

April 9, 2024

House of Delegates  
Eye Bank Association of America  
1101 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 400  
Washington DC, 20036

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

I offer my full support for Winston (Win) Chamberlain, MD, PhD for the role of EBAA Chair of the Board of Directors. Win became involved with VisionGift in 2009, the year after he joined the faculty at the Casey Eye Institute. His intelligence, enthusiasm, character, and outspoken nature were all apparent from the start.

Since Win's career began in Portland, he's transplanted over 1,100 corneas. This remarkable testament to the impact he has had on the lives of his patients is foundational to the "why" behind Win's commitment to our field. Win has always understood that these 1,100 transplants could never happen without eye banks. And his commitment to the stewardship of these precious gifts and a robust eye banking profession has blossomed over the past 15 years. Contrasting his patients' experience of plentiful and safe tissue for transplantation are his many friends and colleagues throughout the world who simply do not have access to tissue to treat their patients. They must wait – or simply do without - depending on where they are located. This contrast has underscored Win's tremendous respect for our field and the benefits it can provide to patients everywhere.

Win's a prolific clinical and basic science researcher, teacher/mentor of residents and fellows, the leader of a growing cornea department, and active across many ophthalmological societies. He's connected with surgeons throughout the world as collaborators. In all his activities, he promotes the essential nature of eye banking in the treatment of corneal disease. Additionally, he promotes the importance of evidence-based stewardship of the altruistic gift of sight.

Win has dedicated enormous amounts of his time to our profession. From accreditation site visits to running MAB meetings. From signing off our trainers every year to tissue consultations. He is well known by our staff and eye bankers across the Association because of the amount of work he does for the Association. And for nearly three years, he has served on the EBAA Board. He is well versed in the current issues the field faces (e.g. changing technology, reimbursement, consolidation, competition).

Win is willing to dedicate six additional years of his professional life to EBAA service. While every Chair's challenges will be unique, Win is aware of the time commitment ahead. We spoke of his desire to ensure a successful Association long into the future.

It's my opinion that our tradition of physician leadership is a powerful way to ensure visibility and relevance with our surgeon partners.

I had a very hard time distilling my thoughts as Win brings so much to this role. I assure members that Win is an independent thinker who will act in the best interests of the entire Association and our field. In addition to speaking his mind, Win listens. And he's respectful. His background coupled with these qualities will make him an excellent Chair of the EBAA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Stoeger".

Chris Stoeger, MBA, CEBT, CTBS  
Chief Executive Officer