



American Association for  
Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEE

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Hello AABIP members!

I'm Ara Chrissian, Director of Bronchoscopy and Interventional Pulmonology at Loma Linda University Health in Loma Linda, CA. I am certain you will elect another talented and visionary BOD for this cycle. Here are some of what I can humbly bring to the AABIP mission:

1. **Dedication to the AABIP.** As part of the Education Committee since being elected the fellow representative in 2016, its co-chair since 2022, and a member of the Diversity, Inclusion and Unity Committee, I've worked with and learned from our talented membership, while establishing, cultivating and supervising a multitude of projects that directly and actively impact a wide swath of our community.
2. **Respect for IP origins.** I learned 'IP' 15 years ago the 'old-fashioned' way... during pulm-crit fellowship. Then decided on a dedicated IP fellowship 5 years into my career—BOTH times studying under trailblazers in the field. Then, from EBUS to rigid bronchoscopy to pleural service to robotic bronchoscopy all in a decade, the path of developing an IP service at a tertiary academic institution from the ground-up presented unique challenges, trying obstacles, and valuable learning experiences that link me to the field's tenacious, not-so-distant origins.
3. **Perspective.** Over my medical career, I've trained in different regions, experiencing various practice settings and culture styles, which I leverage in various ways. I value my mutually beneficial working and learning relationship with colleagues, regardless of level. I work closely with and routinely mentor various allied health professionals and fellows, recognizing each of their essential roles in the team dynamic.

Let's continue to unify our community by broadening its reach to our pediatric, allied health, and international colleagues, and solidify the AABIP as the clinical, educational, and scholarly standard for bronchoscopy and interventional pulmonology.

Thank you!

Ara