

2019 NOMINEES TO BE SEATED SPRING 2020

	Candidate	Grad Yr.	Nominator	Specialty	Home
1	Beason, Austin	2017	Self	Res., Ortho Surg./SIU	Springfield, IL
2	Montgomery Collins, Elizabeth	1996	Self	Peds/Global Health	St. Louis, MO
3	Feeney, Marissa	1997	Marcia Sawa, 1997	Forensic Pathology	Vandalia, IL
4	Fetter, Madelyn	2019	Sean O'Malley, 2019	Family Medicine/SIU	Springfield, IL
5	Florence, Nicole	1997	Cara Vasconcelles, 1991	Internal Med/Peds	Springfield, IL
6	Gillihan, Jason	2006	Self	Anesthesiology / Military	St. Louis, MO
7	Hlafka, Martha	2009	Katrina Pedersen, 2009	Internal Medicine/SIU	Springfield, IL
8	Hollonbeck, Sean	1997	Elizabeth Montgomery Collins, '96	Military, FM/ Aerospace Med	Fort Rucker, AL
9	Hsieh, S. Jesse	1986	Jill O Noreuil, 1986	Family Medicine	South Bend, IN
10	Hwang, Sarah Linn	2008	Kristen Maguire, 2008	Physical Med./Rehab Gen.	Columbia, MO
11	Idrizi, Haneme	2003	Amanda Mulch, 2003	Pediatrics/SIU	Springfield, IL
12	Johnston, Jill	2001	Erika Stalets, 2001	Pediatrics	O'Fallon, IL
13	Lieber, David	1998	Gary Rull 1998	Urology	Springfield, IL
14	Lucas, Christine	1996	Self	Family Medicine	Carbondale, IL
15	Maguire, Kristen	2008	Self	Emergency Medicine	Crystal Lake, IL
16	Majcina, Ryan	2006	Self	Pediatrics/SIU	Springfield, IL
17	Mueller, Renee	1996	Self	Surgery/Colon/Rectal	Orlando, FL
18	Neumeister, Evyn	2017	Austin Beason, 2017	Res., Plastic Surg./SIU	Springfield, IL
19	Nielsen, Thomas	1981	Self	Vein Specialist	Bloomington, IL
20	Pryor, Ray	2006	Lindsay Skibley, 2006	General/Wound Care	Woodstock, IL
21	Sandercock, David	1996	Classmate	Pediatrics	Springfield, IL
22	Skillrud, David M.	1979	Self	IM/Pulmonary/Sleep Med.	Bloomington, IL
23	Sokovich, Ronald	1988	James Alexander, 1988	Urology	Watertown, WI
24	Soltys, Stephen	1980	Self	Psychiatry	Springfield, IL
25	Todd, Christine	1993	Paul Checchia, 1993	Internal Medicine/SIU	Lincoln, IL
26	Vasconcelles, Cara	1991	Self	Internal Med/Peds	Springfield, IL
27	Wallace, Lance	1990	Self	Internal Medicine	Frankfort, IL

LEGEND		
Pink=female	Blue=70's	Yellow=primary care (Int. Med, Peds, FM, Med/Peds)
White=male	Orange=80's	Orange=specialty
	Green=90's	
	Gray=00's	
	Purple=10's	

LEGEND
Green=Illinois
White=Non-Illinois

**Alumni Society Board of Governors SIU School of Medicine
Board Candidates September 2018**

Message sent to nominees:

Thank you for expressing an interest in serving on the Alumni Board of Governors for SIU School of Medicine. The Board meets twice a year at the School, in the spring, and in the fall. In order for the board to consider your candidacy, they would like to review your answers to the following:

1. Describe your current practice.
2. What experiences or perspective could you bring to benefit the board?
3. Do you anticipate any problems in attending two board meetings per year?

Austin Beason, '17 Res. Ortho Surgery - Springfield, IL
Self-nominated
(CV attached)

1. I am currently a second-year resident in the Orthopaedic Surgery residency program at SIU.
2. As a recent graduate of SIU SOM and a current resident in an SIU residency program, I feel I can provide a "boots on the ground" perspective on the current state of training that we as an institution are providing and an invested opinion on how to continue to improve this experience and advance the mission of SIU SOM.

I have a strong interest in education at the medical student and resident level. I have worked to stay involved with medical education at SIU SOM through research and mentoring students, and I have had the opportunity to work closely with the SIU Surgical Skills Lab on surgical education and simulation efforts. These core interests are areas that I feel have deep importance to the future direction of our school and are areas where we can continue to grow as national leaders. I hope to offer insight on this as a board member.

I also hope to provide a perspective on ways to continue to improve resident and medical student community engagement. I have been fortunate to work closely with some local high school sports teams and with the sports medicine team at UIS. I have also been involved with SIU- and MCLI-sponsored events that bring in the community (e.g., Leadership Springfield, National Guard skills labs, visiting high school science days, HealthCare Explorers) and look forward to finding ways to students and residents in activities. I would love to provide a perspective on how to do this and again, believe this to be an important way to advance the mission of SIU SOM, engage the community, and allow students and residents to invest in Springfield.

3. No, I do not anticipate any problems attending two board meetings per year. With enough notice, I will be able to coordinate with my attendings and co-residents to ensure I am able to be present.

Elizabeth Montgomery Collins, '96 International Peds Health/Global Health –Durham, NC
Self-nominated
(CV attached)

Update: At Duke doing a fellowship in Pediatric Hospitalist
The following was submitted in 2018

1. I have been practicing general academic pediatrics with a specialization in public health for over 17 years, and in 2016 relocated to England with our infant for my husband to complete a graduate

school program there. We have recently returned to St. Louis and I will be seeking a position in academic pediatrics in Illinois or Missouri, where all of our immediate family lives. During this career furlough I have focused on international pediatric health by serving as a Global Health Council delegate to the World Health Organization (WHO) World Health Assemblies and Executive Committee meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, creating a Global Advocacy & Policy course for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), serving as the advisor for a Master's of Public Health (MPH)/MD student, receiving four grants for research I am supervising, authoring a policy statement for the AAP, and publishing two journal editorials, five abstracts, and four blogs. During this time I have also written eleven letters of recommendation for residency applications or awards. I have completed dozens of hours of leadership and professional development training, additionally met my continuing medical education (CME) requirements for the states of Texas and Missouri, attended local maternal-child health lectures, and given two lectures, including Grand Rounds at the University of Missouri. In addition, I have volunteered hundreds of hours as a pediatric advocate, mostly involving the United Nations, the United Kingdom Parliament, or the AAP, including serving on their Committee on Pediatric AIDS at meetings at the AAP headquarters in Illinois.

2. I can bring a local and global perspective from my experiences in academic pediatrics to the Board. My leadership roles have been predominantly clinical- teaching and providing care for children in the U.S. with rotations in Africa. I began my career as a pediatrician in a children's emergency department in Kentucky, later served at Saint Louis University in the Division of General Academic Pediatrics, and most recently, with Baylor College of Medicine, trained general pediatricians to tackle the HIV epidemic at home and abroad. I concurrently served at the U.S. State Department in Washington, DC, as a Senior Advisor in the Secretary's Office of Global Partnerships, where I built consensus on international projects. I have also worked or volunteered as a pediatrician and global health expert in Europe, South America, and the Caribbean; I was honored with Southern Illinois University School of Medicine's Distinguished Alumni of the Year Award in 2016 for "outstanding commitment to the health and welfare of their patients and their community, as well as for humanitarian activities". My research interests range from newborn resuscitation, to HIV, to orphan health. Education has been my overarching passion and in 2016 Baylor College of Medicine awarded me Faculty Excellence Awards in teaching and in educational leadership.

I am confident that my experiences in pediatrics and global health diplomacy will help me join alumni team members to achieve the highest standards of health for underserved children and families of Southern Illinois. By pursuing strategic partnerships and expanding alumni initiatives within the university, with public and private sectors, and with families, we can ensure that SIU is *the* place for healthcare in the region, and *the* preeminent center for primary care education and advocacy, inspiring others to learn and contribute. Let's continuously improve relations with all SIU SOM alumni everywhere and the quality of health for all people that SIU's alumni reach.

3. No.

Marissa Feeney, '97 OB/GYN - Edwardsville, IL

Nominated by Marcia Sawa, '97

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2016

1. I have recently relocated to southern Illinois, and last August I started my own practice in forensic pathology. I am currently providing autopsy and forensic consultation services to the coroners of Bond, Fayette, Effingham, Marion, Jasper, Crawford, and Cumberland Counties. The anticipated caseload is 100-120 autopsies per year, which would be considered working part-time (approximately 1 in every 3 days).

2. I believe I bring a unique perspective on medicine, as I generally see firsthand the devastating effects of chronic disease and poor lifestyle choices. Furthermore, I bring a wide variety of experiences practicing medicine in both urban and rural settings in the U.S. and abroad.
3. I would not anticipate any difficulty in attending the required meetings, as my work schedule is very flexible and I only live about an hour and a half away.

Madelyn Fetter O'Malley, '19 Family Medicine – Springfield, IL
Nominated by Sean O'Malley, '19
(CV attached)

1. PGY1 Family Medicine Resident at SIU Springfield
2. As a recent graduate, I'm very familiar with the interests of the students and what programs/ funding appeal to them. I'm also a Springfield native hoping to practice in the area after residency. I love the school's mission and want to help foster the strong tradition of SIU Medicine.
3. No, I live in Springfield and should not have any difficulty attending.

Nicole Florence, '96 Internal Medicine/Peds – Springfield, IL
Nominated by Cara Vasconcelles, '91
(CV attached)
Submitted in 2018:

1. My current practice is a combination of a primary care practice associated with Memorial Health Systems now for 18 years. I am also a Medical Director and practicing Bariatrician for the Weight Loss and Wellness center now for 5 years which offers a variety of services including surgical and nonsurgical weight loss, healthy families programming, eating disorder support, and optimization for elective surgical procedures (orthopedic, renal transplantation, complicated hernias) and wellness offering.
2. Being currently active in primary care and wellness gives me a great vantage point for the future in healthcare. I have been a part of the changes that have occurred over the decades which will give perspective on where we need to go in health care and preparing our future providers.
3. If I have the scheduled meetings in advance there shouldn't be any issue in attending the 2 meetings. I would be able to anticipate and keep these days available

Jason Gillihan, '06 Anesthesiology – Creve Coeur, MO
Self-nominated
(CV attached)
Submitted in 2016:

1. My current practice is in an academic center. I am an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at Washington University in St. Louis. I currently serve as the Associate Director of Clinical Anesthesiology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. My clinical duties are primarily located at the Barnes-Jewish Hospital main campus. My time is comprised of 50% clinical duties as the Assistant Chief of Trauma Anesthesia, and the remainder of my clinical responsibilities are in the general ORs, OB anesthesia, and staffing the Center for Perioperative Assessment and Planning.

2. I feel that my past experience as class chair for my graduating class at SIU-SOM, and past involvement with the board as the Chair of the Student Assembly from 2005-2006 gives me insight that can be of value to the board. In addition, I spent the first 3 years of my career in a rural practice at Wabash General Hospital in Mt. Carmel, IL. In this critical access hospital, I was the director of anesthesia services, chief of the medical staff, and a member of the Wabash County Board of Health. I understand the importance of the mission of SIU-SOM in providing expertly trained physicians to the underserved areas and rural communities in Illinois. I understand the healthcare needs of the populations in these regions and just how difficult it can be to provide comprehensive care due to the lack of funding, resources, and specialty services. I also feel that as a physician who is early in my career, I also understand very well the burden of the rising cost of medical education and the resulting student loan debt.
3. My current practice location and schedule should easily allow for me to attend the required meetings with adequate notice. I would be honored to serve SIU School of Medicine, its alumni and current students in this capacity.

Martha L. Hlafka, '09 Internal Medicine – Springfield, IL
Nominated by Katrina Pedersen, '09
(CV attached)

1. I am an academic hospitalist in the Department of Internal Medicine at SIU School of Medicine. I am also the clerkship director for Internal Medicine.
2. As an alum who is now faculty at SIU, I am interacting with students on a daily basis. This allows me to observe how changes in medicine and changes at the school impact our learners.
3. Since I live in Springfield, I do not have any anticipated problems with attendance.

Sean Hollonbeck, '97 Military Practice, FM/ Aerospace Medicine – Fort Rucker, AL
Nominated by Elizabeth Collins, '96
(CV attached)
Submitted in 2017:

1. I recently retired from Deputy Commander at the US Army Aeromedical a Research Laboratory. I also perform clinical duties at Lyster Army Health Clinic at Fort Rucker, Alabama, where I also mentor and precept Aerospace medicine residents.
2. Experiences and perspectives: I have a host of clinical, operational, management, leadership, special operations and research experiences spending 30 years of military and academic service and not just in the US but abroad. I have a lifetime of experience in disability sport in the adult child spectrums from training camps to the Olympics. I have volunteered at numerous activities and events from local causes such as Big Brother Big Sister in Springfield to service during Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and the tornado in Joplin, Missouri. Also, I have worked with many Wounded Warriors and Wounded Warrior causes most recently to include the Saratoga Warhorse Project. I think that I could bring a broad and unique range of multi-state academic exposures, military experiences, and leadership as well as a global perspective to the board.
3. Attendance: No issues attending meetings.

S. Jesse Hsieh, '86 Family Medicine – South Bend, IN

Nominated by Jill O. Noreuil, '86

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2017:

1. Full-time Family Medicine, 4000+ patients, many >20yrs, 3-5 generations. Teaching at Notre Dame and IU Medical School. Administration- president of 150 provider group, board directorships on: large health system, hospice, med school.

Transitioning to more teaching at Notre Dame, more research, fewer patients, left the multispecialty group to be president of Michiana VIP MD, and CEO of Smart Medicine Solutions in Jan 2018.

2. A lifetime of being on the front lines of primary care, as a physician, a leader, and board directorships. Board director and Chair of strategic planning committee at Beacon, a >\$1B/year in revenues health system. Ranked 95th%ile in Press-Ganey nationally for patient satisfaction, (PDF article attached). Ranked 95th% at Notre Dame for teaching, in the business school.
3. No

Sarah Hwang, '08 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation – Columbia, MO

Nominated by Kristen Maquire, '08

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2016:

1. I am one of less than 10 physicians in the country who specializes in women's health rehabilitation. My outpatient practice focuses on musculoskeletal care of women - specifically pelvic pain and pain in pregnancy. I also treat men with pelvic pain. I have been at the University of Missouri for 5 years, and in that time, I have developed 2 multidisciplinary clinics- one with obstetrics and gynecology and urogynecology and the other multidisciplinary clinic with physical therapy. I also do consultations at our University Hospital one day per week for physical medicine and rehabilitation. I serve as the associate program director of our residency program, the director of the women's health rehabilitation program and an Ambulatory Clinical Experience preceptor for the medical students at my institution.
2. I have had amazing opportunities thus far to develop my leadership skills. I recently completed the AAMC's Early Career Women Faculty Professional Development Seminar and am in the third year of the Program for Academic Leadership through the Association of Academic Physiatrists. I also serve on the Program Planning Committee for the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. These activities, along with my work with medical students and residents, have helped me to develop a new set of skills and knowledge regarding working with a team and program development. I have such fond memories of my time at SIUSOM and would love the opportunity to give back to the school and further represent the alumni.
3. No anticipated issues.

Haneme Idrizi, '03 Pediatrics—Springfield, IL

Nominated by Amanda Mulch '03

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2018:

1. I am a Pediatric Hospitalist in the Division of Pediatric Hospital Medicine at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Prior to starting my employment at SIU-SOM in July 2018, I was a Pediatric Hospitalist at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and Joe Di Maggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, Florida. Outside of my clinical duties, my primary focus is on medical student education. I am the 4th Year Pediatric Curriculum Coordinator and a member of the 4th Year Curriculum Committee.
2. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunities my education at SIU-SOM have afforded me. I have maintained strong bonds with many of my SIU colleagues and believe this has helped to shape my professional identity. I would like to help foster professional relationships between alumni and our school, and in turn, give back to this institution. I believe the diversity of my life and work experiences make me an ideal candidate for the Board. I have had the opportunity to practice in a non-academic and academic environment in various states. This allows me a unique perspective that will facilitate my connection with various alumni.

I have served on several high-level committees at my previous institution and firmly understand the dedication required of such a commitment. I chaired the school of medicine curriculum committee for three years, and during this time gained an immense amount of experience.

3. As I currently reside in Springfield, I foresee no problems attending two board meetings per year.

Jill Johnston, '01 Pediatrics – O'Fallon, IL

Nominated by Erika Stalets, '01

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2017:

1. Currently, I am practicing general pediatrics in Swansea Illinois. I have been caring for patients and their families at the same practice for the past 14 years. I have the privilege of practicing in the same community my family lives in and where my children attend school. I enjoy the challenge of caring for growing families, educating them on child development, and advocating for vaccine education and breastfeeding support. It's been a joy watching my patients grow and flourish into young adults.
2. I have dedicated my time to the community I grew up in and where I have chosen to raise my own family. My experiences of training, living and practicing in southern Illinois allow me to know not only the immense benefits, but also the struggles of being in Illinois. I believe maintaining a personal and professional connection to Southern Illinois University School of Medicine is vital for the continued success of the school.
3. I do not anticipate having any problems attending the two board meetings per year.

David Lieber '98 Internal Medicine – Springfield,IL

Nominated by Gary Rull, '98

(CV Attached)

Submitted in 2019:

1. As far as what perspective I could bring, I was born, educated, and work in Illinois. From the perspective of a urologic surgeon, I understand the culture of the people we serve from the farmer trying to push off his cancer surgery to make harvest to the unemployed homemaker with a kidney stone trying to make sure she can get care for her children when she is at the hospital. From the provider viewpoint and from the experience as chairman of the hospital committees in surgery and robotics, I see the dire need for SIU to have a strong presence in the state. Critical shortages hamper access to care and many professionals don't view Illinois as an attractive option thus they take their medical education to other states. The medical education SIU provides is a state resource to be spent wisely.
2. SIU School of Medicine needs to position itself strategically in 3 key areas. Politically as to prevent damage from the struggles of partisanship at the statehouse. Financially remain solvent to weather funding crisis. Locally integrated to set a clear example of how the medical community is not here to simply care and sustain but to enrich and embolden the community she serves to be better than the status quo.
3. To serve as a member of the board is to do my part for the next generation of Illinois. Getting to two board meetings a year would not be an issue.

Christine Lucas '90 Internal Medicine – Carbondale, IL

Nominated by Self

Submitted in 2019

1. I work at a federally qualified health center called Rural Health Inc in Anna IL. I have been seeing patients here for 20 years and am very fortunate to work with a dedicated team to provide primary care to an under-served area and am also privileged to be able to do so part time. I also see patients at our outreach clinics in Goreville and Metropolis IL. I work part time for Integritas to provide coverage for our local hospitalists at Union County Hospital on occasional weekends and holidays. I also work as an Assistant Medical Director for Hospice of Southern Illinois and am the on-call doctor for one week of every month and attend their monthly interdisciplinary team meeting
2. I was the medical director for the Jackson County free clinic, the Abundant Health Resource Center, for 10 years until its closure in 2010 and served on its board during that time so have had some experience with board member duties. I have been in the same southern Illinois community for my entire medical career so have the perspective of going through all the changes as everyone else but have seen how these have played out in unique ways for a rural population with a high poverty level. I have a strong commitment to do everything I can to keep a strong medical presence in the area as it is much needed in every aspect.
3. I do not see patients on Mondays or Tuesdays plus I have family in Springfield so do not anticipate any conflict with attending meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

**Kristen Maguire, '08 Emergency Medicine – Crystal Lake, IL Self-nominated
(CV attached)**

Submitted in 2016:

1. My current practice: I am a Board Certified Emergency Medicine Attending Physician at Alexian Brothers Medical Center in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. This is a community setting as opposed to an academic one. I work full-time, it is a busy Emergency Department and comprehensive stroke center, with an annual volume near 50K/year. There I oversee Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants as well. I was also moonlighting at a University hospital as a clinical instructor until this past December, enjoying the occasional teaching role.
2. I have never served on an Alumni Board before, so it is hard to say what experience I have in that realm. I went to both SIU for undergrad and medical school and so in our house, we have three degrees from SIU; my husband also went to SIU Carbondale for undergraduate studies. It's safe to say that my pride for SIU runs strong and deep. Even 10 years after SIUSOM graduation, I can say without hesitation that some of the best experiences of my life were from my time there. I truly believe with all my heart that it is a truly special place that cares about its students and their education. I love that SIUSOM has a mission. When I've spoken to colleagues of mine over the years comparing medical school experiences, there is no doubt that I am the lucky one. I also moonlighted at Memorial Medical Center in the ED during residency and loved it there. I was offered a full time job, but due to family concerns and being pregnant, I turned it down. I regret that at this time in my life family is keeping me near home as I would love to be able to give back to the school that gave me so much. I work with scribes in my Emergency Department and nearly all of them are aspiring physicians or PAs. All of them know about SIUSOM, how much I loved it there, how much it has grown and how I feel they'd be missing out if they didn't apply or look into what SIUSOM has to offer. My husband and I keep in close touch with many of my Class of 2008 classmates and know these are friends for life. So, from an experience perspective, I have none really. But from a pride perspective, my heart is full. I am familiar with the role of the Alumni Board of Directors and I would love to be able to stay involved with the on-goings of the school. At this time in my career and personal life, this is how I can give back from afar.
3. I anticipate zero problems attending board meetings twice a year. While I do work full-time and have two little ones at home as well, (and as long as dates are known enough in advance), I will have no problems arranging for the time off to be there.

Ryan Majcina, '06 Pediatrics—Springfield, IL

Self-nominated

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2018:

1. I am a pediatric intensivist at St. John's Children's Hospital and employed by SIU SOM. I take care of critically ill medical, surgical, and trauma patients in the pediatric intensive care unit. I also provide sedation services for pediatric inpatient and outpatient procedures. I work with residents and medical students in the PICU, and I am involved in several research and quality improvement projects.
2. I am involved with SIU medical students through my volunteering as a year 2 NMB tutor group leader, CCX observer, PAC facilitator, and year 3 pediatric personalized education plan selective director. These experiences help keep me involved with the school and informed of the students' needs and experiences. Since medical school, I have always had a tremendous amount of appreciation for SIU SOM. I am grateful for my SIU medical school education and the opportunities it

provided, leading to a residency at Johns Hopkins and fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis. As a medical student, I always hoped to return to SIU to give back to the school and community. As a board member, I would aim to strengthen this same sense of pride and loyalty in the students and alumni. I would also offer my experiences from other institutions.

3. No

Evyn Neumeister, '17 Resident, Plastic Surgery—Springfield, IL

Nominated by Austin Beason, '17

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2018:

1. I am a third-year resident with SIU Institute for Plastic Surgery.
2. I have had a close personal connection with SIU School of Medicine for the last six years as a medical student, a public health student, and a surgical resident. These experience alone have given me the opportunity to see what a special learning environment we have; I developed a close feeling of connection with the school and a desire to watch it continue to succeed. As a result, I look forward to giving back to the school to be a part of its continued success through the many changes we have seen in the past several years.

As a medical student, I was very involved in medical student education and curriculum, serving on the Admissions Committee, the Year 4 Curriculum Committee, Surgical Interest Group, and being involved in a qualitative analysis for the new Year 3 Curriculum. Through these experiences, I gained further knowledge in the mission of the SIU School of Medicine, development, and improvement of education curricula, and student and faculty buy-in. As a resident at SIU School of Medicine, I am still tightly involved in the School of Medicine; I am still an active participant on the Admissions Committee, and I work with medical students during their clinical years. While working with medical students, I am able to reminisce about my days in medical school and hold discussions about what has changed and what has remained the same since I was in medical school. These discussions spark ideas about education, community involvement, and networking; I am excited to continue these discussions with a governing board to contribute to ongoing improvement in our school.

A personal mission of mine is to contribute to the ongoing improvement of an already brilliant and innovative medical school system by studying medical education, working with medical students, and participating in governing boards and committees. I look forward to continuing to contribute both to directly to the School of Medicine as well as helping to gain national recognition for the outstanding work we do here in education and in the community. The success of our medical students and alumni contributes to our national recognition, which is, in turn, beneficial to all graduates of the SIU School of Medicine.

3. I will be able to attend two board meetings per year; I do not anticipate any problems.

Thomas Nielsen, '81 Family Medicine – Bloomington, IL

Self-nominated (past BOG member from 1993 – 1999)

(CV attached)

Submitted in 2014:

1. Presently I am practicing full time at The Vein Specialists, LLC. I am co-owner and managing partner of the practice. I Prior to my present practice, my career was in emergency medicine full time for 28 years.

2. I was honored to serve on the Alumni Board of Governors approximately 20 years ago and also served as the president of the board. Recently I served on the SIU Foundation Board of Governors for 9 years as the medical school representative. I graduated from the SIU Family Practice Residency program in Springfield, IL. My experience with SIU SOM has always been extremely positive. I have been involved in multiple areas of leadership as President of the Medical Staff, President of ICEP (Illinois College of Emergency Physicians), Emergency Department Director at both OSF and Advocate BroMenn Hospitals as well as the local Flying Club. I feel my leadership activities in the past and my involvement on the SIU Foundation and Alumni Board gives me a great opportunity to help promote and serve the Alumni Board and SIU SOM.
3. No, I should not have a problem in making the two meetings per year.

Raymond Pryor, '06 General Surgery/Wound Care – Woodstock, IL
Nominated by Lindsey Skibley, '06
(CV attached)
Submitted in 2015:

1. I currently have a practice where I work as a consultant physician in nursing homes and rehab centers throughout the northern Illinois area. I service 21 nursing homes in a wide variety of areas, from very rural to urban Chicago. I have been doing this for nearly seven years. I also am responsible for training incoming physicians hired to the group and prepare them for their own practice in the region. In addition, I have a forensic practice where I work as an expert witness for attorneys in cases involving wound care management.
2. Since I see patients in such a wide variety of settings and work very closely with primary care physicians (many who practice in a rural setting) I have a wide area of contact and influence. In addition, working in the often forgotten nursing home setting gives me exposure to the elderly population. This patient population is vastly underserved, and I can provide a voice to the Board as to the needs and wants this population has from the physicians serving them.

I am considered by many of my peers to be one of the best wound physicians in the country. The field of wound care is rapidly evolving into its own specialty, and it is exciting to be a part of this field in its relative infancy. In my experience, I have found that the vast majority of physicians, from all specialties, are very ignorant of the proper evaluation and management of wounds. Since wound care--namely pressure sores--is one of the top reasons malpractice claims are filed, I can provide insight as to how to better educate physicians on proper management of patients having these conditions. Family practitioners and internal medicine physicians are most commonly the ones named in these cases as well.

SIU has long been the pioneer for educating medical students. A vast majority of its graduates go into family practice. I feel that implementing a rudimentary education of wound care would help the graduating physicians be better prepared when they enter their practice. Specialized wound centers are rarely available in the rural and small-town setting, so it is usually up to the family practitioner to manage these patients. They must do this with little to no formal education on the topic (as I have seen countless times in my practice).

3. While it is a rather long drive for me, I am willing to take that time to give something back to SIU School of Medicine as it provided me with the education I needed to become a successful physician. With enough notice, it will only be a minor inconvenience.

David Sandercock, '96 – Internal Medicine – Springfield, IL
Nominated by classmate

(NO CV)

Submitted in 2018:

1. My current practice is a private practice in which I see primary care patients of all ages. I am part of a large organization - MPS but my practice group consists of 8 IM/Peds physicians in Springfield.
2. I have a variety of experiences working on different boards and committees from Education, to Quality Improvement, and Youth Sports. I have had leadership positions and consider my strengths to be my open-mindedness and ability to work well in a group as I value being a team player.
3. I do not anticipate having issues attending 2 meetings per year.

David Skillrud, '79, IM/Pulmonary/Sleep Med.—Bloomington, IL

Self-nominated

(CV attached)

1. Presently, I am in solo private practice, 60% pulmonary and 40% sleep medicine...95% outpatient. I do occasional expert witness work and have done occasional locum tenens duties as well.
2. At present over 33 years and over 25,000 different patients since leaving residency training.

To me, life is more than just medicine (as my CV reflects!) -it is family and kids' activities -it is church, music, civic activities, acting, and even stand-up comedy.

I bring the perspective of someone enormously proud of my training...I already serve on the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Board of Directors (I did 6 years of residency and fellowship training there).

I would be honored to serve on SIU-SOM Alumni Board as well.

3. Nope (with advance warning on dates)...and I live just 1 1/4 hours away.

Ronald Sokovich, '88 Urology—Watertown, WI

Nominated by James Alexander, '88

(CV attached)

Nominated in 2018:

1. I am currently in solo private practice as a hospital employee for the last 10 years. Prior to that, I owned my own solo practice, which I sold to the hospital. I have been practicing in Watertown, WI since 1998. I practice the full range of general urology.
2. Living in Watertown for 20 years, I have been involved in various ways. I have coached youth baseball and football. I have served as treasurer and elder in my church. With respect to the hospital, I served on the hospital board from 2005 -2013. This was a key time for our hospital, as during that time the hospital was sold to and is currently owned by LifePoint. Being a member of the board, I was involved in this transition. Last year I was reappointed to the board and am currently serving as a member. I think the perspective I could bring to the board is that I am not academic, but have experience in running a practice, working for a system and living in a small community.
3. I would not anticipate problems attending meetings.

Stephen Soltys, '80 Psychiatry – Springfield, IL

Self-nominated

(CV attached)

1. I currently am retired but still help cover child psychiatry clinics at SIU at least one afternoon a week. I am actively volunteering throughout the year with the MS-2 curriculum, serve as a third- and fourth-year advisor and am still working on oxytocin research.
2. Beside my faculty credentials, I have a masters of public administration which helps me in the financial and management realm. I currently serve on the boards of the Central Illinois Numismatic Association, First Church of the Brethren, and the executive committee of the Sangamon Valley Group of the Illinois Sierra Club, so I have an idea of how to effectively function on a board.
3. Living in Springfield, I doubt there would be any problems as long as the meeting are scheduled well in advance.

Christine Todd, '93 Internal Medicine – Lincoln, IL

Nominated by Paul Checchia, '93

(CV attached)

1. I currently serve as the Chair for the Department of Medical Humanities. I'm engaged in building the department through new faculty members, constructing educational activities for students, residents, fellows, and faculty, integrating Med Hum concepts into 3rd year clerkships, mentoring MD/JD and MD/MPH students and teaching elective courses for 4th year students. I'm working on a book about how students assimilate into the culture of medicine, and my research interest is developing a taxonomy of core clinical questions in the medical humanities. Clinically, I work as a hospitalist for SIU's internal medicine ward service for 8 weeks and 12 weekends a year. I am involved in a project to evaluate faculty teaching in the internal medicine department as well.
2. One of my jobs is to reflect on my experience as a student in light of my experience as a clinician, both in private practice and academic settings. I think I have insight into the issues that our students face as doctors and how the school is trying to respond to those challenges. I also see that our current generation of students finds mentoring relationships extremely valuable, and believe that the Alumni Board can have a great impact in helping students find these relationships among alumni.
3. No! I'd love to participate!

Cara Vasconcelles, '91 Internal Medicine/Peds—Springfield, IL

Self-nominated

(NO CV)

1. My current practice is a community-based practice that spans newborns to the elderly. Our practice is owned and managed by Memorial Medical Center. I have 7 partners, and we are all board certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. I have the second-year, and third-year students rotate through my clinics several times/year.
2. I believe I could benefit the board by bringing a community based primary care perspective to the table. I see first-hand the needs in the community that could be met by the SIUSOM as I have lived and worked here my entire career. I also actively stay involved with SIUSOM students by having them rotate through my clinic.

3. I would have no problems attending meetings 2x/year.

Lance Wallace, '90 Internal Medicine – Frankfort, IL

Self-nominated

(CV attached)

1. I practice general Internal Medicine in the south suburbs of Chicago. I have been in practice since 1995. I currently have 3 residents who spend one morning per week with me. I generally see approximately 4,000 outpatients annually.
2. I have over 22 years of administrative experience. I am currently the Medical Director of the St. James PHO and also in charge of Performance Improvement and Quality Assurance.

I am also the Medical Director of a home health agency and a hospice. I am a trustee with the Chicago Medical Society. I am familiar with the challenges of medical students, residents, and physicians in practice face. We are facing a critical shortage of Primary Care physicians. Southern Illinois University has always produced high-quality and dedicated graduates. I want to work with administration to help with this process.

3. Meeting attendance is not a problem.