

**MMA-RFS  
Vice Chair Election Guide 2011**

*Position description: The Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson, assist the Chairperson with their duties. The Vice Chairperson shall be responsible for receiving reports and coordinating the efforts of resident appointees to MMA Standing Committees.*

**Ellie Choi, MD  
Neurology, U of MN**

My name is Ellie Choi; currently in the mist of my final year of Neurology residency training at University of Minnesota. This letter is intended to convey my interest to serve in the Resident & Fellow Section leadership position for the Minnesota Medical Association. The goal is to communicate the reason for MY personal desire to partake in a leadership role and discuss contributions that I can bring forth.

The desire to be involved in MMA via leadership position, especially at this stage of my medical training, esteems from my hopes to expand the knowledge and build experience in reference to the legislative and administrative aspect of medicine. Over the course of my medical training, I have ascertained the understanding that the practice of medicine is intricate and complex as evidenced by many factors that impact clinicians. I believe that through this involvement, it will allow me to grow and understand some of the complexities that impact physicians. In turn, I hope that this will be a stepping stone for myself to contribute to the future of medicine by becoming an active participant in the shaping of the medical environment in the years to come.

In addition to what I hope to gain from my participation in the Resident & Fellow Section, I hope to contribute my experience and skill to be an effective leader. In conjunction to my medical background, I also have undergraduate training in Business as well as couple years of business related work experience, which allows me to examine situations and analyze cases from different perspective. I have learned the importance of team-work, to focus on tasks via organization and efficiency, and most importantly practice effective communication for the purpose of successful achievement of goals.

I am very excited at the prospect of new learning and experience through the involvement via leadership position in the Resident & Fellow Section of MMA. I look forward to further communications in the future; please contact me anytime for questions or feedbacks. Thank you for your time.

**Eugerie Douge, MD**  
**PMR, Mayo**

I am interested in being a vice chair for MMA as I feel this is a great opportunity to take an active political role to affect healthcare policy. As physicians we tend to be strongly invested on the clinical side of medicine. This role places us in a unique and intimate position to understand the needs of our patients. In particular, for those of us who serve under represented populations, we are exposed to how current policies impact care, which is a major concern nationally. However, I feel that as a profession we lose some of our effectiveness by not being able to voice our thoughts to the governing body.

I feel that the MMA, with the size of its membership and with overall easier access Minnesotans have to healthcare, can have a noticeable impact on how medicine is practiced. The state of Minnesota is unique in that most people have good coverage, even with government aid. This allows us more flexibility to provide individualized care. As a result, overall healthcare costs are lower with a healthier population. This is strong evidence towards how we should be approaching the healthcare crisis.

My goal would be to use a leadership position in MMA to encourage physicians to voice the pros and cons of the healthcare system in Minnesota as an example for the nation. I would also encourage continued dialogue on ways to improve the system. I think there is a good deal of practical information available that should be disseminated to further progress the discussion on healthcare access and disparity.

**Ryan Grenier, MD**  
**Internal Medicine, U of MN**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my candidacy for the Vice Chairperson position with the Minnesota Medical Association's Resident and Fellow Section. As a new resident in the state of Minnesota and intern at the University, my interest in your organization is derived from being both a private citizen and professional colleague. Governance, leadership, and healthcare advocacy, have been an integral part of my experience and training over the last 10 + years working and volunteering in healthcare. My earliest experiences derive from assisting with the development of a public health department in rural Nebraska, supporting an anti-tobacco legislative agenda as spokesman of Nebraska's anti-tobacco coalition, and subsequently representing its

interest in a component of the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. During my university years pursuing a health administration degree, my employment matured into a committee appointment charged with planning and executing part of the merger between the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Clarkson Hospital. Finally, my medical training has encompassed exposure to the public university, private, and international aspects of healthcare delivery. I believe all of these experiences support my qualifications for a leadership position within your organization.

The MMA's mission statement is to provide advocacy, information, education, and leadership for Minnesota physicians and their patients. I can think of no time in history when the need for such a mission has been greater. The Affordable Care Act will substantially transform the practice and training environment for all physicians and presents unique and substantial challenges to healthcare delivery. The MMA stands to be a leader in training and advocacy during this transition. Residency training programs will have to be a critical starting point for developing the institutional initiatives targeting compliance and adoption of new regulations and for reworking our collective healthcare ethos to embrace a new professional accountability. As Vice Chair, this initiative would be a central component of my tenure. Naturally developing from this initiative would be the need to continually study and evolve residency work schedules to address the need for more training in the context of restricted hours. There are solutions to these challenges and I am interested in exploring them.

I look forward to speaking with the council further and invite any correspondence to further clarify my background and interest.

**David Lamborn, MD**  
**Anesthesiology, Mayo**

I am a recent transplant to Minnesota, moving here last year from Salt Lake City, Utah to pursue a residency in anesthesia at the Mayo Clinic. I have admittedly not been active in the MMA to date, but I'd like to seize this opportunity to change that.

What will I bring to the MMA? In addition to a wealth of leadership experiences, and a strong desire to be a voice in shaping of our constantly changing healthcare system, I have experience advocating for the underserved. Surrounded by a group of outstanding students, I led program at the University of Utah with a mission to help senior citizens avoid eviction from their homes. Our group received media attention for our efforts. Additionally, I helped found and lead a geriatric medicine interest group at

the University of Utah School of Medicine, increasing the visibility of this necessary specialty, while providing service to the elderly population in the Salt Lake valley. Understanding that one of top legislative priorities of the MMA is to cover the State's most vulnerable, I hope to draw on my experience helping the underserved, and find creative ways to involve other residents at the Mayo Clinic to help the association accomplish this aim.

Thank you for your consideration.