



## **ASEEM SOOD, MD**

Dearest Colleagues,

I am writing you to express my interest in serving as Chapter Secretary of our American College of Physicians Maryland Chapter. My name is Aseem Sood. I have been an active member of the ACP Maryland Chapter since 2015. I have been a member of the ACP Council since 2017. I serve as the Chair of the International Medical Graduate Committee, as a member of the Healthcare & Public Policy Committee since 2015, and am the former Chair of the Chief Residents Association of Baltimore. I am humbled to have received the 2020 Maryellen Woodward ACP Maryland Governor's Service Award, earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Mulholland-Mohler Poster Competition in 2017, and received the ACP Profiles in Excellence Award in 2016. This Chapter means the world to me because of the brilliance and kind heartedness of the people within it. I am a better physician and educator because of the experiences I have had within our American College of Physicians.

It has been my privilege to get to know many of you in this organization. I have benefitted learning from the role models of professionalism, scientific rigor, and compassion within our Chapter. To those of you whom I have not yet had the chance to meet, I would like to share a bit about myself and why I believe I am the best candidate for this position.

I completed my Internal Medicine training & Chief Residency at University of Maryland Medical Center Midtown Campus under Dr. Dobbin Chow, where I now serve on the faculty teaching residents and medical students as an acute care hospitalist. Nothing gives me greater joy than teaching doctors on the wards. I am also Medical Director of Clinical Informatics, engaging with physician leadership across our medical system on IT matters, and serve as Director of Compliance for my Department of Medicine.

I am a native son of Baltimore, born into a Loch Raven apartment the same year my parents immigrated to the United States. I like to think I have good timing. There were six adults living in that apartment before I arrived. My parents came to this country after completing medical

school, looking to find residency training positions. My father's first job, as he reminds me, was at Hardees fast food restaurant, then as a respiratory therapist, before going on to a psychiatry residency. A few years later, my mother would enter family medicine. I was not sure what I wanted to do with my life as a young person, but I distinctly remember feeling confident about two things; I didn't want to be a doctor and I didn't want to stay in Baltimore. It seems the universe is trying to teach me something.

Training in and having the privilege to practice Internal Medicine is the greatest honor of my life. My involvement with the American College of Physicians began as a medical student. I had never interacted with a professional society or attended a medical meeting. I read online about the ACP Maryland Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting at Turf Valley. Being neither an Internist, nor a resident, nor a member of the ACP, I was unsure of my eligibility to participate. I emailed Ms. Maryellen Woodward expressing my interest, and she kindly and warmly invited me to attend free of cost.

What I witnessed in that first day of that first meeting was something I always remember. Internists from every different practice setting and generation, intensely interested in learning together to sharpen one another. I tried to fit in, pay attention, take notes. I was struck by the energy of the room each day. It was overtly joyful, with smiling faces and jovial catching up between colleagues who all seemed to know each other as friends. For the first time in my life, I felt as if I was attending a celebration of medicine. I felt I was right where I was meant to be. Since then, I have known I wanted to become a part of this organization and find some way to contribute.

The magic of the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Physicians is that energy I felt that day. I think it is that feeling that keeps so many talented Internal Medicine physicians engaged in our Chapter, making it the finest in the world. It is deeply meaningful to me to be nominated to serve as Chapter Secretary. If elected by my colleagues, I pledge my complete commitment towards honoring the core values of our organization at a state and national level. I will work to advance the Governor's agenda. I will support others who wish to deepen their engagement with Internal Medicine and our organization. I will advocate for the hospitalist and international medical graduate physician perspective. I will work to ensure all the diverse voices of Internists within our state are heard, including those practicing outside the Baltimore area in other parts of the state. My goal is for our organizational priorities to reflect those of our membership. Thank you for considering my candidacy to serve as the next Chapter Secretary of our Maryland ACP.

Sincerely,

Aseem Sood MD