

Organized Medical Staff Section (AMA-OMSS)

Member At-large

Name

Alan Kenneth Klitzke

Credentials

MD

Pronouns

He/Him



Statement of interest

The threats to the work of medicine staffs to provide quality hospital patient care are increasing daily. Medical staffs are under a barrage of pressure from administrations, corporate take-overs, private equity concerns, and constant legal efforts eroding the scope of medical practice.

34 years ago, I attended our AMA and was immediately struck with the open democratic process for physicians to collectively mold the science and practice of Medicine and improve healthcare delivery. That enthusiasm to participate in the evolution of our profession has been enhanced during progressive involvement in the MSS, RFS, YPS, and OMSS with simultaneous work within state societies in Illinois, Missouri, and New York.

Since I aged out of YPS I have participated in every AMA-OMSS meeting, served on, and chaired multiple Reference Committees and simultaneously served as an AMA HOD Delegate, where I worked with our OMSS Delegate and GC to propel important OMSS policies through our AMA.

My ability to process and progress collective ideas through a group is enlightened by a constellation of experience in leadership positions in other medical organizations, serving in numerous roles, including several terms in each of the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, President, Past President, Councilor, and Chair. These other broad leadership experiences have helped mold my transformative leadership style.

I am ready to gather your collective concerns and bring my enthusiasm, organized medicine institutional knowledge, and broad leadership experiences to work with our Governing Council to meet each of the many threats and challenges.

Diversity statement

I was born white, male, of Christian parents, with a northern European name. As is the case with everyone, none of this was within my control. What we do control is how we treat and respect one another, and collectively benefit from our different and shared human experiences. All people are individuals and yet similar to all other humans at every level as my degree in Genetic Biology also affirms.

During my Presidency in the ACNM, I inspired a resurgence in diverse ethnic and gender membership and leadership, fostering collaborations with societies on 5 continents. Today, most of our officers and chairs are women and minorities, and our current President is from Malaysia, practicing in Singapore.

Inclusiveness, diversity, and equity are not temporary slogans of the day to create and discard, they have been my goals and goalposts as I practice medicine and petition its governing systems. Those who have followed my activities in AMA over the decades have witnessed consistent efforts to empower marginalized ethnic, racial and religious groups, including authoring resolutions addressing ethnic and religious marginalization.

I also invested in our AMA Foundation to help another marginalized and discriminated group. In 2013, I helped create the "LGBTQ Honor Fund," which we have grown to now sponsor the "AMA Foundation National LGBTQ+ Fellowship Program," training physicians about the barriers to healthcare and specific needs of LGBTQ+ patients. Of the 10 founding members of the Fund, I am the sole heterosexual member.