

Question 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 extensive **governance and policy development** experience across my 43 years as an APHA member:

**American Public Health Association (1989-Present):**

- APHA Nominations Committee (2002-2004; 2008-10, Chair 2010)
- APHA Awards Committee (2014-2016)
- APHA Intersectional Council - Member (2009-14), Steering Committee (2012-15)
- APHA Governing Council for MCH Section (1999-2001, 2003-08, 2016-2018, 2019-2023) – have written or contributed to approximately 5-10 policies.

Maternal & Child Health Section

- Section Chair (2010-2012),
- History Project (2021-2022), including fundraising to support our MCH Student Fellows program
- Awards Committee Chair (2012-2014),
- Chair-Elect (2009-10)
- Web Site Editor (1998-2000),
- Secretary (1997-98), Secretary-Elect (1995-96),
- Student Task Force Chair (1996) – started first MCH Student Fellows Program
- Program Chair (1995),
- Co-Chair Innovations in Maternity Care Committee (1991-99),
- Co-Chair International MCH Committee (1990)

Also, member Epidemiology and International Health Sections.

**Other Public Health and Professional Associations:**

World Federation of Public Health Associations, Women, Children, Adolescents Workgroup – Member (2022-Present)

**Florida Public Health Association – Member (2021-Present)**

Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene – Member (2020-Present)

**New York State Public Health Association – Member (2018-2020)**

**Public Health Association of New York City – Member (2014-2018), Executive board (2016-2018) Policy Committee (2015-2018), MCH Subgroup Co-Chair (2015-2016)**

Outside of APHA in my career I have **budget management** experience for multiple large research and program grants, totaling several million US Dollars.

I have additional **global and national policy experience** in my role at UNICEF and as a member of several global policy task forces and advisory groups (e.g., Every Newborn Action Plan, Child Health Task Force, Health Data Collaborative) and my research while in South Africa led to several national policy changes, including changes in prevention of mother-to-child transmission programs.

- 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?**

**I feel as an EB member I am elected by and work for the APHA membership.** One of my priorities as an executive board member is to increase communication of the board with member units and members of APHA. I feel that if members feel their voices are heard and impact APHA governance and policy that we will grow and maintain members who are the key to APHA relevance and survival. **Members need to feel connected to stay engaged in APHA!!**

First, I would like to see the EB have regular engagement with member units' meetings throughout the year, not just at the annual meeting. In this virtual world this is now easier than ever as EB designates can attend member unit conference calls to hear their concerns and take comment on the issues the EB is discussing to provide input on decisions impacting APHA governance and policy.

Second, while I appreciate the increased efficiency through recent changes in the JPC and Governing Council policy process, I am concerned that possibly differing views across the organization may not be heard by Governing Council and the EB. I feel we must review this process to assure that all voices across APHA are heard by the governance structures, while maintaining efficiency. One change I would like to see the 10-minute discussion limit be removed from the GC discussion of issues. I feel that every GC who wants to speak should have the chance, even if they were the last to get in the microphone line. I want to hear from every one of my colleagues, not just a few. While the rule of course says that we can extend the discussion period, I have found in recent meetings that the discussion period has not been extended even though there are colleagues waiting at the microphone to be heard. This concerns me if we are to be a participatory organization which hears and considers all views, majority and minority. As there are far fewer policy resolutions coming to the floor for discussion, I do not feel this change would substantially increase our time in GC meetings. I feel it is our job as GC and we should take the time to do it right.