



Residents Forum Executive Committee Elections

Candidate for Vice Chair

Saroja D. Geetha, MBBS

Long Island Jewish Medical Center/ Northwell Health
Greenvale, NY



When are you taking your boards? – 2025

CAP Experience:

Activity	Position	Years of Service
Residents Forum	Delegate	04/26/2024 – Present

How did you become interested in serving on the RFEC?

From the start of my residency, I have been aware about the CAP Resident Forum from my program delegates, who updated us with discussions from the Spring and Fall meetings. This sparked my interest in learning more about the Resident Forum and the activities offered and led me to follow Dr. Bhardwaj and Dr. Herrmann on Twitter. I am a huge fan of them and seeing the substantial contributions they made for residents by being part of the RFEC has been inspiring.

I have been a Resident Forum delegate since April 2024. This role has given me insights into the workings of the RFEC and the impact it has on the professional growth of pathology residents. The Resident Forum is a large community that brings together all pathology residents in the United States and Canada. Being able to connect with them, understand their needs, and advocate for their interests is crucial. The activities hosted by the RFEC are extremely beneficial, and I would love to be part of that team, contributing to initiatives that support and enhance the residency experience. The current residents are future pathologists, and the opportunity to shape the future of pathology by serving on the RFEC is immense. I am also interested in pursuing a career in academic pathology and therefore would benefit from the opportunities to improve my leadership skills by serving as a member of the RFEC.

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

I hope to achieve the following:

1. To improve the outreach of resident forum and enhance resident participation. This will help us to better understand various training programs and address the needs and concerns of residents better.
2. Help develop high quality educational, professional and leadership courses for residents.
3. Identify and address the challenges faced by residents transitioning to attending roles. We can make this transition smoother and better prepare residents for their future careers, by developing resources and support systems.
4. Improve the outreach of pathology as a subspecialty and career opportunity to medical students.
5. Advocate for technological advancements by educating residents about the latest advancements in pathology, particularly in digital pathology and artificial intelligence.

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.

I understand that this role has a wide range of responsibilities and plays an important role in enhancing professional growth of residents and in bridging the gap between pathology residents and the broader pathology community.



In my understanding the following are the most important responsibilities:

- Planning and executing events, activities and networking opportunities.
- Represent the interests and concerns of pathology residents. Understand the challenges residents face and advocate for policies and programs that address these needs.
- Work with committee members and CAP leadership to develop and implement initiatives that enhance the educational and professional development of residents.

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

I understand the time commitment required for serving as a Vice Chair at the RFEC, includes a 11-day travel requirement and I am fully prepared to meet these demands. I am open to meeting in-person and online for all the potential meetings and brainstorming sessions that are required for my position. Throughout my residency, I have improved my capacity to manage multiple responsibilities effectively. My current role as a Chief Resident, an active researcher and a member of the e-conference committee at the American Society of Cytopathology in addition to managing my day-to-day responsibilities as a resident and a mother to a 2-year-old have prepared me well for these demands.

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 set of talents and skills which I believe would benefit the Residents Forum:

1. Leadership, organizational and communication skills: As a Chief Resident at my Residency Program, I have developed leadership and organizational skills. I have been involved in multiple institutional meetings, coordinated departmental initiatives, and represented resident interests. I am a good listener and proficient in understanding and communicating resident concerns.
2. Mentorship: I am passionate about mentoring. I have provided guidance and support to junior residents and medical students, helping them navigate their training and career pathways as well as balancing personal life.
3. Interest in academic pathology: Over the past year, I have presented multiple abstracts at national conferences including CAP and USCAP, published several peer-reviewed manuscripts and delivered an oral presentation at the American Society of Cytopathology annual meeting. Additionally, I was honored with the Society of '67 Kinney Scholar Award this year.
4. Time management and multitasking: Balancing my role as a Chief Resident, a mother to a 2-year-old, and an active researcher has honed my time management and multitasking abilities. I am good at prioritizing tasks, meeting deadlines, and maintaining high performance even under pressure.
5. Innovation and initiative: I am proactive and innovative, always looking for ways to improve processes and create new opportunities. My ability to think outside the box and initiate new projects would bring fresh ideas and perspectives to the Residents Forum.

What else should the Residents Forum know about you?

I am a huge animal lover and have two cats. I enjoy traveling and photography. I love trying different cuisines and experimenting with making new dishes. Additionally, I have developed an interest in fitness and try to incorporate physical activity into my routine through Zumba, jogging, or hiking whenever possible.