



®

AMERICAN
THYROID
ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1923

Your Vote Matters!

Cast Your Vote for ATA's President-elect, Treasurer-elect and Directors.

Voting is via electronic media. Please submit your votes by Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

Thanks to all ATA members for participating in the nominating process for the ATA Board of Directors (BOD). The timeline for nominating process is as follows:

- Call for ATA Board nominations in process from December 2015 – March 2016;
- Treasurer-elect selection committee convenes, interviews candidates, recommends selection to the BOD;
- The Board of Directors determines balance of Board demographics;
- The ATA nominating committee, chaired by Dr. David Steward, reviews proposed candidates;
- After careful review and discussion, 2 candidates are selected for each available slot.
- Dr. Victor Bernet presented the slate for President-elect, Treasurer-elect and Directors in the ATA member newsletter SIGNAL - May 2016.
- The election guide will be available in July and the ballot will be distributed by survey monkey in August.
- Results are announced at the ATA Business Meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2016

The ATA Board accepted the recommendations of the nominating committee as follows:

► Board of Director President-elect candidates:

Vote for One (1)

Charles Emerson..... *page 2*

Alan Farwell *page 2*

► Board of Director Treasurer-elect:

Vote by acclamation

Julie Ann Sosa..... *page 4*

► ATA Directors

Vote for Two (2) total – One (1) in each category

Board of Director - Surgeon

Brendan Stack *page 5*

Ralph Tufano *page 5*

Board of Director – Physician in Practice

Ernest Asamoah *page 7*

John Woody Sistrunk *page 7*

Having notified the membership of the nominating slate, members may nominate candidates by petition in accordance with the ATA Bylaws:

ARTICLE V - Committees

Standing Committees

Nominating Committee

Section 5.Within the next thirty days, nominations by petition for elective office may be submitted. Such petitions require the signatures of at least 5% of the active members.

ATA President-elect — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The president-elect has a one-year term of office (2016–2017), followed by one-year term as president (2017–2018) and one-year term as a past-president (2018–2019); Vote for One (1)



Charles H. Emerson, MD
Candidate for President-elect

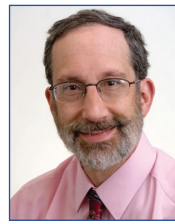
Candidate's Statement

The ATA is the most prominent organization in its field. It strives to advance humanistic care for patients with thyroid disorders and promote understanding of thyroid biology and pathophysiology. I am very grateful to you, the members of the ATA, for giving me the opportunity to share my guiding thoughts about how ATA Presidents can best represent you, support your interests in the thyroid, help maintain the outstanding collegiality and vibrant interchange that we enjoy at our meetings, and maintain the ATA as an important contributor and influence in the world.

All of us embody and exemplify the ATA. As President Elect, then President, and finally Past President there is a more formal obligation to represent the ATA in its most favorable light and to cultivate ethical conduct, transparency, grace, a positive outlook, teamwork and an understanding of the ATA's legacies and diversities. Presidents need to anticipate that their actions and demeanor reflect the ATA not simply at formal meetings but also in small gatherings and social settings. It is essential that they are outgoing and open to new ideas in order to interact productively with a wide variety of specialists, scientific disciplines, patient groups, government and business representatives, the press, philanthropic organizations, and sister societies.

A crucial commitment of the ATA President is to nurture, challenge, and be a voice for its members at the highest level, not to be preoccupied with the administrative complexity that is dealt with so ably by our Executive Director, her staff, and our Secretary/COO. The President should be attentive, individually and collectively, to the priorities, concerns, and aspirations of the membership. No matter how many years a member of the ATA, she or he must reach beyond earlier associations, fostering new relationships and advocating for a broader range of interests. The dynamic nature of the ATA, with expanding membership, scientific discoveries, and advances in medical practice makes this a requisite.

As important as it is for the President to favorably represent the ATA and to engage its members he or she must also have a vision, consistent with the tenets of the ATA, but arising from within in order to provide the leadership that the office requires. My vision of the ideal ATA is that it should be an intellectual home and voice for both individuals and groups, for original groundbreaking research and education of health care workers and the public, for scholarly work by one or two people and collective synthesis of the literature by groups. Revolutionary insights are generally formulated by individuals or close collaborations between two or three investigators. These in turn are integrated into the mainstream by groups, ideally in an erudite fashion. I will strive to devote my efforts to both of these ideals; contrasting on the surface, they actually complement each other in promoting the ATA's goals and values.



Alan P. Farwell, MD, FACE
Candidate for President-elect

Candidate's Statement

It is a tremendous honor for me to be nominated as a candidate for President-Elect of my professional home throughout my career.

What makes the ATA special is the wonderful collegiality between all of you – our membership – and the unselfish dedication that you bring to serving our organization and moving it forward. Our membership is our most valued resource and is the reason that the ATA is like family.

The legacy of president is impressive, as we have been blessed with the top leaders in our field to help guide our organization. While we have grown tremendously over the past several years, we have been able to maintain a collegial and intimate atmosphere, largely through the leadership and vision of the outstanding individuals who have served as President. We have continued to be the voice of thyroidology in this very competitive and changing market, pushing the edge in research, clinical excellence, mentorship and education for physicians, medical support staff and patients.

Presidents can accomplish little without the support, guidance, wisdom and dedication of the members who volunteer to lead the ATA through participation on the Board of Directors, as committee chairs, as committee members and at the annual meeting. I expect the legacy of outstanding Secretaries to continue with the tenure of Vic Bernet. Above it all is the superb management of Bobbi Smith and the excellent ATA staff. With this type of support and infrastructure, I believe that the main role of the President is to be the face of the ATA, to push awareness of all aspects of thyroid biology and clinical care on both the national and international stage, to work with leaders of our sister societies to influence health policy as it relates to thyroid care, and advocate for an increase of funding for research on the national level. The President must help to set the priorities and emphasis for the ATA during his/her term of office.

As part of the ATA's ongoing efforts to remain a strong, vibrant organization, we have regularly held strategic planning retreats to ensure that the ATA is meeting its' mission. I have been involved with these strategy sessions since President Bill Chin held his retreat in 2001. The most recent retreat last January set the agenda for the next few years by focusing on four broad areas: catalyzing research, promoting ATA visibility, stabilizing ATA finances and enhancing interactions with thyroid patients and patient groups. Consistent with my passion and long-time involvement in patient education, my emphasis would be on the latter focus with thyroid patients and patient groups. We have made great strides in this area over the last 15+ years, developing the *Alliance for Patient Education*, promoting patient education and involvement through the annual Thyroid Patient Forums and publishing the online journal *Clinical Thyroidology for the Public*, reflecting the expansive reach of our education efforts. I look

ATA President-elect — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The president-elect has a one-year term of office (2016–2017), followed by one-year term as president (2017–2018) and one-year term as a past-president (2018–2019); Vote for One (1)



Charles H. Emerson, MD, continued

Thank you for taking the time to be informed of your choices for the ATA's leaders. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to serve the ATA.

Biosketch

Charles H. Emerson, MD is Professor Emeritus of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMASSMED). He obtained his undergraduate degree from Randolph Macon College in Ashland, VA followed by an MD degree from the University of Virginia. He did his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA. After a year of Endocrine Fellowship at the same institution under Research and Program Director Robert D. Utiger, MD, winner of the 1972 Van Meter Award, he served as Chief of Endocrinology at the U.S. Army Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia. He rejoined Dr. Utiger to complete his Endocrine Fellowship after military service. During his Endocrine Fellowship Dr. Emerson worked on purifying thyroid stimulating antigen, the kinetics of thyrotropin releasing hormone (TRH), inappropriate TSH secretion, and the effects of lithium and stable iodine on thyroid function. In 1974 he was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Illinois where he worked on developing assays for TRH metabolites and an endogenous TRH antibody binding ligand in urine. In 1980 Dr. Emerson was recruited to UMASSMED by Lewis E. Braverman, MD. Shortly after joining Dr. Braverman a fruitful collaboration was established studying thyroid hormone metabolism in the chorion and placenta of various species, sparked by the finding that, in experimental models of hypothyroidism, reverse T3 in amniotic fluid was derived from the mother, not the fetus. Among the other areas of Dr. Emerson's research are the effects of recombinant TSH in humans and the rat, the relationship between age and the thyrotroph response to primary hypothyroidism, and, working with Dr. Ronald Lechan, the mechanism of fasting induced suppression of ProTRH mRNA in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus.

Dr. Emerson has served on the VA Merit Review Board and as an ad hoc member of NIH study sections. He is a member of the Endocrine Society, the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, the European Thyroid Association and, since 1976, the ATA. He has served on the Program, Awards, and Development Committee, and as Chair of the Membership and Bylaws Committees of the ATA. He was a member of the ATA Board from 2003 to 2007 and Treasurer of the ATA from 2004 to 2007. From 2008 through 2012 he was Editor-in-Chief of *Thyroid*. He is currently Associate Editor of *Clinical Thyroidology* and Associated Editor of *Endocrine Practice*. Dr. Emerson was awarded the ATA's Distinguished Service Award in 2010.



Alan P. Farwell, MD, FACE, continued

forward to engaging all of you in developing new approaches and ideas to advance educational efforts on behalf of our patients.

Serving as your President would be the crowning achievement of my academic and professional career. I will do my best to live up

to the impressive legacy of past ATA Presidents. I pledge to work with all of you to advance the ATA strategic plan, to increase member involvement in this process and to continue to keep the ATA a wonderful and vibrant organization.

Biosketch

Alan Farwell, MD, FACE, is the Chief of the Section of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition and Director of the Endocrine Clinics at Boston Medical Center and Associate Professor at Boston University School of Medicine. He obtained his MD degree at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and trained in Internal Medicine at the University of Vermont Medical Center. Dr. Farwell received his Endocrinology fellowship training at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, with Dr. Jack Leonard as his research mentor and Dr. Lewis Braverman as his clinical mentor. The first 12 years of his career were spent as an NIH-funded basic researcher focusing on two general areas of study 1) pathways of thyroid hormone metabolism and 2) the role of thyroid hormone on neuronal migration and brain development. In 2004 he transitioned into clinical ambulatory operations as the Endocrine Ambulatory Clinical Leader at UMass Memorial Health Care and then as the Endocrine Clinic Director at Boston Medical Center in 2008. He obtained a "Pocket MBA for Physicians" from Boston University in 2014 and participated in the AAIM Executive Leadership Program in 2014. Dr. Farwell was named Section Chief in 2014 after serving in an interim position from 2012-2014. Since 2012, he has annually been selected as a "Top Doc" by *Boston Magazine* and *US News and World Report*.

Dr. Farwell has been active in the American Thyroid Association since 1990. For the past 15+ years he has directed the ATA's efforts in the patient education arena, beginning as the founding chair of both the Patient Education and Advocacy Committee (2001-2014) and the ATA Alliance for Patient Education (2002-present). He served as the American Thyroid Association Director of Patient Education from 2006-2015 and is a past member of the Board of Directors. He has been an Associate Editor of *Thyroid* and currently serves on the Editorial Board. He has served as the Editor-in-Chief of the online journal *Clinical Thyroidology for the Public* (previously *Clinical Thyroidology for Patients*) since 2010. Dr. Farwell was awarded the ATA's Distinguished Service Award in 2014.

ATA Treasurer Elect — Candidate Statement and Biosketch

The treasurer-elect has a one-year term of office (2016–2017), followed by a four-year term as Treasurer (2017–2021).
Election by Acclamation.



Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, FACS
Candidate for Treasurer-elect

Candidate Statement

It is an honor to be nominated for the Treasurer-elect position, and it would be a privilege to serve the ATA and its members in this role, and then as Treasurer. I have learned a great deal over the last year and a half serving on the Board of Directors and as Board liaison to the Finance and Audit Committee, and this has prepared me well for the additional responsibility of serving as an officer. As Treasurer-elect and then Treasurer, I would look for ways to help expand development opportunities while maintaining fiscal responsibility in order to assure a position of strength for the ATA to pursue new and old priorities identified by its members, and to allow the ATA to grow in impact and stature. My background in economics and experience from leadership roles in other professional organizations and running a large clinical and research platform at Duke will help inform my service, and I promise to bring creativity, collegiality, and industry to the Treasurer position.

The management of benign and malignant thyroid disease is the focus of my clinical practice and research, and the ATA is the professional society where I feel most at home. While I am a surgeon, I spend a large part of my time collaborating with endocrinologists, oncologists, basic scientists, and health services researchers doing translational research and participating in transdisciplinary patient care. I look forward to serving as Treasurer in an era where a collaborative platform is necessary to meet the challenges of the kinetic world of thyroidology and the expanding diversity of ATA members. I have spent a large part of my professional life outside of my home institution in the ATA, and I am committed to maintaining this high level of commitment going forward. As Treasurer-elect and then Treasurer, I will work tirelessly together with members, leadership, and staff to promote thyroidology through the ATA.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Biosketch

Julie Ann Sosa, MD MA FACS is Professor of Surgery and Medicine (Oncology) at Duke University, where she serves as Chief of Endocrine Surgery and Director of the Surgical Center for Outcomes Research, as well as Leader of the Endocrine Neoplasia Diseases Group at the Duke Cancer Institute and the Duke Clinical Research Institute, a large transdisciplinary group of clinicians and researchers. Her clinical interest is in endocrine surgery, with a focus in thyroid cancer. She is an NIH-funded investigator and author of more than 230 peer-reviewed publications and 50 book chapters, largely focused on outcomes research and thyroid cancer, including clinical trials. Dr Sosa serves on the Board of Directors of the American Thyroid Association, and is board liaison to the Finance and Audit Committee and Internet Communications Committee. She is a past Chair of the Program Committee, and has served on the Nominating and Patient Affairs and Education Committees, as well as ATA guidelines committees for the management of thyroid nodules and differentiated thyroid cancer (2015) and hyperthyroidism/thyrotoxicosis (2011, 2016). She was vice president of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, and serves on the Board of Directors of the International Thyroid Oncology Group as well as the Executive Council of the Society for Surgical Oncology. She is a member of the NCCN practice guidelines committee for neuroendocrine tumors. She is deputy editor of *JAMA-Surgery*, and serves as associate editor for *World Journal of Surgery*, *Journal of Surgical Research*, and *Current Opinion in Oncology*; she is on the editorial boards of the *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, *Annals of Surgery*, *Hormones and Cancer*, *Endocrine*, and *Surgery*. She has mentored more than 50 students, residents, and fellows. Dr Sosa was born in Montreal and raised in upstate New York. She received her AB at Princeton, her MA at Oxford, and her MD at Johns Hopkins, where she also completed the Halsted residency and a fellowship.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The Director has a four-year term of office (2016–2020).

Vote for Two (2) total — one (1) in each category.



Ralph Tufano, MD, MBA, FACS
Candidate for Surgeon Category–
Board of Directors

Candidate's Statement

Early in my career, I realized that many of the medical professional societies that I could join did not have the multidisciplinary membership and true interdisciplinary collaboration the ATA possessed. I recognized that the ATA's success was dependent on engaged members who had a real zeal for Thyroidology. I chose to become a member of the ATA because of these unique qualities. Many years later, I'm now honored and humbled to be nominated for this very important position in the society.

I'm proud to say that I'm a member of an organization that fosters a collegial working environment for physicians from multiple specialties to accomplish the primary goal of improving care for our patients. The ATA leadership was bold and visionary in actively recruiting new members from different specialties with an interest in thyroid research, education and clinical care. This strategic plan has helped to firmly establish the ATA as the leading organization for the management of thyroid diseases, but there is still work to be done to make the ATA greater than the sum of its parts.

If the ATA membership elects me to the position of director, I will tirelessly work with integrity, initiative, imagination and industry to strengthen communication and collaboration between current members for the benefit of our patients. Utilization of novel technology for timely and effective communication and dissemination of ATA information is critical to getting our message established and out. This will further establish the ATA's position as the leading multidisciplinary society for defining and revolutionizing care for patients with thyroid disease while also promoting professional development of its members. I will also work to make sure that the value of the ATA as a uniquely positive environment that supports clinical care, education and research in Thyroidology is clearly defined and promoted to prospective members through thoughtful marketing. The ATA must compete with other medical professional societies to grow a diverse and engaged membership to ensure its long-term success. I hope that you will give me the opportunity to work with you on strengthening the ATA as our very special home.

Biosketch

Ralph P. Tufano, MD, MBA, FACS is the Charles W. Cummings MD Endowed Professor and Chief of the Division of Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Tufano earned his medical degree summa cum laude at the State University of New York at Buffalo and was elected into the AOA Honor Medical Society in his junior year. He completed a residency in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania followed by a fellowship in Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.



**Brendan C. Stack, Jr.,
MD, FACS, FACE**
Candidate for Surgeon Category–
Board of Directors

Candidate's Statement

It is an honor to be nominated for the Board of Directors of the American Thyroid Association. I appreciate the confidence placed in me. I look at this as a wonderful opportunity to continue my service and extend my reach in the world's preeminent society dedicated to the understanding of, and therapy for, the entire spectrum of thyroid conditions.

The ATA is a special society which bridges the silos of multiple disciplines and unites us in the purpose of thyroid care. The ATA has been a catalyst for cooperation amongst its multidisciplinary surgeon group. In the past few decades, there has been a renaissance of surgeon involvement in the ATA which led to the formation of the Surgical Affairs Committee (SAC). This committee has been a neutral ground where thyroid surgeons come together and address pressing issues. The work product from this committee has been prodigious and generated evidence which has gone on to educate and impact the ATA guidelines. I have been fortunate to be a lead author or co-author of many of these manuscripts. I am finishing 3 years of being Co-/past Chair of SAC.

My tenure in ATA has been very gratifying and productive. I consider it the professional home for my 20 year endocrine HNS clinical and research career. I have been involved in numerous ATA committees (Clinical Affairs; Central Neck Dissection (CND) Working Group; SAC, CND Trial and Lateral Neck Dissection Subcommittees; Publications; and Development) over the last decade. As SAC Chair, I have had a great interest in the Ridgway Trainees Conference. I have increased SAC participation and attendance by surgical trainees. This year I will organize the first Advanced Surgical Topics session at the Ridgway.

My priorities on the board would be: patient outreach and education, supporting multidisciplinary initiatives congruent with the ATA mission, growing surgical membership, efforts for meaningful long-term strategic relationships with sister surgical societies, and amplifying the scope, scale, and impact of the Ridgway Conference.

Biosketch

Dr. Brendan C. Stack, Jr., M.D., FACS, FACE attended Brigham Young University and graduated AOA/Sigma Xi from Eastern Virginia Medical School. Dr. Stack trained in Surgery for two years and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery for four years at the University of South Florida/Moffitt Cancer Center. Dr. Stack completed a Fellowship in Head and Neck Oncology and Reconstruction at the University of Washington. In Seattle, Dr. Stack also completed a post-doc in molecular biology at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and served as an Instructor at the University and on the medical staff of the Seattle VA Medical Center.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The Director has a four-year term of office (2016–2020).

Vote for Two (2) total — one (1) in each category.



Ralph Tufano, MD, MBA, FACS,
continued

Dr. Tufano served as the Director for the Johns Hopkins Hospital Multidisciplinary Thyroid Tumor Center from 2009 until 2016. His practice is dedicated exclusively to the surgical management of thyroid and parathyroid disease. Dr. Tufano is the chair of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery's Endocrine Surgery Committee. He has published extensively on thyroid and parathyroid disease with over 140 peer reviewed publications and has been invited to give many national and international lectures on these topics. His clinical and research interests include management of cervical nodal metastases, re-operative surgery for thyroid cancer, determining the value of molecular markers in surgical decision making for thyroid nodules and novel directed initial therapies for thyroid nodules and cancer. He was able to see his plan for trans-oral robotic thyroid surgery in the USA come to fruition this year after 5 years of planning, leading and supporting his interdisciplinary team in this effort.

Dr. Tufano has served the ATA in many capacities. He was a member of the ATA program committee from 2008-2011 and has given many invited talks at the ATA's annual meetings. He also served on the Surgery Task Force to define the central neck dissection terminology that the ATA convened in 2008 and he was appointed co-chair of the Ad hoc Surgical Affairs Committee that was spawned from that successful effort. The Surgical Affairs Committee was then formally established in 2009 where Dr. Tufano served as the inaugural co-chair until 2011. During that time, the committee produced 5 highly regarded consensus statements and the bylaws established have left a platform for continued exemplary collaboration and production to this day. He currently serves on the Membership Committee and has participated in the 2015 ATA Strategic Planning Retreat. Dr. Tufano also serves as an associate editor for the Video Endocrinology journal and is on the Editorial Board of the journal *Thyroid*.



Brendan C. Stack, Jr., MD, FACS, FACE
continued

Dr. Stack has served on the faculties of St. Louis University and Penn State. Currently, Dr. Stack is Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR. Dr. Stack has authored over 200 peer-reviewed papers and internet articles as well as dozens of text chapters and two books. He has presented at over 300 meetings regionally, nationally, and internationally. He collaborated on grants from the NIH, NSF and other organizations. Dr. Stack has appeared on, or been cited by, local and national media numerous times. He serves as a reviewer or on the editorial boards of many journals including *Thyroid*, *Endocrine Practice*, and *Video Endocrinology*. He is the Section editor for *Evaluation of Thyroid Mass/Enlargement for BMJ/Epocrates*. He has served in leadership and/or committees for the American Academy of Otolaryngology, AACE, and American Head and Neck Society. Dr. Stack chaired the AACE/ACE Disease State Clinical Review: Postoperative Hypoparathyroidism – definitions and management. Dr. Stack is listed in "Best Doctors" of America, "Guide to America's Top Surgeons", "Guide to America's Top Physicians", *Castle and Connolly Top Doctors* and *Cancer Specialists*, and "Top Thyroid Doctors".

His research interests include thyroid cancer surgery, radioguided surgery, positron emission tomography, calcium management and health services research. Dr. Stack's clinical interests include endocrine surgery for the head and neck and minimally invasive/robotic head and neck surgery.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The Director has a four-year term of office (2016–2020).

Vote for Two (2) total — one (1) in each category.



**Ernest Asamoah,
MD, FACE, FACP, FRCP**
Candidate for Physician in Practice
Category– Board of Directors

Candidate's Statement

It is a great honor to be nominated for a position on the ATA Board of Directors. I enthusiastically welcome the opportunity to serve our dear association.

The ATA has been and will continue to be a home for me and many other thyroidologists. As an endocrine fellow under the mentorship of Dr. James Hennessey, I first attended the ATA meeting in Portland, OR and fell in love with the association. I've since met numerous other colleagues and friends who have wholeheartedly welcomed me into the ATA family.

The ATA serves as the world leader in thyroid biology, research, and clinical care. Health care delivery is rapidly changing. The millennial generation is seeking new and digital ways to access health information in the form of e-health. As we navigate the influx of medical information and misinformation brought along by the Internet, we must address new and pressing questions.

How can the ATA influence thyroid disease education and management in the digital space?

What other innovative ways will enhance the ATA's profile and increase the public trust as the authoritative source for any thyroid related issue?

If elected to the ATA board, I am prepared to help answer these questions, among others. I will bring the knowledge and experiences that I have acquired over the years as chairman and member of other boards. I will work diligently with other members to pursue excellence in thyroid research, seek innovative ways to fund our association, and help to shape clinical care and public health.

Young physicians are the future of the ATA and we can make strides to enhance that future. Imagine each one of our established members making an intentional effort to bring just ONE young physician to the ATA and helping her or him become established. I intend to champion what I call "Just bring ONE". Through this initiative, we can exponentially grow our membership while invigorating the association with fresh and promising perspective.

Biosketch

Ernest Asamoah, MD FACE FACP FRCP, is an Indianapolis-based endocrinologist in the city's Community Health Network, where he has practiced since 1999. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at both the Indiana University School of Medicine and the Marian University Osteopathic School of Medicine.

After earning his medical degree from the University of Ghana Medical School, he did postgraduate training in Internal Medicine in England. While there he became a member of the Royal College of Physicians. In 1995, Dr. Asamoah moved to



John Woody Sistrunk, MD
Candidate for Physician in Practice
Category– Board of Directors

Candidate's Statement

It is indeed an honor to be nominated as a candidate for the American Thyroid Association (ATA) Board of Directors. As a practicing clinical thyroidologist, I have enjoyed my association with the ATA and look forward to making further contributions to its future success and development.

Today the ATA finds itself at the forefront of the emerging science of thyroidology. Each of us represents a link in the chain that moves toward better patient care and improved clinical outcomes.

Through the utilization of ATA Guidelines, our ultimate goal is straightforward: evidence based, scientifically sound patient care. Unfortunately, few primary providers understand the proper care and management of thyroid disease. To address this issue I would like to see the ATA offer web-based video lectures for CME credit. This would more effectively utilize the superb ATA guidelines, promote our society, and provide an avenue for interest in thyroidology.

Through my involvement with the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist's Endocrine University, I have seen thyroid ultrasound become a mainstream tool in endocrinology training. It is interesting to note that the 2015 ATA Guidelines for the Management of Thyroid Nodules and Thyroid Cancer mentions the characteristics of thyroid nodules approximately 100 times. This represents a golden opportunity for the ATA to offer teaching for endocrinologists, surgeons, and radiologists in proper thyroid ultrasound imaging techniques, while providing a background in effective clinical management of thyroid nodules and thyroid cancer. The ATA is uniquely positioned to bring these often disparate groups together to cultivate and foster continued learning.

The ATA has a place for everyone. If elected, I have a number of ideas to contribute, including the design and implementation of an ATA mentoring program to establish contacts and provide insight into career and practice decisions. I find it exciting and professionally stimulating to be part of the continued progress and development of the ATA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Biosketch

Woody Sistrunk, M.D., is a practicing endocrinologist/ clinical thyroidologist in Jackson, Mississippi.

He obtained his MD degree from the University of Mississippi School Of Medicine. He completed his Internal Medicine residency and Endocrinology fellowship at Mayo Clinic-Rochester. It was during training in endocrinology that Dr. Sistrunk first became interested in pursuing a career in thyroidology.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The Director has a four-year term of office (2016–2020).

Vote for Two (2) total — one (1) in each category.



**Ernest Asamoah, MD, FACE, FACP, FRCP,
*continued***

the United States and completed an internal medicine residency at the University of Virginia School of Medicine (Roanoke Program), followed by an endocrinology fellowship at Brown University School of Medicine.

Dr. Asamoah's clinical practice has a special focus on thyroid disease. In 2004, he established the Thyroid Institute, a multidisciplinary clinic comprised of on-site pathologists and ENT surgeons. He is certified in thyroid ultrasound (ECNU) and has been an active member of the ATA since 2004. For 6 years he served as a member of the Clinical Affairs Committee (2009-2014), and he is currently a member of the Public Health Committee.

Dr. Asamoah is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, American College of Physicians and American College of Endocrinology. He is also a member of the Endocrine Society, where he has served on the Minority Affairs Committee (2009-2012), Clinical Affairs Committee (2012-2015), and Quality Improvement Sub-committee (2015-present).

He currently sits on the of Board of Directors of Community Physician Network (a multispecialty practice of over 800 physicians in Indianapolis) and he just completed a 3-year term as Chairman of this board. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Northview Church (an 8000+member non-denominational church in Central Indiana).

His hobbies include photography, running, traveling, and enjoying spicy foods. He has been married for 26 years to his wonderful wife Rose, with whom he has raised 3 loving, grown children.



**John Woody Sistrunk, MD
*continued***

Although interested in thyroid ultrasound and nuclear medicine, no formal training for either existed at the time for Endocrinology fellows. Dr. Sistrunk has since become a mentor to endocrine trainees interested in learning and mastering the many intricacies of thyroid ultrasound and office-based nuclear medicine.

Dr. Sistrunk began the practice of general endocrinology in 2001. He started Jackson Thyroid & Endocrine Clinic in 2007.

A member since 2004, Dr. Sistrunk is active in the American Thyroid Association (ATA) and has served as previous Chair of the History and Archives Committee from 2012-2015, and continues as past-chair. He has also served on the faculty for the ATA E. Chester Ridgway Trainee Conference at annual ATA meetings. He has been active in promoting the concept of a specialized thyroid-only practice as a rewarding and economically sound consideration – particularly to trainees.

Dr. Sistrunk is an active member of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), and has been involved in the evolution of the AACE Endocrine Certification in Neck Ultrasound (ECNU) Committee since its inception, serving as Chair from 2013 to 2016. He is a member of the AACE Thyroid Scientific Committee, and has been a faculty member of the AACE Thyroid Ultrasound Course. In addition, Dr. Sistrunk has been on the faculty of the AACE Endocrine University since its inception in 2002. He currently serves as the President of the Mississippi Society of Nuclear Medicine - the first endocrinologist to serve in this capacity. Dr. Sistrunk also serves on the National Cancer Institute's Head and Neck Rare Tumor Task Force.