



## NOMINEE FOR GOVERNOR

### M.E. (Doc) de Baca, MD, FCAP Seattle, Washington



**Nominated by CAP Nominating Committee and petition**

#### EDUCATION

- **Received MD:** 1990, Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- **Ophthalmology Residency:** Achenbach Hospital, Königs Wusterhausen, and E.-v.-Bergmann Clinic, Potsdam, Federal Republic of Germany
- **Transitional Year:** Texas Tech University, El Paso, Texas
- **Residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology:** Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, Philadelphia
- **Fellowship in Hematopathology:** Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals, Philadelphia

#### CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Director of Hematopathology, Pacific Pathology Partners, Seattle, Washington

#### PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP)
- American Society of Hematology (ASH)
- Society for Hematopathology (SOH)
- American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP)

#### CAP-ELECTED OFFICES HELD

##### Current

- **Governor:** Board of Governors (BOG)

#### CAP COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

##### CURRENT

- **Governor:** BOG
- **Chair:** Council on Education
- **Vice Chair:** Artificial Intelligence (AI) Committee; Information Technology Leadership Committee (ITLC) Online Communications and Collaboration Project Team
- **Member:** Diversity Equity Inclusion Committee; Executive Committee; Finance Committee; Information Technology Leadership Committee (ITLC); Investment Committee; ITLC Website Project Team
- **Advisor:** Informatics Committee
- **Liaison:** Association of Pathology Chairs (APC) Roundtable

##### PAST

- **(Founding) Co-Chair:** Pathology Electronic Reporting Committee
- **Member:** Cancer Committee; Cancer Protocol Panel on Breast Tumors; Cancer Protocol Panel on Hematolymphoid Tumors; Center Bone Marrow Reporting Expert Panel; Clinical Informatics Standards and Resource Subcommittee; Council on Education, Diagnostic Intelligence and Health



Information Technology Committee; Informatics Committee, SNOMED International Standards Board; Senior Editor Clinical Informatics Resource Guide

- **Delegate:** Residents Forum
- **Alternate:** House of Delegates
- **Liaison:** North American Association of Central Cancer Registries; SNOMED International

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HELD

- **President:** Association for Pathology Informatics
- **Member:** Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC); CLIAC Nontraditional Testing Workflow Model Workgroup; Association for Molecular Pathology; Bioinformatics in Silico Validation Working Group

#### WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE CAP?

I have had the unexpected opportunity to be on the BOG for the last 1.5 years, filling the position left vacant by the untimely death of Dr. Fowkes. In that time, I have been active in many roles and have many projects that I would like to continue to help build. At this point in my life and career, my focus is outward. I want to help maximize and support the efforts of our CAP members, emphasize the role of pathologists in the House of Medicine, create a stronger practice environment for pathologists, reduce error and risk for patients while implementing new patient services, and increase the financial stability of the CAP to ensure continued success for subsequent generations of leaders.

#### WHAT MAJOR ISSUES DO YOU SEE FACING THE CAP DURING THE NEXT THREE YEARS?

The usual issues are present recruitment, retention, pipeline, scope of practice, reimbursement, and education. New questions include the possibility of CLIA88 being opened to change, which could significantly affect the scope of practice; shifts in practice brought by technology advances—which would also have an impact on reimbursement—and changes in FDA guidelines which could have an impact on laboratory-developed test (LDT) definitions. All of these would affect access to care and, therefore, patient safety.

#### IF ELECTED, WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH?

I hope to be able to continue to lead, especially in the informatics realm. The new Council on Informatics and Pathology Innovation (CIPI) is populated and needs a Board member chair with experience in the College and in informatics. This is a role for which I am uniquely qualified. This council will highlight the importance of informatics and innovation, increase visibility with the BOG, and allow cross-council activities to strengthen the position of all committees where their informatics needs are concerned. There are numerous possibilities for CAP to leverage existing data and data capabilities into novel revenue streams, with a resulting cushioning of the organization from changes to CLIA. I am in a position to continue to work hand in hand with the FDA and other CAP members to move toward data interoperability. We also need to advocate with the FDA and Congress to ensure that decisions about LDTs and AI tools in the laboratory fit the intent of CLIA, do not reduce access of care, ensure patient safety and both maintain scope of practice and adequately reimburse pathologists for their services. I hope to continue to be active in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work in the college; the CAP can only gain from making each member feel that they are seen and heard. If elected, my end goal is to leave the College stronger: with more members, a stronger pipeline, more economically sound, and with more varied and sustainable sources of revenue for the leaders who would follow me once my time on the BOG is over.

*For more information and a CV for this candidate, please visit [cap.org](http://cap.org).*