

**Academic Physicians Section (AMA-APS)  
Governing Council Positions**

Chair-elect

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**Name**

Murali K Ankem



**Pronouns**

He/Him

**Credentials**

MD, MBA

**Statement of interest**

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the position of Chair-Elect of the American Medical Association-Academic Physician Section (AMA-APS). My career as a surgeon-scientist, educator, and leader in graduate medical education has been dedicated to advancing the academic mission of medicine, fostering professional development, and advocating for policies that enhance the future of medical education. I am eager to bring my experience and vision to the AMA-APS, ensuring that academic physicians continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of medicine.

As Chair-Elect of the AMA-APS, I aim to:

1. Strengthen advocacy efforts to support academic physicians in research, education, and clinical practice.
2. Enhance mentorship and leadership development opportunities for academic faculty at all career stages.
3. Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion within academic medicine through targeted initiatives.
4. Promote policies that improve physician well-being and work-life integration in academic settings.
5. Expand engagement between academic physicians and policymakers to shape the future of medical education.
6. Work across the sections of the AMA and support the ideas that are germane to academic physicians.

I am deeply committed to the mission of the AMA-APS and am confident that my experience, leadership, and vision will contribute meaningfully to the section's continued success. I welcome the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues across the nation to strengthen the voice of academic physicians and ensure that our profession remains at the forefront of medical innovation and education.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

## Diversity statement

"Unity in diversity serves as both the aesthetic hallmark and the crucible testing the strength of our civilization."

- Mahatma Gandhi

From my early years, I have resided in a nation marked by its rich tapestry of religions, dialects, and social customs. A quarter-century ago, I relocated to the United States, where I found a receptive environment that evaluated me based on merit and emotional intelligence. This ethos enabled me to flourish as a surgeon, educator, and administrator. Over the ensuing twenty-five years, my understanding and commitment to diversity and inclusion have undergone profound maturation.

As the Chair of the department, I have been instrumental in the recruitment of a diverse faculty, encompassing individuals from various backgrounds such as females, D.O. graduates, international medical graduates, and African Americans. Notably, the current year saw the culmination of our efforts in achieving the most diverse class of residents, featuring two female interns—one of whom identifies as African American—and a third intern who identifies as transgender. During challenging periods, exemplified by the 'Breonna Taylor' incident in Louisville, our dedicated diversity representative stands as a pillar of support.

Upon my arrival at the University of Louisville, I identified the substantial LGBTQ population in the city, with a specific focus on the transgender community. I directed my professional endeavors towards establishing equitable healthcare delivery for transgender individuals.

In summary, I firmly assert that the composition of the healthcare workforce should mirror the diverse communities it serves.