



EBAA Nominations Committee:

I am writing in support of Dean Vavra's nomination to EBAA Board of Directors and to acknowledge I have observed that he possesses the required attributes to serve on the Board. For over 30 years Dean and I have held various roles in eye banking and throughout have shared our experiences as we performed a wide range of eye bank functions. During our careers we had the pleasure of serving together on various EBAA committees. We are long time colleagues.

Dean has proven to be dedicated to EBAA mission and profession. I was Chair of Certification Board while Dean performed military service in the Middle East. He stayed connected with EBAA, seeking from the CEU Committee opportunities to keep his eye bank technician skills current and to stay abreast of activity in ophthalmology. To this day Dean rolls up his sleeves to teach slit lamp or donor eligibility skills training and shares his experience to help other technicians improve.

As a valued innovative thinker and visionary, Dean has had a long professional relationship with Eversight. We recently sought his expertise to assist our organization with strategic planning. He provided valuable insight in development of our strategies related to executive leadership, human resources, finance, and clinical operations. I appreciate Dean providing me an in depth tour of his operations, and sharing his ideas on processes. It seems to come naturally to him to help others improve the professional image of eye banking.

Our eye bank in Chicago has a special personal connection with the Vavra family. Granular corneal dystrophy type 2 runs in his family and his mother, grandmother, and brothers have received the gift of sight through cornea transplant. His mother and grandmother underwent surgery in Chicago in 1956, as did his brothers a few decades later. His personal connection to sight restoration and keratoplasty to treat cornea blindness provides insight on his deep commitment to grow and improve our profession.

I have confidence that Dean will represent and make decisions based on the best interests of the association and the profession, and provide sound advice to the President and CEO.

Best regards,

Charles J. Pivoney
Chief Innovations Officer
Eversight

