



Personal Statement – President

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President

I would be thrilled and honored to serve as the PHiT Board President for 2024-2025, aiming to build on the exceptional work of my predecessors. I am completing my term as the American Medical Association Liaison which has been an amazing experience, highlighting the need for advocacy and collaboration across medical specialties to enhance patient care. I firmly believe that the future of PM&R hinges on engaging AAPM&R members at every career stage in pursuit of a common vision and mission and motivating non-members to join us in this endeavor, as well as establish cross-specialty collaboration. I am deeply committed to this future, and plan to leverage my unique experiences in multiple societies and specialties to lead the PHiT Board forward and in turn contribute to the Academy's vision.

The importance of this shared vision is evident in our work with the AMA, where we advocated for improving air travel for wheelchair users, coverage of adaptive equipment for physical activity and pediatric footwear for patients requiring orthotics – all involving multiple specialties/specialty societies including orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, and pain medicine. Continuing to build these relationships is pivotal for the future of our specialty.

In addition to the regular duties of the PHiT President, this year will be key to finalize the expansion of the current PHiT Board to include medical students and develop a Medical Student Ambassador Program. As someone who had a winding path to PM&R, I am passionate about exposing medical students to PM&R and leadership opportunities early on, and contributed for the AAPM&R medical student programming, AAMC Virtual Specialty Forum, as well as mentoring residency applicants and mock interviewing through AAP. These experiences uniquely position me to mentor future physiatrists and guide them in their career decisions.

My dedication to resident education and career development is demonstrated by organizing and moderating the “Filling Opportunity Gaps in Training” session, and assisting with the Spasticity Bootcamp at the 2023 Annual Assembly, participating in the leadership panel for the Member May session, and will be moderating a session on Finances at the 2024 Annual Assembly. On a smaller scale, when I restructured my program's didactics curriculum as the Education Chief, to ensure we maintain broad exposure to facilitate possible resident interests. I am committed to supporting residents and

fellows in achieving their goals and I disseminate any project or leadership opportunities with any trainees I know may have an interest in said opportunity.

In conclusion, I am eager to continue serving our community and collaborating with all of you to achieve excellence in our profession. As president, my goal is to promote resident engagement within the Academy, and ensure that PHiT's voice and initiatives are integrated into broader Academy goals. I am committed to dedicating the necessary time and effort to effectively serve as PHiT President, attending both virtual and in-person meetings regularly. Finally, I am dedicated to fostering a shared vision that inspires collaboration and enables collective action within the PHiT Board, with our ambassadors, and our newly established Medical Student positions. Together, let us forge a future where PM&R thrives and meets the evolving needs of our patients and practitioners alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration.