Residents Forum Executive Committee Elections

Candidate for Secretary

Tayler van den Akker, MD
Mount Sinai
New York, NY

When are you taking your boards? – May 2021

CAP Experience:

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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Residents Forum</td>
<td>Delegate</td>
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How did you become interested in serving on the RFEC?
Early in residency, I took an interest in leadership. I initially found excitement in training medical students and speaking to them about pathology and the vast opportunities that come with choosing a career in this specialty. I also enjoy implementing additional educational activities within my residency program including setting up educational lectures and hosting question sessions for co-residents. This evolved throughout my second year to extend beyond education and into assisting my program director in creating an informatics curriculum and writing for our quarterly program newsletter. In October 2018 I attended my first CAP annual meeting, where I sat in on the Residents Forum meeting and election speeches. It was there where I learned of the Residents Forum Executive Committee and the leadership opportunities for the entire pathology trainee community. The day inspired me and has been something I have wanted to get involved with over the past year. In addition to taking on a leadership role for my pathology program, I want to grow into a position where I can take on a leadership role for the resident community, while working with other pathologists-in-training on ways to improve residency and pathology as a career.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time, if elected?
Like all of us in pathology, I have an intense passion for the specialty. Fortunately, I knew about the fascinating world of pathology prior to and during medical school, which unfortunately is not that case for other medical trainees. I believe pathology exposure in medical school does not match the level of other specialties, and there is an opportunity for improvement. If elected, I want to work with other members of the executive committee, to expand and strengthen the exposure to pathology in medical school education. I believe with better understanding of the broad and exciting opportunities in pathology, many more of the future’s physicians would join us on this unique and constantly evolving journey. Pathologists are the leaders in the medical community, both in who we are and what we do. The roles of a pathologist span from educating trainees and other physicians, to providing direction on correct treatment modalities, and in some cases performing the procedure. Pathologists work with and educate medical professionals across all
specialties on a daily basis. With that being said, I feel there is opportunity for more leadership and education training of pathology residents who are about to enter a career with emphasis on these characteristics. I would like to work on continuing to grow the current focus on leadership, in addition to implementing new leadership and education opportunities for pathologists-in-training and pathologists alike. Finally, I have a strong interest in finance. In this generation where trainees are entering practice with medical school loans…. that aren’t exactly small…..there is minimal preparation about how to finance loans following training. According to the Medscape Physician Wealth and Debt report 2019, 26% of physicians are still paying of medical school loans, and specifically 23% of pathologists in practice. Following training, as perfectly stated by Robert Grossman MD, dean and CEO of NYU Langone Medical Center, “Overspending is fairly common; doctors are paying back school debt, saving for retirement, saving for their children’s college and living the lifestyle they feel they deserve after all of the years of training and the hard work they are putting in now.” So as we transition into practice, how to we handle all of these finances? My goal if elected, would be to better equip trainees for the financial world ahead so we can financially afford the lifestyle we deserve. As also evidenced in the 2019 Medscape Wealth Report, there are still financial inequalities when comparing net worth of gender, race and ethnicity. My focus is also to enhance the skills of leadership, education, and finance to all residents, so that these inequalities can trend in the right direction and to eventual non-existence. Kane, Lisa. “Medscape Physician Wealth and Debt Report 2019” Medscape, WebMD LLC, May 5, 2019. https://www.medscape.com/slideshow/2019-compensation-wealth-debt-6011524?src=WNL_physrep_190515_debt2019&uac=307647FT&implID=1964706&faf=1

Please convey your understanding of the role of a RFEC member and their responsibility to the Residents Forum and the College of American Pathologists.

The CAP RF executive committee secretary is a role which requires organization. The main role of the secretary is curating the slide deck for the upcoming meetings, taking and distributing meeting minutes and updating spreadsheets over the year. Additionally, the secretary is also required to chair the RF credentials committee.

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

The CAP RFEC secretary is a one-year term position, with an 11-day travel commitment. The position requires availability to meet four times a year, including both CAP 2019 annual meeting and USCAP 2020 annual meeting, and twice for CAP and USCAP meeting planning. There is also a commitment to a conference call once per month, with possible additional calls for certain projects throughout the year. I am available for all of the above-mentioned time commitments and I am also aware of the additional time which may be required for PowerPoint curation and emails.

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

I am currently a PGY-2 AP/CP resident, and I am passionate about leadership, engagement, and was a NCAA Division 1 scholar athlete, and specifically an ice hockey goaltender. In being a scholar athlete, it was through hard work, dedication, and organization in which I was able to succeed, both on and off of the ice. This balance between performing at the highest level of women’s ice hockey while striving for medical school was what allowed me to excel and get to where I am today. It is the same skill set utilized as an athlete, which led to my successes as a
The role of secretary requires organization, time management, and balance with presentation preparation, taking minutes with appropriate distribution in a timely manner, while still continuing to be the best resident I can be. My many years in sports, medical school, and now residency, have all equipped me with the tools to successfully take on the role of secretary beneficial to the Residents Forum. It was also through sports where I learned the importance of working well with others, and the difficulties of leading many individual personalities to achieve a common goal. When success doesn't happen initially, it requires problem solving and team-building to educate a group of individuals on how to effectively work together. These lessons are no different than those experienced while working with teams of medical professionals or residents. The goal is to work together and achieve the common goal at hand. I believe my experience in working with and leading teams, will benefit the Residents Forum Executive Committee, as this committee acts to lead and improve the entire pathology trainee community.

What else should the Residents Forum know about you?
I believe in order to succeed in medicine, a balance with other interests and hobbies is extremely important. Medicine is a lifelong commitment to learning, especially in the case of pathology as it will always be evolving through new entities, advances in genetic testing, evolution of treatment protocols, and movements towards digital pathology with incorporation of artificial intelligence. In choosing this career path of lifelong education, it is extremely important to balance medicine with other interests. Personally, my interests are in music, finance, sports, travel and languages. This balance allows me to round out my knowledge base to help shape and influence who I am as an individual and the direction I am headed.
TAYLER A. VAN DEN AKKER, MD

Resident Physician
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
ICAHN School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
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EDUCATION

ICAHN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT MOUNT SINAI
AP/CP Pathology resident, PGY-2
New York, New York
July 2017 – Present

ST. GEORGE’S UNIVERSITY
Medical Doctor, Magna Cum Laude
Grenada, West Indies
2013-2017

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
B.Sc., Biochemistry, Cum Laude
St. Cloud, Minnesota
2008-2012

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

• United states and Canadian Academy of Pathologists
• College of American Pathologists
• Canadian Association of Pathologists
• American Society for Hematology
• American Society for Clinical Pathology
• Blood Bank Association of New York State

PUBLICATIONS

• Hernan Nicolas Lemus, Christine Lu, Hazem Shoirah, Tomo Shigematsu, John Liang, Tayler van den Akker, Irene Boniece, Maryna Skliut. “Direct tumor embolism presenting as an acute ischemic stroke”.
  o Neurology: Clinical Practice

• Tayler A. van den Akker, MD, Adnan Mubasher, MD, Muhammed Qazi, MD, Lawrence Kiss, MD. " Intra-abdominal lymphatic malformation in an elderly patient: A Case Report"  

• Mubasher, A, MD; Singh, K, MD; van den Akker, T, MD; Qazi, M, MD; Margaret Brandwein-Weber, MD. “Recognition of CD30+ Benign Tongue Lesion and Avoidance of Excision.”  

• Mubasher, A, MD; Qazi .M, MBBS; Khan, F, MD; van den Akker, T, MD; Qazi. S, MD; Margaret Brandwein-Weber, MD. “MARCB1 (INI-1) Unstable Sinonasal Carcinoma: A Rare Case Report and literature review.”  

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

• “MEF2B is Paradoxically Expressed in a Subset of Mantle Cell Lymphomas”  
  o Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
  o New York Hematopathology Group Meeting  

• What is Pathology? An Introduction to a Diagnostic Career  
  o Balmoral Hall Preparatory High school  

New York, New York
April 2019

Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 2019
**ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS**

*Presenting Author*

  o 108th United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (March 2019)

- **Tayler A. van den Akker, MD**, Adnan Mubasher, MD, Muhammed Qazi, MD, Lawrence Kiss, MD. "Intra-abdominal lymphatic malformation in an elderly patient: A Case Report"
  o College of American Pathologist, 2018 annual meeting (October 2018)

- Mubasher, A, MD*; Singh, K, MD; **van den Akker, T, MD**; Qazi, M, MD; Margaret Brandwein-Weber, MD. “Recognition of CD30+ Benign Tongue Lesion and Avoidance of Excision.”
  o College of American Pathologist, 2018 annual meeting (October 2018)

- Mubasher, A, MD*; van den Akker, T, MD; Qazi ,M, MBBS; Khan, F, MD; **van den Akker, T, MD**; Qazi, S, MD; Margaret Brandwein-Weber, MD. “MARCB1 (INI-1) Unstable Sinonasal Carcinoma: A Rare Case Report and literature review.”
  o College of American Pathologist, 2018 annual meeting (October 2018)

- Mubasher, A, MD*; **van den Akker, T, MD**; Qazi .M, MBBS; Khan, F, MD; Qazi. S, MD. “The prevalence of HPV-associated head and neck cancers and positive predictive value of p16; a retrospective and prospective analysis of 375 patients”
  o ASCP 2018 Annual Meeting (October 2018)

- Mahabir, Roshan, MD, PhD*; Ravirala, Sushma, MBBS; Ammar Matloob, MD; **Tayler van den Akker, MD**; Nebras Zeizafoun, M.D; “The Current look of MAC in a Large Multi-Hospital System”
  o ASCP 2018 Annual Meeting (October 2018)

- **Tayler A. van den Akker, MD**, Julien Laor, MD, Songyang Yuan, MD, PhD; “An Unusual Presentation of Carcinosarcoma: A Case Report”
  o 69th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Pathologists (June 2018)

- **Tayler A. van den Akker, MD**, Adnan Mubasher, MD, Jason Rubinov, MD, Ari Young MD, Steven Tsistrakis, MD, Ilan Weisberg, MD, Gabriel Levi, MD. “Colorectal Carcinoma Incidence in Patients Less Than 50 Years-Old; A Retrospective Study”
  o 107th United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (March 2018)

  o 68th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Pathologists (June 2017)

  o 2016 CEME Student/Intern/Resident/Fellow Scientific Research Poster Competition (November 2016)
  o Awarded 2nd Place

  o 67th Annual Meeting of Canadian Association of Pathologists (June 2016)

  o American College of Physicians Conference (March 2016)

  o St. Cloud State University Student Research Colloquium (2012)
- Minnesota Academy of Science Annual Winchell Undergraduate Research Symposium (2012)

**MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW**

  - European Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.
- **Tayler van den Akker**, Ji Lin, Lawrence Kiss. “Intra-abdominal Lymphatic Malformations Presenting in Adult Patients; A case report and review”.
  - Hindawi Case Reports in Pathology.

**POSITION APPOINTMENTS**

**NEW YORK PATHOLOGY SOCIETY**
- Resident Liaison
- Social Media Committee

**COLLEGE OF AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS**
- Resident Representative

**ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S HOCKEY**
- Associate Team Captain
- Scholar Athlete

**EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**OPTIMAL PROCESSING OF HEMATOPATHOLOGY SPECIMENS**
Internal Medicine-Pathology interdepartmental conference

**MOUNT SINAI ST. LUKE’S-ROOSEVELT NEWSLETTER**
Editor and contributing author

**MOUNT SINAI CENTER FOR COMPUTATIONAL AND SYSTEMS PATHOLOGY**
Precise Medical Diagnostics (Precise MD) Artificial Intelligence Data researcher
Training of AI Algorithm

**MOUNT SINAI ST. LUKE’S-ROOSEVELT INFORMATICS CURRICULUM**
Co-Creator of informatics curriculum for Mount Sinai pathology residency

**MOUNT SINAI BETH ISRAEL PHILLIPS NURSING SCHOOL**
Education committee member
Principle Lecturer and Lab instructor: Biology 151, 152, 153, Microbiology

**TUMOR BOARD INTERDISCIPLINARY PATIENT CARE WEEKLY CONFERENCES**
Presentation of Pathology component
Surgery, Radiology, Thoracic Surgery, Hematology, Oncology, Gynecologic Oncology, Hematopathology, Neurology/Neurosurgery, Nephrology

**ST. GEORGE’S UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**
Basic Sciences Tutor

**ST CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY**
Biochemistry, Biomedical sciences tutor
AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ASCP Resident Council Subspecialty Grant        May 2019
• Hematopathology

Alpha Omega Epsilon Medical Honors Society        Grenada, West Indies
• St. George’s University, School of Medicine
• Magna Cum Laude

Keith B. Taylor Global Scholar                   Newcastle, UK
• St. George’s University, School of Medicine
• 2011-2012

Richard H. Greenhouse Scholar Athlete Award      St. Cloud, Minnesota
• Cum Laude                                      2010-2012

NCAA Scholar Athlete                             St. Cloud, Minnesota
• Women’s Ice Hockey, St. Cloud State University
• Cum Laude                                      2009-2012

NCAA Division I full athletic scholarship        St. Cloud, Minnesota
• Women’s Ice Hockey, goaltender
• St. Cloud State University                     2008-2012

INTERESTS

• Ice Hockey  • Percussion  • Languages  • Literature  • Puzzles  • Travel