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In 2014, I first encountered the Histochemical Society (HCS) at Experimental Biology in San Diego. I entered the annual business meeting knowing only John Couchman, the then editor of the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry, by voice and left that evening having found my professional society home. I had just published the first chapter of my dissertation in the Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry (JHC) and attended the meeting on John's suggestion. Unexpectedly, I met a wonderfully welcoming set of

individuals who had actually read my article on autofluorescence, a seemingly esoteric topic at the time that I had had to persuade my PhD advisor was worthy of a chapter in my PhD. In that room in San Diego, I found individuals whose shared my passion for visualizing biology and cared deeply about doing it with care and accuracy. Moreover, these individuals were involved in an astonishingly diverse number of fields using these techniques. In short, polymath me was hooked.

Hence, it is a great honor and deeply humbling to be nominated for the Histochemical Society's President-Elect position. Serving HCS in this and the roles that traditionally evolve from it, would be a wonderful opportunity to continue enjoying the collegiality of my fellow members as we fulfill the society's mission together. It would be a way for me to level up on my involvement in HCS.

These past 8 years, HCS has supported me, my students and colleagues in our development and use of many "visual techniques that provide biochemical and molecular information about the structure and function of [a diversity of] cells tissues and organs." Meanwhile, I have pursued my vocation as a veterinary pathologist and virologist, first as a postdoctoral fellow and then as an assistant professor, conducting research as a principal investigator and collaborative investigative pathologist. More information on my publications and career can be found here: [Sally Davis | LinkedIn](#) and [publication bibliography](#).

I have enjoyed serving the society in formal roles and ad hoc projects. These have included Councilor, chairing the Communications Committee as we rebranded and launched our new website and ventured into new social media channels including establishing our current social media partnership with Delta Think, members of the JHC Editorial Board and serving as the second chair of the Education Committee, continuing the vision established under its initial leadership by Scott Tanner as we enlarged our research grant programs and explored new opportunities in K-12 and undergraduate education arenas. Finally, my recent service as HCS's Secretary/Treasurer, provided me with a detailed understanding of our society's financial health. I assisted with our transition to a new financial management company with whom we could better manage our assets in these somewhat turbulent times.

Currently, I serve the society as its Resident education and Outreach Lead (REOL). In this role I have worked on a number of special projects for HCS including serving as the course coordinator for the HCS's Hands-On: Immunohistochemistry and Immunofluorescence course, which we launched this year in conjunction with the Bio-Trac program at Montgomery College in Germantown, MD. Establishing a flexible infrastructure for the course to evolve and involve many members of the society on a perpetual

basis has been a wonderful opportunity to use my formal training as an educator. It has also been a pleasure to work in a highly collaborative fashion with several HCS members, who are all individually talented in aspects of the course's content.

The REOL role has provided me with the opportunity to participate in multiple HCS committees and serve as a catalyst and implementor of their projects. I have taken these committees' identified projects to Executive Committee for review and when favorable invested my time and energy into their implementation. In this capacity I am working on the programming committee for our upcoming conference in Salt Lake City in October 2023 and have pursued a number of new education projects for the society such as events related to our new partnership with Foldscope. Service on the Membership, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee has opened my eyes to opportunities for HCS to make a difference and reinforced my interest in growing our membership in creative new ways. Finally, my recent involvement in the Webinar Task Force during COVID-19 has been an exciting creative outlet and a mechanism to engage with the HCS membership throughout the year. These activities are core to the education and outreach mission of the society.

If elected, I pledge to be a Servant Leader to the HCS membership. This first and foremost would involve engaging and listening to HCS members as only in this manner can we evolve and grow the society together. Each of you joined for a reason. Has it been fulfilled? Each of you stay for a reason. Why? What would make us better and what would draw in others you know of who are also aligned with our mission? In particular, I would start with a focus on the "dissemination of this knowledge through education and outreach" aspect of our mission. There are a vast number of opportunities to impact K-postgraduate training. There are opportunities to educate established scientists and build community. However, we are a small society so will need to select where we invest our energy and finances carefully.

Fundamentally, I believe that through passionate pursuit of our mission, creative partnering and leveraging technology our impact can be significant. Our membership can grow. I would work with the leadership of HCS to establish a strategy as regards this. We would tie this strategy to a plan with metrics to assess what moves our mission forward and what falls short. Such efforts would open new channels for membership recruitment. Your incoming President Alex Adam has already identified a number of target audiences we can serve better and has a number of DEI initiatives in mind and underway. I would partner with Alex as regards these efforts and facilitate the society establishing a broader strategy as outlined above, one that can take us to the next level.