



## Christopher M. DeRienzo

Member, Board of Trustees  
American Medical Association

**C**hristopher M. DeRienzo, a medical student at Duke University, was re-elected in November 2006 by the American Medical Association (AMA) Medical Student Section (MSS) to serve a second one-year term on the AMA Board of Trustees (BOT) beginning in June 2007. He is the first medical student from North Carolina to serve as an AMA-BOT member, and is only the fourth medical student in the AMA's history to be re-elected to the board.

Born in Huntington, N.Y., Mr. DeRienzo is in his final year of an MD / Master of Public Policy program at Duke University in Durham, N.C. As an undergraduate, Mr. DeRienzo attended Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., where he was a Justice Brandeis Scholar. There he served as the director of operations and clinical supervisor for the school's Emergency Medical Services squad. In addition to receiving the Edwin E. Hokin Award for Community Service, Mr. DeRienzo graduated magna cum laude, earning his bachelor's degrees in biochemistry, biology and psychology in May 2003.

Mr. DeRienzo began his service in organized medicine as a first-year medical student. Elected to serve as his chapter's chair of health policy, Mr. DeRienzo worked to bring Rep. David Price to Duke and organized statewide lobbying events.

At his first national AMA meeting in December 2003, Mr. DeRienzo served on the AMA-MSS House Coordinating Committee and helped the section lead its landmark resolutions on student debt through the AMA House of Delegates (HOD). He then served as chair of the House Coordinating Committee at the 2004 AMA Annual Meeting, helping direct AMA-MSS efforts to increase physical activity in schools, bring healthier food options to hospital cafeterias and improve medical student working conditions.

In June 2004, Mr. DeRienzo was elected to the AMA-MSS Governing Council as the MSS delegate. One of only a handful of first-year students ever to serve on the council, Mr. DeRienzo guided almost 40 items of business from the AMA-MSS through the AMA-HOD, including a record 26 resolutions in June 2005. During his tenure, he led AMA-MSS efforts to improve medical student professionalism training, curb teen suicide, ensure that school-age children receive evidence-based health education and improve our nation's newborn screening.

Mr. DeRienzo is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the North Carolina Medical Society, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the AMPAC Capitol Club and the National Association of Corporate Directors. He has served as an ensign in the U.S. Public Health Service, volunteered with the Red Cross in coastal Mississippi during the nation's September 2005 response to Hurricane Katrina and now plans a career in pediatrics.

Mr. DeRienzo and his wife, Melody, currently live in North Carolina.

2007-2008

