

Erin Scott
Personal Statement - Secretary

Throughout my training, serving in surgical organization leadership has been one of the most meaningful avenues through which I have learned to advocate for patients, collaborate with colleagues, and contribute to the future of our profession. As a current trauma, acute care surgery, and surgical critical care fellow at Emory University and Grady Memorial Hospital, I have had the privilege of training at one of the nation's busiest trauma centers while also becoming increasingly involved in leadership at regional and national levels. I am seeking the opportunity to serve as Secretary of the AAST Associate Member Council because I believe effective organizations are built through engaged leadership and intentional collaboration.

My commitment to organized surgery extends well beyond membership and simple participation. Throughout residency, I intentionally pursued leadership opportunities that allowed me to represent trainees and help shape educational and professional initiatives. I served on the Governing Board of the American College of Surgeons Resident and Associate Society and progressed through successive leadership roles within its Global Surgery Committee, serving as Secretary, Vice Chair, and ultimately Chair. These experiences taught me the importance of preparation, organization, consensus building, and ensuring that ideas are translated into meaningful action. In addition, I served as Resident Liaison for both the Massachusetts Committee on Trauma and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons Executive Council, where I represented resident perspectives while collaborating with practicing surgeons on statewide educational and advocacy initiatives.

Since beginning fellowship at Grady, my commitment to AAST has continued to grow through my participation on the AAST Associate Member Research Committee and my involvement in the academic mission of the organization. I have been continually impressed by AAST's commitment to creating opportunities for associate members to become future leaders in the specialty. Serving on the Associate Member Council would provide an opportunity to contribute to an organization that has already played an important role in my professional development.

As Secretary, I would bring an organized, dependable, and collaborative approach to the Council, qualities I have developed through my prior experience in executive board leadership. I enjoy the behind-the-scenes work that keeps committees functioning efficiently, and value the importance of listening to colleagues, representing diverse trainee perspectives, and helping connect associate members with opportunities for mentorship, education, research, and leadership within AAST. I would be honored to help support the Council's mission and to help represent the next generation of trauma surgeons.