

AMWA NEWS

Officer Candidate Slate for the 2024-2025 Election

Roshawn (Shawn) Watson, PharmD, PhD, BCPS / 2023-2024 AMWA President-Elect

I am honored to serve as President-Elect for AMWA this year. This afforded me the privilege to chair the Nominating Committee, who propose a slate of officers for the upcoming governance year.

The process is as follows: any interested AMWA member is invited to submit a board interest form for consideration of one of three elected offices: President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Nominating Committee then reviews the forms and qualifications of candidates who meet the eligibility criteria and collectively agrees on a candidate for each officer position to submit to the AMWA Board of Directors (BOD) for consideration.

The Nominating Committee currently consists of past AMWA presidents and board members, as well as members who have served in leadership positions in the medical communication field. I want to extend my gratitude to those who volunteered their time and expertise to serve alongside me as committee members:

- Cyndy Kryder, MS, MWS,
- Tenille L. Lawson, PharmD, BCPS,
- Brian Bass, MWC,
- Gail Flores, PhD,
- Theresa E. Singleton, PhD,
- Lorretta Bohn,
- Leslie Nielstat, ELS, and
- Susan Krug, MS, CAE (ex officio, nonvoting member).

We received multiple strong applications for the executive committee, and the Nominating Committee's insightful feedback and critical analysis allowed for robust discussion and a strong slate of officer candidates. I respectfully present the following candidates who were presented to and approved by the AMWA BOD at the June BOD meeting:

- **President-Elect:** Kimberly Korwek, PhD
- **Secretary:** Jennifer Minarcik, MS
- **Treasurer:** Julie Phelan, MBA, MD

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Kimberly Korwek, PhD, an AMWA member since 2010, has been on the AMWA BOD for five years and is currently serving her second term as AMWA secretary and the board liaison

for the Medical Compensation Survey Work Group. Korwek also served as chair of the 2022 Annual Conference Program Committee.

From 2019 to 2020, she was chair of the Chapter Advisory Council on the BOD and was a member of the Chapter Advisory Council from 2017 to 2019. From 2016 to 2019, Korwek was a section editor for the *AMWA Journal*, serving on the editorial board. She has also authored articles published in the *Journal*. Korwek was president of the AMWA Southeast Chapter (2016-2017), and president-elect (2015-2016). She also served as a chapter delegate to the AMWA Board (2016-2017) and the website coordinator for the Southeast Chapter (2018-2019). Korwek is the manager of scientific communication within the Clinical Operations group of HCA Healthcare. In this role, she is responsible for managing the portfolio of comparative effectiveness research projects that seek to use data collected during clinical care to improve health care delivery and patient outcomes. Korwek 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.



SECRETARY

Jennifer Minarcik, MS, an AMWA member since 2011, is in her fourth year of serving on the AMWA BOD and is the current board liaison to the AMWA Annual Conference Committee. From 2021 to 2023, she served on the BOD as Chapter Advisory

Council chair. As a member of the Delaware Valley Chapter, she served as the Chapter Advisory Council representative (2019-2020), treasurer (2018-2019), and president-elect, president, and immediate past president (2016-2018). Additionally, she has served as the chair of the Chapter Advisory Council Task Force (2016-2017), a member of



the National Communication Committee (2013-2017), an Engage Task Force committee member (2016-2017), and an Annual Conference committee member (2018). In addition to her service on various committees, Minarcik was an editor-at-large for the *AMWA Journal* from 2014 to 2017, and in 2018 joined the editorial board as the Social Media Section co-editor and became editor in 2019. Minarcik also presented sessions at the 2015 and 2016 National Conferences and was awarded an AMWA Fellowship in 2020. Minarcik is a freelance biomedical writer specializing in pharmaceutical sales training and promotional medical writing projects.

TREASURER

Julie Phelan, MBA, MD, an AMWA member since 2009, is in her eighth year as treasurer on the BOD and as chair of the Budget & Finance Committee (2016-2024). She served as a member of the Budget & Finance Committee (2015-2016), the Communication 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 Board (2013-2016). She has authored articles for the *AMWA Journal* and is currently AMWA's registered agent. She was awarded an AMWA fellowship in 2017. Phelan is the founder and president of Biomedisys, Inc, a medical communication and strategy consulting boutique in Chicago, Illinois. 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 meets 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 must be 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 October 26, 2024.
- 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.

Author declaration and disclosures: *The author notes no commercial associations that may pose a conflict of interest in relation to this article.*

Author contact: watson900@hotmail.com