

Meet Your Candidate

2022 ACSM Board of Trustees Election

Vice President Candidate



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YOUR VOTE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



To receive voting rights, you must be a current member of ACSM on **January 3, 2022**.

Cast your vote between **February 1-25, 2022**.



1. Please list your previous service to ACSM.

I have had the privilege to participate in a variety of ACSM programs and activities:

- 2020 U.S. Center for SafeSport, Health Professionals Training Module on Preventing Abuse in Sport, consultant
- 2020-present Pronouncements Committee, appointed
- 2016-18 Nominating Committee, appointed
- 2016-20 Leadership and Diversity Program Mentor (past 2012-2013)
- 2016 PCORI Physician Roundtable, ACSM representative
- 2015-16 National Physical Activity Plan Diversity Subcommittee Member
- 2015-16 Elected to Administrative Council
- 2014-present Exhibits Advisory Committee (Co-chair 2018-present)
- 2013-16 Elected to the Board of Trustees
- 2012-present Fellow (FACSM, rigorous application and selection process)
- 2012-present Strategic Health Initiative Health Equity Committee Member, appointed
- 2011-present National Youth Sports Health and Safety Institute Board Member
- 2011-12 Leadership and Diversity Level Three Participant
- 2011 ACSM's Diversity Initiatives invited participant, November, Washington, D.C.
- 2011 ACSM Think Tank on Developing a National Roadmap to Reduce Health Disparities through Physical Activity and Lifestyle Behavior Change, invited participant, November, Washington, D.C.
- 2010-13 Medical Education Committee Member, appointed
- 2010-present Exercise is Medicine for Underserved Populations Committee, appointed

2. What is ACSM's greatest strength and how would you make that aspect of the organization even stronger?

I think ACSM's greatest strength is its members and their enthusiasm for our purpose. We are motivated by our mission, and it spills over into everything we do. As individuals, we live (or try our best to live) the Exercise is Medicine® credo and encourage others to do the same. As community members, we participate in physical activity initiatives and discuss them wherever we go. As re-searchers, we seek to improve our knowledge about all components of participation in exercise, sport and physical activity and how it can affect the individual, their team, their community and society at large. In all our roles, we aim to influence the thoughts, proposals and actions of policymakers in support of our mission. Our work does not stop, and we enjoy the job.

I would like to tap into that enthusiasm and use it to help communities that are struggling with access to adequate and safe exercise and physical activity. One method to augment our work is in collaboration with likeminded organizations. With the pandemic and the dearth of physical activity participation opportunities for many, other sport and exercise organizations are also interested in improving fitness. As our goals overlap, we can pool our resources and, perhaps, get more done.

3. What is a second area that you would like for ACSM to make additional progress, and how could that best be done?

I think ACSM should continue its work to increase the diversity of its members and of the people they serve. I suggest reaching out to the various training and education programs with an overview of ACSM and its mission along with an invitation to a meeting/conference where ACSM can be showcased and help attract a more diverse group of potential members. We can also invest in news-letters (and other media) highlighting the current diversity and productivity of ACSM members (e.g., significant achievements, journal publications, books, podcasts, public health policies, etc.). We need to seek diversity (i.e., go outside of our usual channels) and not rely on its occurrence by chance alone.

4. As is true for essentially all organizations, COVID-19 has been an ongoing topic of discussion that has dominated many ACSM leadership meetings over the past two years and something our members contend with on a daily basis in their professional lives. This has been a particular challenge with regard to ACSM's budget strategies as well as the significant implications for all live and/or in-person ACSM professional and committee meetings. Given the current situation is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, please share your view of appropriate policies and actions by ACSM. For example, what are your opinions on vaccine mandates, testing, mask requirements, social distancing, and decisions about virtual versus in-person meetings; again, this question relates to everything including Committee meetings, Annual Meetings and/

or any other education events where members gather. Additionally, what leadership strategies would you employ to help ACSM continue to navigate these ongoing challenges?

As one who has been vaccinated and is masking daily, I favor the added protection of both masking and vaccinations. With the recent Supreme Court ruling, I believe all healthcare providers are now required to be vaccinated (with few exceptions).

I think the requirement for vaccination and masking for in-person meeting attendance seems reasonable, particularly if we are also able to offer a virtual option for those who are not vaccinated, although some offerings (ex. Smaller sessions, workshops) may not be virtually available.

5. ACSM works closely with many other organizations, including associations, companies, philanthropies, and governmental agencies. Indicate those organizations/companies/agencies for which you play an advisory, consulting, or leadership role.

I also serve in a leadership position for the following organizations:

- National Youth Sports Health and Safety Institute – a collaboration between ACSM and Sanford Health, board member
- American Medical Society of Sports Medicine – board member
- Physical Activity Alliance – DEI committee member
- GoodSport – Scientific Advisory Council member