



October 12, 2020

To: AMA-YPS

Regarding: Albert Hsu, MD

Dear Colleagues:

**Mercy Clinic
Administration**
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I am writing in strong support for the candidacy of Dr. Hsu for Chair-elect of the YPS. I have known and observed Dr. Hsu through his active involvement in the AMA HOD and our subgroups for almost 20 years and in the Missouri State Medical Association (MSMA) for the past 3 years. In fact, when he took a faculty position at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2017, I was surprised to realize that I had only known him through the AMA. He transitioned into MSMA activities so seamlessly and so very actively, it was almost as if he had been part of MSMA for years.

I mention the above because I think it attests to several characteristics that make Dr. Hsu an outstanding candidate for Chair of the YPS. You can see his CV and the breadth and depth of his involvement in organized medicine at all levels and his clinical practice and specialty. However, what is not always fully captured in the CV alone is his effectiveness in these roles. Based on my personal knowledge of Albert, the defining characteristics that will make him a strong leader of and voice for the YPS are his personal attributes, leadership skills, knowledge of health policy, and his strategic thinking abilities.

Brief evidences of the above that I have observed: Albert readily fosters a spirit of mutual respect and values diversity in every setting. He is a skillful communicator and consensus builder. This combination of traits inspires confidence and trust which brings out the best in the groups he is in and has often resulted in him becoming the natural leader of those groups.

In addition, his knowledge across a broad range of health policy issues allows him to make significant contributions to conversations about both the core issues of our profession as well as the emerging issues as evidenced by his very impressive leadership in COVID-19 related activities in both his specialty society and in Missouri. Lastly, his strategic and tactical vision is remarkable. His ability to see both the current environment and recognize its needs as well as seeing "over the horizon" and anticipating future direction and needs for our profession is a combination few possess.

In summary, I think you can tell that I am very impressed with Dr. Hsu's broad skill set and leadership attributes. Couple this with his energy and passion to make every effort he undertakes successful and you can readily understand why he has been so effective across a variety of organizations and initiatives. I believe Albert will bring leadership and visibility to the YPS that will increase its impact at the AMA and membership in and involvement of state and specialty YPS sections. I encourage you give his candidacy your most careful consideration. You will not be disappointed in his leadership.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Barbe, MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "D" and "B".

David Barbe, MD MHA
VP Primary Care – Mercy Springfield, MO
Past President, Missouri State Medical Assn.
Past President, American Medical Assn.
President-elect, World Medical Assn.