



The Maryland State Medical Society

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MEDCHI TO HAVE ALL FEMALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR FIRST TIME

BALTIMORE, November 7, 2020 — MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, will have an all-female executive leadership for the first time in its 221-year history. The organization installed their new President and elected their new President-Elect on November 7, 2020 at the association's first-ever virtual Fall House of Delegates Meeting. Shannon Pryor, M.D., became the society's 173rd President, and Loralie Ma, M.D. was elected to the office of President-Elect. They join Michele Manahan, M.D., who is now the Immediate Past-President, as the members of MedChi's three-president executive committee.

Dr. Pryor received her Bachelor of Arts, with highest honors, in neuroscience with a concentration in English from Williams College in Massachusetts. She received her medical degree from Tulane School of Medicine. Dr. Pryor completed her residency through Johns Hopkins Hospital and completed her fellowship at the National Institute of Health. As a long-time member of MedChi, she has previously served on the Board of Trustees and served on Montgomery County Medical Society leadership.

Dr. Ma is a Nuclear Radiology Specialist in Annapolis, MD. She received her Bachelor of Science, Ph.D., and M.D. in Biophysics from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed her residency and fellowship in Radiology at The Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Ma previously served as MedChi's Speaker of the House and served in leadership roles with the Baltimore County Medical Association.

Dr. Pryor and Dr. Ma will join with Dr. Manahan, a Johns Hopkins plastic surgeon, in leading MedChi's efforts over the next year. MedChi's Board of Trustees is fifty percent female; the association achieved gender parity on the Board in 2019.

MedChi was founded in 1799 and changed its Bylaws to admit members of any gender in 1882. Amanda Taylor Norris, MD, became MedChi's first female member in 1886. MedChi celebrated its first female president with the inauguration of Catherine Smoot-Haselnus, MD, an Eastern Shore ophthalmologist, in 2002. In other notable firsts, Willarda Edwards, MD, a Baltimore internist, became MedChi's first Black female president in 2004, and Brooke Buckley, MD, a general surgeon, was MedChi's youngest president at the time of her 2015 inauguration.

MedChi CEO, Gene Ransom, states, "Dr. Pryor, Dr. Ma, and Dr. Manahan have been vital assets to MedChi for many years and have been a pleasure to work with. We are so excited that this is the first time in our long history that our entire executive committee has all been women."

Congratulations from all of us at MedChi. We are looking forward to working under your combined leadership, especially during such trying times.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.