

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*Twin Cities Campus
Maria Hordinsky, M.D.
Chair, Department of Dermatology
hordi001@umn.edu
612-625-1493*

Department of Dermatology

*4-240 Phillips-Wangensteen Building
516 Delaware Street S.E.
Mayo Mail Code 98
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Office: 612-625-8625
Fax: 612-624-6678*

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Dear Derm Colleagues,

We all know Dermatology is a respected and wonderful specialty. As a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors (BOD), I am committed to the Academy's goals of promoting leadership and excellence in patient care through education, research and advocacy. My career path has taken me to my current position as Head of the Department of Dermatology at the University of Minnesota Medical School in Minneapolis. I oversee a Department of 17 full time faculty at the University site, 23 residents, 10 in a 5-year Internal Medicine/Derm program, 13 in the Categorical program, and 3 fellowships. I have a passion for general dermatology and hair diseases. I also serve as the Dermatology Clinical Service Unit manager and oversee a highly productive clinical practice in collaboration with colleagues in Dermatologic Surgery, Pediatric Dermatology, Medical Dermatology, Dermatopathology, Dermatoallergology, and Cosmetic Dermatology. With the support and enthusiasm of my colleagues, I am enthusiastic to apply what I have learned in my leadership positions to the BOD of the AAD. My colleagues note several strengths. I am highlighting three: (1) strength in team building and collaboration, seeing the value in others and using their own skills to help promote their careers, (2) fostering a culture of respect within the house of medicine and (3) paving the way for leaders, particularly women, in Dermatology.

Dermatology in 2020 faces many challenges from the current coronavirus epidemic we are in to specific challenges such as the unsustainable use of expensive medications and the possibility of our specialty becoming two-tiered in that patients with financial resources will purchase cash-pay services and those with government-pay reimbursement may choose not to see a dermatologist or seek second tier services. I believe in data and education and that these tools can be successfully used to address challenges such as these.

In conclusion, I believe it is an obligation of leaders in our field to insure that those practicing in our specialty have all the tools and resources needed to offer the best patient care possible, run efficient practices, maintain a presence in the house of medicine and concurrently, have a good quality of life.



Sincerely,

**Maria Hordinsky, MD
www.aad.org/election**