

AAPA Governance Committee Platform Statement/Statement of Interest

As a Physician Associate and DMSc-prepared leader, I bring over 20 years of broad experience in clinical practice, education, and professional leadership. Serving as a House of Delegates (HOD) Representative and former Reference Committee member within the American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA) has increased my respect for the HOD's pivotal role in shaping policy and representation for our profession.

In my leadership roles—including as President of a state PA organization and as a multidisciplinary aortic program lead, where I launched a new clinic—I have navigated complex systems in which structure, process, and stakeholder trust are critical. My doctoral work supported my focus on policy and organizational design, particularly advancing PA representation on hospital medical executive committees.

I approach governance practically: What works, what's clear, and what endures. I value direct processes, consistent policies, and decisions people can follow. Governance should help people excel, including the HOD and the delegates who serve their communities.

I am a collaborative, steady leader who listens, unites, and pursues practical, effective outcomes. I stand committed to this work and developing trust. I would be honored to serve on the Governance Committee and help AAPA maintain strong, clear, and effective governance.

Respectfully,

Nicole Schwensow DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA