

Questions for Candidates for Executive Board

- 1) **Describe your past experiences serving in a volunteer leadership role (in APHA or another organization) in the areas of governance, fundraising, budget management, and policy development.**

I have had experience with APHA governance by serving as a Governing Councilor for the HIV/AIDS Section for two years before being elected Chair for the Section. As Chair, I also oversaw the finances for the HIV/AIDS Section. I was also in charge of chairing meetings that were held for the Section. I also served as Program Co-Chair for the HIV/AIDS Section, organizing and overseeing the Section's program in 2017. I have also served as a Program Committee Member for the Behavioral and Social Sciences Section of the Gerontological Society of America. At present, I am a member of the Inter-Sectional Council Steering Committee within APHA and act as a liaison to the HIV/AIDS Section, the Ethics Section, the Cancer Forum and the Rural Health Topical Group. I currently serve on the Board of Directors for a national organization (the Gerontological Society of America). Within this capacity, I also serve on the Finance Committee and help to govern the finances of the organization. At present, I am also on the Executive Committee for the Society for Epidemiologic Research where I serve as the Membership Committee Liaison, where we are tasked with improving not only the quantity but the quality of membership within the organization. I also served as a Member of the HIV Advisory Council for the former Mayor of Columbia (2019-2021), where we provided support for making Columbia a Fast Track City – a commitment to global partnership and ending the HIV epidemic.

- 2) **How do you envision growing and promoting APHA in the next 5 years? From your perspective, what are the key priorities and the emerging issues facing the membership, and how will you address them as a member of the APHA Executive Board?**

In the next 5 years, if elected to the Executive Board, I plan to contribute to development of policy, management direction of APHA, the annual scientific meetings, membership of the organization, and deployment. From my perspective, key priorities and the emerging issues facing APHA membership include: the strategic plan and its implementation, inclusion, and representation. Currently, there have been developments in the strategic plan, but it would be great to continue to obtain feedback from members on its practical implementation. I will play a role in incorporating feedback on the implementation of the strategic plan. In addition, there has been feedback where members might feel excluded depending on what group they belong to. I will work with the Executive Board on improving inclusion at APHA and working on facets to improve APHA as an equitable environment known for its focus on health equity and social justice. Also, I will be a voice for underrepresented groups. As a Black immigrant woman who has conducted research with marginalized populations for 17 years, I will continue to give a voice to the voices that are sometimes forgotten. Thank you!