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Residency/Fellowship Program: Vanderbilt Urologic Oncology

Expected Graduation Date: June 2024

Specialty: Urology/Urologic Oncology

Surgical training serves as some of the most formative years in one's medical career. In the field of urology, one must acquire both clinical and technical skill; however, in the current healthcare climate, it is evident that health policy and more practical perspectives of medical training are grossly neglected in surgical residencies. Medicine and policy are inevitably intertwined.

I was fortunate enough to both realize and gain a deeper understanding of this relationship early in my educational career. I pursued both legal studies and biology during my undergraduate studies, with a thesis in the National Development of IRB Legislation following the Tuskegee Study. In medical school, I served in leadership roles within the American Medical Association longitudinally, from the local to the national level. Within these roles, I chaired a national committee in the medical student section, made trips to Washington DC to advocate for medical students in meetings with Congressional staff, and eventually was voted to represent the voice of my peers across the country as a voting member of the House of Delegates. Now, as a fellow, I have a unique perspective on the frontlines of clinical, surgical subspecialty care.

During my residency at the University of Pennsylvania, I focused academically on quality, access, and equity in surgical care, with over 25 peer reviewed publications in this space. However, for these research endeavors to be impactful, it is imperative that we use this work to shape the structures in which physicians provide care. I have continued to serve as a trainee member of policy related committees and endeavors through the American Urological Association, co-chairing our Advocacy Summit, but am looking to further represent my specialty within the American Medical Association.

Currently, in 2019, less than 10% of practicing urologists were women; even fewer were minority females. To advocate for our patients and profession, it is imperative to have diverse representation to ensure that the field of urology, and medicine, continues to move forward. Therefore, I request your support, with the endorsement of the American Urological Association, to serve another term in the Resident and Fellow Section as a delegate.