

Statement: The college student population, both in the US and globally, is rapidly changing with respect to demographics and socio-economic status. While this diversity is wholeheartedly welcome, these changes present new challenges and fantastic opportunities for educators and administrators to provide the most inclusive and accommodating academic atmosphere for all students. Additionally, recent studies reveal the necessity for increased collaboration between researchers in both medicine and engineering to address the modern, yet universal issues in healthcare. Similarly, such collaboration begins with the development of new directions in education to translate medical science and engineering concepts into curriculums (both graduate and undergraduate), and clinical research for the preparation of the next generation global healthcare workforce.

If I am elected to serve as the Chair-Elect of the Council of Chairs, I am determined to work with my colleagues to tackle these challenges. I will also strive to build strong industrial and clinical partnerships with a focus on advanced technologies, healthcare innovation, and entrepreneurship to globally promote interdisciplinary and translational research and education, which in turn will better serve our communities, enhance our academic programs, facilitate commercialization pathways, and provide professional development for our faculty and students.