrated my capacity to manage travel and intensive schedules through various roles. For instance, as a facilitator in GME at Baylor College of Medicine, I have been actively involved in case-based learning activities that often require preparation and coordination beyond regular hours. My ability to engage and manage these activities demonstrates my readiness for the travel commitments of the RFEC Vice Chair role.

Besides travel, as a member of the RFEC, the Vice Chair must handle non-travel responsibilities that are required to be fulfilled. These commitments include monthly committee conference and committee chair calls, committee preparation, and reviewing meeting agenda.

My experience as a CAP RF delegate has honed my skills in communication and advocacy. Presenting



resolutions to the CAP House of Delegates requires meticulous preparation, like those needed for RFEC tasks as Vice Chair. Additionally, coordinating the PathArt contest involved planning, judging submissions, and collaborating with peers, mirroring the organizational skills necessary for reviewing meeting agendas.

Commitment and time management are also demonstrated in my current role as a pathology resident at Baylor College of Medicine. I have balanced multiple roles that require significant time and effort including facilitator for GME, preceptor for premedical summer program, course Lecturer for the PA program and member of residency selection committee. These roles have taught me effective time management and prioritization, enabling me to handle extensive commitments simultaneously. My proactive approach in addressing participants' concerns and providing feedback for continuous improvement testifies to my ability to maintain order, and a positive environment which are key aspects of the Vice Chair position.

My experience in education and leadership, coupled with my effective time management skills, position me well to fulfill the Vice Chair's responsibilities. I am well-prepared to handle the travel and non-travel commitments, ensuring that the RF thrives during my serving period and develops under my leadership.

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

My background and experience would contribute to the diversity of the RFEC in several meaningful ways. Growing up in a working-class family that dedicated all their resources to support my medical journey, I bring a unique perspective on the challenges and resilience required to pursue a career in medicine without a privileged background. This lifetime experience has instilled in me a profound appreciation for diversity and the importance of inclusive support systems in education and professional development.

Completing my medical training in Egypt and furthering my research at UC San Diego, I offer both a global and local perspective on medical education and healthcare systems. These experiences allow me to contribute diverse insights and approaches to medical education and patient care, enriching the committee's understanding and strategies.

During my current training at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), I took part of graduate medical education's (GME) orientation sessions and engaged incoming trainees in case-based learning sessions. This experience showcases my commitment to creating positive and inclusive learning environments. Adapting facilitation styles to meet diverse audience backgrounds and learning needs highlights my ability to cater to varied educational perspectives.

Furthermore, my roles as preceptor for the premedical summer program at BCM and a delegate for CAP's RF demonstrate my dedication to leadership and advocacy. By mentoring future physicians and representing resident interests at national levels, I have honed my skills in communication, collaboration, and mentorship. These experiences enable me to effectively advocate for the needs and perspectives of diverse resident groups, ensuring that their concerns are addressed.

My involvement in initiatives like the PathArt and lecturing for the PA-Program at BCM illustrates my commitment to the well-being and continuous development of healthcare professionals. Promoting self-care, stress relief, and professional growth through creative and educational activities creates a supportive system for trainees.

Overall, my experiences and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion will enrich the committee's efforts to support and develop a diverse and competent pathologist workforce.

What else should the Residents Forum know about you?

The biggest challenges I faced as I sought to begin my pathology training in the United States was navigating the complexities of transitioning from an international medical education system to the U.S. residency landscape. Coming from Egypt, I had to adapt to different clinical practices, educational methodologies, and cultural expectations. This transition was further compounded by the need to excel in standardized exams including the USMLE and OET, which required a different approach to study and test-taking than I was accustomed to.



Securing research opportunities was another hurdle. It involved rigorous applications and often required overcoming skepticism about training background. Establishing credibility and proving competencies in a highly competitive environment were continuous challenges.

Additionally, the financial and emotional strain of this journey was significant. Coming from a working-class family, the financial burden of application fees, travel expenses, and relocation costs were daunting. My family's unwavering support was crucial; however, the responsibility of not letting them down added pressure to succeed.

Despite these challenges, my perseverance and dedication enabled me to thrive and achieve my goal of completing my post graduate training in the U.S. as well as to fulfil my commitment to pathology as a specialty.

I have joined pathology residency program in the U.S. due my deepest beliefs and aspirations that both would equip me with ample opportunities and experiences to advance my knowledge in the three pillars of training including clinical, teaching and research. My overall educational objectives and professional goals are deeply rooted in my commitment to advancing the field of dermatopathology in these three pillars of training.

As a pathology resident at Baylor College of Medicine, my passion for dermatopathology has grown through hands-on experience and research. My work on various dermatopathology research projects has equipped me with a robust foundation in methodologies essential for addressing complex dermatopathological questions. My aspiration is to make significant contributions to the understanding and diagnosis of dermatological diseases, particularly by exploring the intricate relationship between skin pathology and underlying molecular mechanisms.

In line with my commitment to dermatopathology, I have been awarded the American Society of Dermatopathologist Research Mentorship Award and Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Trainee Research Symposium 1st Place award. The former facilitated the necessary resources and collaborations essential for my research project on "Characterization of Anorectal Melanocytes in Health and Disease." Through this project, I aimed to address critical gaps in current dermatopathological knowledge by determining the density, distribution, and immuneprofile of normal melanocytes in the anorectal mucosa and comparing these characteristics in patients with and without anorectal melanoma.

My professional aspirations extend beyond research. I am dedicated to utilizing my knowledge and skills and contributing to the advancement of medical education. I aim to mentor future medical professionals, sharing my experiences and insights to help them navigate the challenges of their careers as I have done in my current role as a preceptor for premedical summer program at BCM. By a supportive and enriching learning environment, I hope to inspire the next generation of physicians to pursue pathology as their specialty. My long-term career goal also includes practicing in an academic center where I can exercise and enrich my teaching skills as a professor.

Ultimately, my goal is to combine my passion for dermatopathology with my dedication to education and mentorship. I am confident that my dedication and passion to teaching and research will yield valuable outcomes that will benefit my patients, contribute to the broader scientific community, and the growth of future medical professionals.