Pauline Huynh - Candidate for Delegate

Begin recording.

Rijul Asri (Vice Speaker): On behalf of your Governing Council, your Speakers would like to present Pauline Huynh as a candidate for the position of Delegate for consideration to the MSS. We would like to thank the candidate for their time.

Jay Llaniguez (Speaker): We would now like to invite Pauline to deliver up to a three-minute speech addressing the MSS assembly, herein represented by members of your Governing Council. Your time will begin when you begin speaking. We will provide a visual cue when 30 seconds are remaining, and then a verbal-visual cue when ten seconds are remaining. You may begin whenever you are ready.

Pauline Huynh: Dearest friends,

Allow me to first start by saying thank you for being so incredibly patient.

The past couple of months have been challenging for all of us:

Transitioning to online courses and awaiting the return to clerkships. Having our test dates in flux and dedicated study periods prolonged. Postponing major life and professional milestones. Taking care of loved ones. Losing loved ones.

And throughout it all, you have remained amazing advocates for your communities and colleagues. As I spent the past 10 weeks connecting and reconnecting with nearly 200 of you, I have had the privilege and absolute pleasure and not only learning about those experiences, but also how they driven your desire to bring change. You all are coming out of this with a fierce desire to ensure that health equity becomes more than a talking point, that the next pandemic does not bring our medical education system to its proverbial knees.

And I am again reminded of the power of organizing, of organized medicine, and of what our AMA-MSS can bring to the ever-evolving landscape of healthcare. We are the future of medicine, the Movers n' Shakers if you will and during these trying times, our voice is more important than ever.

Now, I'm not just saying that because I am a candidate and I am asking for your vote. I'm saying because I came into the AMA a skeptic. I'm saying that as someone who has had a resolution and have it recommended for not adoption.

As someone who has contributed to a standing committee report that few have taken the time to read.

As someone tasked with reviewing a resolution on a topic I had no content expertise in. As someone aware of how our MSS is perceived in the House of Delegates at large.

But I'm also saying this as someone who has written a resolution and found it a year later in our AMA Policy Finder.

As someone who has coached new authors to get their resolutions adopted into policy. As someone who has testified on behalf of our MSS at the House of Delegates and witnessed physicians say, "The medical students got this right."

As someone who served as the sole medical student voice on the Council of Constitution & Bylaws, advocating for our section's rights to an autonomous vote.

I say this as someone who has shared many of your struggles in and out of the policy sphereand if I haven't, I have done my best to elevate your voice and to listen. As your Section Delegate, I promise to keep doing that.

For me, this position has always been one of advocacy-- advocacy for you, for our Section, for the 50,000 medical students across the country, and for our patients. This next year will bring some interesting challenges as we accommodate the work from this past Annual and the upcoming Interim policy cycles, as well as work to ensure that our MSS remains a vibrant and powerful voice both within the House of Delegates and beyond. With your vote, I'm excited about what we can accomplish.

Rijul Asri (Vice Speaker): Thank you, Pauline. As per our IOPs and A-20 Speakers' Ruling, we will now ask you two questions, and you will have one minute to respond to each of them. Your time will begin when you begin speaking, or ten seconds after the question is read. We will provide a visual cue when 20 seconds are remaining, and then a verbal-visual cue when ten seconds are remaining.

Jay Llaniguez (Speaker): Your first question is:

Attendance of meetings by our MSS follows a natural cycle as they progress through medical school. Sometimes we see resolution submissions that mirror previous resolutions from 2-3 years ago. Can you describe how we can strengthen the institutional memory of previous business submitted and discussions from previous General Assemblies?

Pauline Huynh: Yeah, I think that that's a fantastic question and as well as the issue, like the major issues coming from the MSS are relatively consistent over the past couple of years. I think moving forward, direct communication and transparency is always important and getting the rest of the MSS leadership involved including Standing Committee leaders, other delegates and delegations involved in this communication process is vital to ensure that all members remain educated about what steps have been taken and what potential plans can be moving forward. So, I think leveraging some of the, like for example, in terms of the Standing Committee perspective, creating some sort of clearing house so that all the reports remain for members to see what work has been done and providing some sort of semblance of what has been done from a delegation perspective. Thank you.

Jay Llaniguez (Speaker): Thank you, Pauline. Your second question is:

The Center for Health Equity, led by Dr. Aletha Maybank, is a newly formed Business Unit in the AMA. How do you foresee using this new resource in your position as Delegate?

Pauline Huynh: Yeah, I think that is an interesting question and I know that health equity has always been a priority for our section over the last, um, since our section's history. As a delegate, what I would do is that I would work with the office to see what resolutions pertain to equity, get their advice in terms of reviewing resolutions, working with the delegates to see what kind of programming they would like. I guess what kind of programming they would like to see moving forward and collaborating with our incoming Vice Chair and all the standing committee leaders to see how can it can inform either hot topics or recurring topics from the get-go. Same with the Open Forum, for example.

Candidate Response.

Rijul Asri (Vice Speaker): Thank you, Pauline. With this, we would like to conclude this candidate interview for the position of Delegate. We would like to thank the candidate for their time and dedication, and wish them the best of luck with the remainder of the campaign process.

Stop Recording.