CURRICULUM VITAE

OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME | Alia P Qureshi MD, FACS FRCSc | | DATE | February 13, 2023 |
|  | | | | |
| PRESENT POSITION AND ADDRESS | | | | |
| Academic Rank: | | Associate Professor | | |
| Department/Division: | | Surgery/General and GI Surgery | | |
| Professional Address: | | 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, L223A  Portland, OR 97239 | | |
| E-Mail Address: | | qureshia@ohsu.edu | | |

II. EDUCATION

Undergraduate and Graduate:

1994 B.Sc. Biochemistry and Human Biology

University of Toronto

Toronto, Canada

Postgraduate:

1997 MSc. Department of Biochemistry

University of Toronto

Toronto, Canada

Medical School:

2000 MD, University of Toronto

School of Medicine

Toronto, Canada

Internship & Residency:

2010 Categorical Internship & Residency, General Surgery

Department of Surgery

University of Toronto

School of Medicine

Toronto, Canada

Fellowship:

2011 Minimally Invasive Esophageal Surgery Fellowship

Department of Esophageal and Thoracic Surgery

Swedish Medical and Cancer Center

Seattle, WA

Certification:

2011 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, General Surgery, #669371

2014 American Board of Surgery, General Surgery, #070969 Recertification: June 9, 2031

Licenses :

Oregon License: 206965 Exp: 11 June 2024

Ontario, Canada License: 81067 Exp: 30 June 2023

Massachusetts License: 261486 Exp: 12 March 2023

Washington License: 60158649 Exp 12 March 2012

III. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic:

2012 - 2014 Instructor, University of Toronto

Trillium Health Partners

Mississauga, ON

Canada

2013 - 2018 Attending Surgeon, Harvard Medical School

Assistant Professor of Surgery

General Surgery Residency Program, Harvard Medical Students

Department of Surgery

Beth Israel Lahey Health

330 Brookline Avenue

Boston, MA, 02215

2021 - present Associate Professor of Surgery

Minimally Invasive Foregut Surgery

Oregon Health & Science University

Division of General & GI Surgery

Department of Surgery

3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, LL2-3

Portland, OR 97239

Administrative :

2018 - 2021 Surgical Leadership: Inaugural Chair of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Lahey Health

2018 - 2021 Surgical Leadership: OR Nursing Liaison Committee,

Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Lahey Health

2019 - 2021 New Practices in Recruitment for Enhancing the Academic Surgeon Pipeline

SSAT Diversity and Inclusion Liaison Committee, International Educational Webinar

2022 - 2023 Program Director, Minimally Invasive Fellowship

2021 - Division Head Minimally Invasive Bariatric Surgery – Interim

2021 - Surgery Chair - Clinical Integration Council

2021 - Grand Rounds Chair

IV. SCHOLARSHIP

Area(s) of Research/Scholarly Interest:

2016 - Pilot study to access utility of global quantitative phosphoproteomic profiling of Barrett’s esophagus – unfunded

2016 - Barrett’s Esophagus: PI on multi-disciplinary project exploring the protein-protein molecular interactions in the progression of Barrett’s Esophagus (BE) towards dysplasia. Coordinated research using a multi-disciplinary approach to patients who have evidence of BE with aggressive surveillance over time period. NIH - K08 submitted and under revision.

2016 - 2021 Global quantitative phosphoproteomic profiling of Barrett’s esophagus (K08 application submitted, resubmission 2019, unfunded)

2019 - SAGES White Paper Project: Learning in and Moving Forward: A Call to Action Review of Diversity Initiatives in SAGES – unfunded.

2019 - Cultural Complications: Creation of a platform to implement DEI in an academic center. Collaboration with Dr. Chelsea Harris, SAGES – unfunded.

2020 – 2021 Advancement of Diversity Equity and Inclusion in the Academic Arena: Ranking Project – unfunded.

2020 – 2021 American College of Surgeon Grant: Fundamentals of Surgical Leadership, Proposal within context of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; American College of Surgeons, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, American College of Surgeons Grant Submission: Advancement of Diversity Equity and Inclusion in the Academic Arena: Grant Submitted 8/30/2021 and awarded December 2021 by ACS.

2023 - Phosphor Proteomic Profiling of Barrett’s Esophagus w/High-Grade Dysplasia and Esophageal Adenocarcinoma, CEDAR: Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center Grant submitted.

Publications/Creative Work:

Peer-reviewed

Peer-reviewed Journal Publications

1. Peng S, Liu LP, Emili- Qureshi AP, Deber CM. Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator: Expression and helicity of a double membrane-spanning segment. FEBS Lett. 1998 Jul 10; 431(1):29-33. PMID: 9684859.
2. Uetz P, Giot L, Cagney G, Mansfield TA, Judson RS, Knight JR, Lockshon D, Narayan V, Srinivasan M, Pochart P, Qureshi-Emili A, Li Y, Godwin B, Conover D, Kalbfleisch T, Vijayadamodar G, Yang M, Johnston M, Fields S, Rothberg JM. A comprehensive analysis of protein-protein interactions in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. Nature. 2000 Feb 10; 403(6770):623-7. PMID: 10688190.
3. Qureshi, AP Cagney G. Large-scale functional analysis using peptide or protein arrays. Nat Biotechnol. 2000 Apr; 18(4):393-7. PMID: 10748518.
4. von Schroeder HP, Veillette CJ, Payandeh J, Qureshi A, Heersche JN. Endothelin-1 promotes osteoprogenitor proliferation and differentiation in fetal rat calvarial cell cultures. Bone. 2003 Oct; 33(4):673-84. PMID: 14555273.
5. Qureshi A, Behzadi A. Foreign-body aspiration in an adult. Can J Surg. 2008 Jun; 51(3):E69-70. PMID: 18682760; PMCID: PMC2496600.
6. Qureshi AP, Ottensmeyer CA, Mahar AL, Chetty R, Pollett A, Wright FC, Coburn NG. Quality indicators for gastric cancer surgery: A survey of practicing pathologists in Ontario. Ann Surg Oncol. 2009 Jul; 16(7):1883-9. PMID: 19421818.
7. Mahar AL, Qureshi AP, Ottensmeyer CA, Chetty R, Pollett A, Coburn NG, Wright FC. Improving the quality of processing gastric cancer specimens: The pathologist's perspective. J Surg Oncol. 2010 Mar 1; 101(3):195-9. PMID: 20082351.
8. Mahar AL, Qureshi AP, Ottensmeyer CA, Pollett A, Wright FC, Coburn NG, Chetty R. A descriptive analysis of gastric cancer specimen processing techniques. J Surg Oncol. 2011 Mar 1; 103(3):248-56. PMID: 21337553.
9. Qureshi A, Vergis A, Jimenez C, Green J, Pryor A, Schlachta CM, Okrainec A. MIS training in Canada: A national survey of general surgery residents. Surg Endosc. 2011 Sep; 25(9):3057-65. PMID: 21512882.
10. Leake PA, Qureshi A, Plummer J, Okrainec A. [Minimally invasive surgery training in the Caribbean--a survey of general surgical residents and their trainers.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23620969) West Indian Med J. 2012 Oct;61(7):708-15. PMID: 23620969
11. Qureshi AP, Aye RW, Buduhan G, Knight A, Orlina J, Farivar AS, Wagner OJ, McHugh S, Louie BE. The laparoscopic Nissen-Hill hybrid: Pilot study of a combined antireflux procedure. Surg Endosc. 2013 Jun; 27(6):1945-52. PMID: 23306589.
12. Stefanidis D, Montero P, Urbach DR, Qureshi A, Perry K, Bachman SL, Madan A, Petersen R, Pryor AD. SAGES research agenda in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery: Updated results of a Delphi study. Surg Endosc. 2014 Oct; 28(10):2763-71. PMID: 24789129.
13. Aye RW, Qureshi AP, Wilshire CL, Farivar AS, Vallières E, Louie BE. Feasibility, safety, and short-term efficacy of the laparoscopic Nissen-Hill hybrid repair. Surg Endosc. 2016 Feb; 30(2):551-8. PMID: 26065538.
14. Sandhu C, Qureshi A, Emili A. [Panomics for Precision Medicine.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29217119) Trends Mol Med. 2018 Jan;24(1):85-101. PMID: 29217119.
15. Qureshi AP, Stachler MD, Haque O, Odze RD. Biomarkers for Barret’s esophagus – a contemporary review. Expert Rev Mol Diagn. 2018 Nov; 18(11):939-946. PMID 30345836.
16. Telem DA, Qureshi AP, Edwards M, Jones DB; WRS Task Force. Surg Endosc. 2018 Oct;32(10):4105-4110. PMID 29602993.
17. Al-Mansour MR, Caycedo-Marulanda A, Davis BR, Alawashez A, Docimo S, Qureshi A, Tsuda S. SAGES TAVAC safety and efficacy analysis confocal laser endocicroscopy. Surg Endosc. 2020 May 13. doi: 10.1007/s00464-020-07607-3. Online ahead of print. PMID: 32405892
18. [Dort, Jonathan](https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/global-literature-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/?lang=fr&q=au:%2522Dort,%2520Jonathan%2522); [Paige, John](https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/global-literature-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/?lang=fr&q=au:%2522Paige,%2520John%2522); [Qureshi, Alia](https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/global-literature-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/?lang=fr&q=au:%2522Qureshi,%2520Alia%2522); [Schwarz, Erin](https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/global-literature-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/?lang=fr&q=au:%2522Schwarz,%2520Erin%2522); [Tsuda, Shawn](https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/global-literature-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/?lang=fr&q=au:%2522Tsuda,%2520Shawn%2522). SAGES Reimagining Education & Learning (REAL) project. Surg Endosc ; 36(3): 1699-1708, 2022 03.
19. Qureshi A, Solomon N, Stain S. Diversity in Scientific Discovery. The American Surgeon; 2021;87(11):1732-1738. doi:[10.1177/00031348211023411](https://doi.org/10.1177/00031348211023411).
20. Torres-Landa S, Jones AE, Crafts TD, Qureshi A, Wood SG. Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy for End-Stage Achalasia: A Single Institution Experience and Literature Review. Foregut. 2022;2(4):380-389. doi:[10.1177/26345161221132267](https://doi.org/10.1177/26345161221132267)
21. Moore, J, [Hekman](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Hekman+R&cauthor_id=35885999) R,   [Blum](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Blum+BC&cauthor_id=35885999) B, [Lawton](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Lawton+M&cauthor_id=35885999) M, [Lehoux](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Lehoux+S&cauthor_id=35885999) S, [Stachler](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Stachler+M&cauthor_id=35885999) M, [Pleskow](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Pleskow+D&cauthor_id=35885999) D,  [Sawhney](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Sawhney+MS&cauthor_id=35885999) M,  [Cummings](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Cummings+RD&cauthor_id=35885999) R D, [Emili](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Emili+A&cauthor_id=35885999), Qureshi A. Pilot Study Showing Feasibility of Phosphoproteomic Profiling of Pathway-Level Molecular Alterations in Barrett's Esophagus. Genes, 2022 Jul 7;13(7):1215. doi: 10.3390/genes13071215. PMID: 35885999 PMCID: [PMC9325186](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/pmc9325186/) DOI: [10.3390/genes13071215](https://doi.org/10.3390/genes13071215)

Peer-reviewed Abstracts

1. Kashtan M\*\*, Critchlow J, Carroll M, Duncan H, Fleishman A, Qureshi A. A single institution’s experience treating Barrett’s Esophagus with high-grade dysplasia. Poster presentation at Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), March 22-25, 2017, Houston, TX. \*\*Mentee

Non-peer-reviewed

Books

Chapters

1. Qureshi A. Choosing an advanced surgical fellowship: a personal commentary. Surg Innovations. 2011 Mar; 18(1):86-8. PMID: 21444656.

Invited Lectures, Conference Presentations or Professorships:

International and National Invited Presentations

1. The Difficult Gallbladder: Anatomic Abnormalities and Aberrations. SAGES 2017 Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, March 2017.
2. Diversity and Inclusion, We Are SAGES: Cognitive Diversity SAGES & CAGS 16th World Congress on Surgical Endoscopy, Seattle, WA, March 2018.
3. The Art and Science of Fundoplication: Devil’s in the Details: Primary Fundoplication SAGES Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, April 2019.
4. Barrett’s Esophagus – Biomarkers – Are We There Yet? SAGES Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting. August 2020.
5. The Great Foregut Debate – Experts Debate; Manometry is Miserable – It Can be Done Selectively. SAGES Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting. August 2020.
6. Revisional Foregut Surgery and Pre-operative Preparation. SAGES Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting, August 2020.
7. How to Set Up a Foregut Center – the Academic Perspective. SAGES Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting, August 2020.
8. Co-Chair: International, Multi-Society, Consensus Conference on the Multi-Disciplinary Approach to the Management of GERD. August 2021.
9. Chair: GERD Session – Masters Foregut: Controversies in GERD, Session Chair/co-Chair, SAGES Annual Meeting 2022 Denver Co., in person.
10. Program Chair & Speaker, 2022 Women’s Leadership in Surgery National Meeting, Philadelphia, USA. Title: Challenges of Surgical Leadership.
11. SSAT Grand Rounds Visiting Professor award, University of Wisconsin 2023, February 22, 2023. Title: The Surgical Evolution of Esophagectomy; From the Pioneers to Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy.
12. Advances in Surgery: International program on eliminating disparities in gastrointestinal surgical care. Title: Effecting Change through Education and Training, February 2023.
13. Women in Surgery Leadership Society/Women in Surgery, Title: Dealing with Loss. Women in Surgery Conference, Clearwater Beach Florida February 2023.

Regional and Local Invited Presentations

1. Peri-Operative Management of Lap Nissen Patients. Peri-Operative Rounds, OR Staff, Educational Rounds, BID-Needham. March 2015
2. Anti-Reflux Surgery, Then & Now. Grand Rounds, BID-Needham. November 2015
3. The Evolution of Anti-Reflux Surgery. Grand Rounds, Mount Auburn Hospital. November 2015
4. Management of GERD, Then and Now. Primary Care Physicians/Internist, Healthcare Associates, BIDMC. August 2016
5. All You Ever Wanted to Know About Reflux and More. MetroWest Medical Center (clinical affiliate of BIDMC). March 2017
6. Endoscopic Approaches to Reflux Disease. Cambridge Health Alliance (clinical affiliate of BIDMC). December 2017.
7. Finding Your Own Path to Attending Surgeon. Association of Women Surgeons Regional Meeting. Yale Medical School. April 2017
8. The Effects of Cannibinoids, Discussant, Boston Surgical Society - Northeast Surgical Society Tripartite Meeting, New York, New York. April 2018
9. Unconscious Bias, “The Times They Are A Changing”, Department of Surgery, Grand Rounds, BIDMC. January 2018
10. Advances in the field of Surgical Oncologic - Esophagectomy: Esophageal Cancer, June 11th, 2022. American College of Surgeons Oregon Chapter Meeting, Oregon, USA.

V. SERVICE

Membership in Professional Societies:

2006-2014 Canadian Association of General Surgeons, Member

2008- American College of Surgeons (ACS)

2008 – 2015 Member

2015 - Fellow

2008 - Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)

2013 - Research Committee

2013 - Co-Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

2017 - Foregut Committee

2017 - SAGES Co-Chair Multi-Disciplinary Foregut Consensus Conference

2018 - Alternative Funding Strategies Committee

2018- Session Chair for SAGES, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

2020 - SAGES Chair, Leadership and Professional Development Committee

2020 Co-Chair for Barrett’s Esophagus – What’s Hot and What’s Not

2021 Co-Chair SAGES Multi-Society Consensus on Benign Foregut Disease

2022 SAGES Chair Masters GERD Foregut Controversies

2022 Program Chair – Women’s Leadership in Surgery Society

Session

2011 - Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT)

SSAT Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2018 onward)

2015 - Boston Surgical Society, Executive Member

2016 - Boston Surgical Society Executive: Communications Committee

2017 - Association of Women Surgeons, Member

2018 - Association of Women Surgeons, Executive Conference Organizer

2020 - Women’s Leadership in Surgery, Conference Organizer/Moderator/Speaker

2021- Program Chair: Women’s Leadership in Surgery2021 Conference Organizer/Moderator/Speaker.

Granting Agency Review Work:

2011 – 2021 Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons Research Committee

2021 - American College of Surgeons – Diversity Equity and Inclusion Grant

Co-Investigator: Fundamentals of Leadership Development (FLD): Through the Lens

of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Submitted to ACS: 8/31/2021

Editorial and Ad Hoc Review Activities:

2012 - Surgical Endoscopy

2016 - Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

2018 - Surgical Innovation

2021 - Foregut

Committee and Professional Association Service:

Local-

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2014 - 2021 | Harvard Medical School, Residency Selection Committee | BILH, Department of Surgery |
|  |  |  |
| 2015 -2021 | American College of Surgeons, Cancer Liaison Physician  Clinical Liaison Physician Surgeon | CLP, BILH-Needham |
|  |  |  |

2018 - 2020 Committee on Diversity and Inclusion Chair, BIDMC Department of Surgery

2019-2020 Nursing Liaison Committee Beth Israel Deaconess, Boston

2021- Clinical Integration Council, DOS OHSU

National-

2012 - SAGES Research Committee

2017 - SAGES Foregut Committee

2017 - SAGES Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Co-Chair

2017 - Women’s Leadership in Surgery, Founding Member – Conference Organizer

2017 - American College of Surgeons Hi -Risk GI Group, Esophageal

2018 - SAGES Alternative Funding Committee

2018 - SAGES Education Council

2018 - SSAT Diversity and Inclusion Committee

2018 - American College of Surgeons Hi -Risk GI Group, Site Reviewer

2019 - Co-Chair - SAGES Professional Development and Leadership Committee

2019 - SAGES Education Council Committee

2019 - SAGES Foregut Committee

2019 - Co-Chair: 2020 Multi-Society Consensus Conference on Foregut Surgery

2020 - Chair: Master’s Surgeons Leadership Pathway, SAGES

2022 - SAGES Board of Governors

Community Service:

2016 - Global Youth Summit at Brandies University, The Art & Science of Surgery. June 30, 2016

2017 - Plenary Session, Global Youth Summit at Brandies University, The Evolution of Surgical Practice, Humans to Robots. June 29, 2017

2018 - Plenary Sessions, Global Youth Summit at Brandies University, The Challenges of Surgical Practice: Advances and Limitations. June 28, 2018

Clinical Responsibilities:

2011 - 2014 MIS Surgeon General Surgery Practice 2 OR days/week

Trillium Health Partners 1 Clinic

2014 - 2021 Attending Surgeon General Surgery Practice 3.5 OR days/week

Beth Israel Lahey Health 1.5-2 clinic days/week

2021 - Attending Surgeon MIS Foregut Surgery 3 OR days/week

1.5-2 clinic days/week

Honors and Awards for Service:

2016 The Academy of Medical Educators at BIDMC BIDMC

2017 Eleanor and Miler Shor 50th Anniversary Fellowship Harvard Medical School

2022 Kellogg School of Leadership Award- Leadership in Surgery SUS/SAGES Award

2023 SSAT – Carol and Tom DeMeester Traveling Fellowship SSAT

VI. TEACHING

Direct Teaching Activities (Didactic and Clinical)

(Include type of activity, level of learner, and approximate hours per unit time)

Institutional

Teaching of Students in Courses:

2015 Surgery Oral Exams, BIDMC

3rd Yr medical students 6 hour session,1-3 times per year

2016 PCE HMS Simulation Skills Course BIDMC

2nd Yr HMS students Suturing, 3 x 4 hour sessions

2016 PCE HMS Simulation Skills Course BIDMC

2nd Yr HMS students Suturing, 1 x 3 hour sessions

2016 Hernia Didactic Lecture BIDMC

1st & 2nd Yr HMS students 2 hour session

2017 Tutorial Leader BIDMC

2nd & 3rd Yr HMS students 1.5 hour session/wk for 8 weeks

2018 Surgical Resident Teacher Course: Train the Trainor: ADOPT Course: In depth

faculty training

2020 Creation SAGES ADOPT – Virtual Hands on Course for Hernia Repair

Formal Teaching of Residents, Clinical Fellows and Research Fellows (post-docs):

2015 – 2017 Anatomy Course HMS

BIDMC surgery residents 3 hour didactic and cadaver session

Course Director: Trudy Vanhouten 3 session over 3 weeks – 1/week

2015 – 2020 Surgery Resident Mock Oral Exams BIDMC

PGY4/PGY5 surgery residents 6 hour session, 2 times per year

Clinic Supervisory and Training Responsibilities:

2014 – 2020 Core Surgery Clerkship BIDMC

Clinical supervision of 3rd year HMS 5-10 hours/month

Students in the operating room

2014 -2020 BIDMC Surgery Residency Program BIDMC-Needham and BIDMC

Clinical supervision of PGY3, PGY4 and 40 hours/month

PGY5 residents in the operation room and

on the wards

Curriculum Development:

(Include faculty role in development, type of educational program, and years implemented)

Mentoring and Advising:

(Include level of learner, approximate number of mentees in each level, years serving as advisor)

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| 2015-2018 | Mark Kashtan, MD/PGY2 surgery resident, BIDMC |
|  | Career stage: resident. Mentoring role: research advisor. Accomplishments: presented a poster, “A Single Institution’s experience treating Barrett’s Esophagus with high grade dysplasia” at the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons annual meeting (2017). |
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| 2016 - | Dan Kent, MD/PGY1 surgery intern, BIDMC |
|  | Career stage: resident. Mentoring role: research advisor. Clinical Scholarship Program project: |
| 2017 - | Omar Haque, MD/PGY1 surgery intern, BIDMC |
| 2018 - | Career stage: resident. Mentoring role: research advisor. Clinical Scholarship Program project:  Train the Trainor – SAGES hands on Course; Curriculum Development: Reimagining Education & Learning (REAL) project |

2022 - ADOPT Dominating the Hiatus Course: Teaching Faculty for Giant PEH, 2022 – 2023; In person Hands on Course, Train the Trainor with Longitudinal virtual teaching component.

Personal Statement:

I am at a pivotal point in my career. Having done general and minimally invasive surgery for the first part of my academic career, I aspired to focus purely on foregut surgery as that is what I trained for in fellowship; Minimally Invasive Foregut surgery at Swedish Cancer Center in Seattle. Shortly after fellowship, I had the privilege and opportunity be an attending surgeon at Beth Israel Lahey-Harvard Medical School and had an enriching and excellent experience at there. While I grew my MIS general surgery practice over the 7.5 years at BIL, I had a deep desire to pursue what I had trained for – foregut surgery. Almost simultaneously, I was recruited to Oregon Health and Science University to take on a role focused on complex foregut surgery, working alongside the likes of minimally invasive surgical pioneer, Dr. John Hunter and colleagues in Portland Oregon. To say that I am delighted to have been offered this opportunity and while it was hard to leave Beth Israel Lahey, where I had grown as a surgeon and where I had a wonderful practice and partners – it was an opportunity I could not let pass.

To share a little about myself, I have both Canadian and American Board Certification and am passionate about service and contribution. Accordingly, I have been involved in surgical societies since early in my residency. A great deal of “free” time has been dedicated to service at multiple surgical societies at multiple levels. In so doing, I have learned first-hand the rewards of fruitful collaboration and the value of engaging all members of the committees and societies’ that I have had the privilege of working within. I had the opportunity to be involved in the movement of creating our inaugural DEI committee at Beth Israel Lahey Health and Harvard Medical School and saw first-hand the tremendous impact opening dialogue about issues that were “swept under the rugs” for years and challenges that having such discussions can bring to the surface. I also enjoyed participating in the Co-Chair SAGES Multi-Society Consensus on Benign Foregut Disease. This was a 3-year effort that culminated in our Consensus being presented in August, 2021 at the SAGES annual, reflecting collaboration of 5 multi-national surgical societies as well as in the field of gastroenterology. We are now in the process of being published as Consensus Guidelines on Benign Foregut Disease because of this effort.

Having observed the lack of opportunity given to women and minorities, I had the honor of Co-founding the Women’s Leadership in Surgery Society that is centered on providing leadership and much needed skills development for both under-represented minorities and women in surgery. The initial meeting last year blossomed in-to a large international meeting with tremendous engagement and collaboration across the many surgical leaders and contributors. We were so successful that it became apparent that we needed to become a Surgical Society in our own right and hosted our second virtual meeting this year, with once again record engagement and discussion of issues that are unique to experiences of URIMs and women within the surgical field. I have had the privilege of being a member of the audience at these meetings to being asked to be a speaker and eventually to Program Chair. It’s been a tremendous opportunity to learn and grow within this organization. My role within the Association of Women Surgeons facilitated my ability to take on the larger role within WLIS and am grateful to the opportunities that AWS allowed me in my service to their organization.

Through regional service in Boston, I also observed the transformation of the Boston Surgical Society from that of a traditional surgical society and all that entails to a more open, tolerant surgical society in my role fust as member and then Executive Director of Communications. This role allowed me to lead colleagues to the creation of centralized interaction and integration of the three academic institutions with Boston. This was a tremendous opportunity to build networks and gain insight into the importance of collaboration outside of one’s institution.

National leadership evolved with my role as the Esophageal representative to the American College of Surgeons Task-Force on High-Risk Gastro-intestinal Surgery that was led by Dr. David Hoyt. In this capacity I sat with other national experts and leaders in the field of complex GI surgery. This role was a three-year appointment that again allowed me to develop a better understanding of the nuances of surgical policy and the challenges to bring about structural change from the highest level to ones own institution.

It has also been an honor to serve as the Chair of the SAGES DLPD (Diversity, Leadership and Professional Development Committee) as I have observed the transformation of this surgical society from a resident member to a Chair of this Diversity Committee. In this capacity, I have learned strong lessons about the need for transparency and open dialogue. Our committee is comprised of 60 members who themselves are section heads and Chairs of surgery across the nation and are very engaged in diversity on many levels; There was a challenge to the committee when I first became Chair; a minority of the committee wanted to not have “diversity” in the name. What appeared to be a small point of discussion became an avalanche of conflicting opinions. The situation resolved with greater understanding and compassion for each other’s perspective by have an open and respective discussion of various viewpoints. Such challenges have enriched my leadership skills and capacity for service to the various groups that I have the honor of engaging with.

Perhaps my annual talk to Brandeis University, Global Youth Summit has been among the most rewarding. Speaking to young aspiring medical students from across the nation has brought great insight into the honor and privilege that we all have to engage and enlist those who will come after us and shape the future surgical world. It has been with great pleasure and delight that I have remained engaged with some of the students I had the opportunity to present to years before. This has been among the most rewarding service that I have had the opportunity to be engaged in.