

AMWA NEWS

Slate of Officer Candidates for the 2022–2023 Election

Elise Eller, PhD / 2021–2022 AMWA President-Elect

One of the privileges of serving as President-Elect is chairing the Nominating Committee, which is charged with selecting a slate of officers for the upcoming governance year. It was my pleasure to serve with Cyndy Kryder, MS, MWS; Tenille L. Lawson, PharmD; Erik MacLaren, PhD; Julie Munden, BA; Jill Roberts, MS; Theresa E. Singleton, PhD; and AMWA Executive Director Susan Krug, MS, CAE (ex officio, non-voting member). I thank my fellow committee members for their insights and critical evaluation of officer candidates for the 2022–2023 governance year.

Each year interested members are invited to submit a board interest form for consideration of 1 of 3 elected offices: President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Nominating Committee reviews the forms and qualifications of candidates who meet the criteria and collectively agrees on a candidate for each officer position to submit to the AMWA Board of Directors (BOD) for consideration.

I'm pleased to present the following candidates who were presented to and approved by the AMWA BOD at the June BOD meeting:

- **President-Elect:** R. Michelle Sauer Gehring, PhD, ELS
- **Secretary:** Kimberly Korwek, PhD
- **Treasurer:** Julie Phelan, MBA, MD

PRESIDENT-ELECT

R. Michelle Sauer Gehring, PhD, ELS, an AMWA member since 2009, is in her fourth year on the AMWA BOD (since the 2018–2019 term) and currently serves as secretary and liaison to the *AMWA Journal*. Previously, she served on the Annual Conference Planning Committee (2013–2020), chaired the committee for the 2019 Conference in San Diego, and was a member of Editor-in-Chief Search Task Force. At the chapter level, Michelle served as Treasurer (2012–2016), Program Chair/President-Elect (2016–2017), and President (2017–2018) of the Southwest Chapter as well as chapter confer-



ence committee chair from 2015 to 2018. She was awarded an AMWA fellowship in 2021. Michelle has taught the Ethics for Science and Medicine workshop for AMWA. She teaches Citations and References for Medical Writing and Ethics for Medical Writers at the University of California San Diego Extension. Michelle has authored or contributed to multiple *Journal* articles and serves as a peer reviewer. Michelle is the Senior Research Scientist for the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston's Center for Advanced Heart Failure and co-owner of RnAEditing, LLC. She is the copyeditor of PURSUE and the Managing Editor of the *VAD Journal*.

SECRETARY

Kimberly Korwek, PhD, an AMWA member since 2010, has been on the AMWA BOD for 3 years. She is currently the Chair of the 2022 Annual Conference Program Committee. During the 2019–2020 term, she served as the Chapter Advisory Council Chair on the BOD, and prior to that she was a member of the Chapter Advisory Council (2017–2019). From 2016 to 2019, she was a section editor, serving on the editorial board for the *Journal*. Kim was President of the AMWA Southeast Chapter (2016–2017), serving previously as President-Elect (2015–2016). She also served as a Chapter Delegate to the AMWA BOD (2016–2017) and the Website Coordinator for the Southeast Chapter (2018–2019). Kim is the Manager of Scientific Communications within the Clinical Operations Group of HCA Healthcare. In this role, she is responsible for the management of the portfolio of comparative effectiveness research projects that seek to use data collected within the course of clinical care to improve health care delivery and patient outcomes. Kim also manages the development of scientific publications, including manuscripts, abstracts, presentations, and white papers to facilitate the distribution of research findings to internal and external audiences.



TREASURER

Julie Phelan, MBA, MD, an AMWA member since 2009, is in her sixth year as Treasurer on the AMWA BOD and Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee (2016–2022). She was previously a member of the Budget & Finance Committee (2015–2016), the Communications Committee (2014–2015), the 2015 Salary Survey Task Force, and the Online Community and Social Media Committees (2012–2014). At the chapter level, she was President of the Greater Chicago Area Chapter (2013–2016), serving previously as President-Elect (2012–2013). She also served as Membership Chair for the chapter (2011–2015) and as a Chapter Delegate to the AMWA BOD (2013–2016). She has authored articles for the *AMWA Journal* and currently serves as AMWA's Registered Agent. She was awarded an AMWA fellowship in 2017. Julie is the founder and President of Biomedisys, Inc, a medical communication and strategy consulting boutique in Chicago, IL. She has more than 20 years of medical communication and business strategy experience including working as a biotechnology equity research associate analyst at Robert W. Baird & Co, medical and strategic advisor for an insurance corporation, and medical communication consultant.



PROCEDURE FOR ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS

As required by AMWA's Bylaws (Article IV.2e-f), these nominations were announced to the AMWA community by email more than 60 days before the annual business meeting. A nominee who is unopposed for any office is declared automatically elected at the annual business meeting. As stated in the bylaws, additional nominations for President-Elect, Secretary, or Treasurer may be made by any member provided the member meet the criteria set forth by the BOD.

The criteria and process are listed below:

- Member dues must be current, and the member must be in good standing.
- The nomination is submitted in writing to the Secretary of AMWA at least 30 days in advance of the annual business meeting. This year's annual business meeting is scheduled on November 5, 2022.
- The nomination must clearly state the qualifications of the candidate and be signed by 50 members in good standing as of the date of the receipt of the nomination.
- The nomination must be accompanied by a letter from the candidate stating that she or he is willing to serve if elected.

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The graphic features a dark wood-grain background. At the top, the title 'Knowledge Builders' is in large, bold, orange-yellow font. Below it, a paragraph describes the program. A central line of text says 'Explore AMWA Online Learning and get ready to L.E.A.R.N.' where 'L.E.A.R.N.' is in bold yellow. Below this is a row of five interlocking puzzle pieces in orange, green, purple, teal, and pink. Each piece contains a letter and a description of an activity. At the bottom, the website URL is provided in white, and the AMWA Education logo and tagline are in the bottom right corner.