Over the past 14 years at Rutgers/New Jersey Medical School, I have had the privilege of serving in exactly this capacity. I have taught and mentored medical students, residents, and fellows; cared for patients with complex hand and upper extremity conditions; and conducted clinical research that has advanced our field.

In addition to my clinical and academic roles, I have taken on leadership positions. As Chief of Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery and Program Director of the Hand Surgery Fellowship, I have worked to expand our division's impact. Under my leadership, the fellowship recently achieved full accreditation for the first time in over a decade. Our division continues to present research on national and international stages, while our clinical practice grows and delivers outstanding care to the community.

My work has resulted in over 50 peer-reviewed publications, Numerous invited presentations and lectures. I am particularly proud of my novel publications for surgical approaches, medical treatment and classifications.

Looking forward, I remain committed to advancing our mission in patient care, education, and research. I have joined the AO Foundation of North America as faculty, allowing me to contribute to the professional development of orthopedic surgeons while also benefiting from faculty development opportunities. Research will remain a central focus, and I am dedicated to producing and disseminating original work that advances our specialty.

I am excited to continue shaping the next generation of surgeons, advancing our research endeavors, and expanding access to high-quality care for the patients who depend on us. I have reached a point in my career that I feel comfortable with the clinical aspects of my work. Joining the AOA and incorporating their five essential leadership principles will not only benefit me personally, but help me become a better leader, mentor and educator.