
Minority Affairs Section (AMA-MAS)

Resident and Fellow Section Representative to
the AMA-MAS Governing Council

Name

Joshua Aaron Carrasco

Credentials

MD, MPH

Pronouns

He/Him They/Them



Statement of interest

I am eager to build upon my connection with MAS' GC and Staff leadership that I initiated as a medical student. I began collaborating with MAS GC in early 2022 as co-chair of the MSS' Minority Issues Committee where we hosted an education session focused on rebuilding trust between marginalized communities and medical institutions.

As the MSS GC's inaugural DEI Officer in 2023, I continued to bolster this relationship by:

- co-hosting a panel addressing mental health disparities among minoritized medical trainees,
- establishing a working group of national student leaders representing URiM groups like ANAMS, GLMA, LMSA, and SNMA to centralize our collective forces, and
- developing strategies, with stakeholders like the AAMC, to empower underrepresented students to pursue their medical career dreams.

With this foundation supporting me, I commit to serving as the RFS Representative to MAS' Governing Council with similar diligence and purpose.

Drawing from the insight of MAS' and RFS' most established leaders, I recognize a need for increased engagement, effective communication, and focused action in this role. I will address these needs while centering the growth of underrepresented AMA members. Together, we will establish sustainable solutions to narrow the gaps between our sections and ensure our needs and interests are successfully addressed.

In summary, I am uniquely equipped and dedicated to improving our communal experiences as a proactive liaison between RFS and MAS. I will serve these sections and drive harmonized efforts that advance justice, equity, and belonging within our AMA.

Diversity statement

As a queer, Latinx, non-traditional student, and first-generation physician, my journey in medicine has been marked by resilience and determination. Disowned by family as a teenager, I embarked on my college education alone, navigated financial challenges, and forged my path with resourcefulness.

The lack of early support internalized in me a commitment to youth development, positioning me to pursue pediatrics and specialize in adolescent medicine. I am driven by my desire to support young individuals through their most challenging transitions, providing them the guidance and affirmation needed to achieve their dreams.

Throughout life, I have prioritized mentorship and empowerment. Whether through initiatives focused on education or leading a community clinic providing gender-affirming care, I strove to create spaces where people felt seen, heard, and valued.

In co-founding 'Auscultations,' an organization amplifying the voices of minoritized students, I sought to foster a community of understanding within my medical school. Additionally, my experience in the Peace Corps taught me the significance of cultural understanding and community partnership in addressing health needs, such as malaria prevention.

Marginalized representation within the AMA is a pressing issue, and my personal experiences compel me to ensure these voices are heard and valued within this community. Understanding the impact of loneliness and lack of support fuels my dedication to creating inclusive environments where everyone can thrive.

Diverse medical trainees are essential to the future success of our institutions. It is through our unique perspectives that we will drive meaningful change and foster environments of belonging and excellence.