

David W. Pruitt, MD, FAAPMR

Member-at-Large of the Board of Governors (First Term)

Tell members a little bit about yourself, your practice and your life outside of work.

I serve on faculty at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in the both departments of Pediatrics and Neurology & Rehabilitation Medicine. In my role there, I serve as medical director for our inpatient rehabilitation program and as fellowship director for our pediatric rehabilitation medicine training program. My clinical expertise is in the area of pediatric cancer rehabilitation as well as inpatient rehabilitation programming.

My interests outside of work are vast, ranging from being a collegiate sports fan to enjoying theater and musicals. I enjoy traveling and exploring cities in terms of museums, exhibits and restaurants.

What accomplishments/honors are you particularly proud of that you would like to share with members?

In 2018, I was awarded the Corbett Ryan Pathways Pioneer Award through the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine. The AACPD presents the Pioneer Award each year to honor individuals who demonstrate excellence in pursuing and achieving quality of life while living with a personal physical challenge. It was truly an honor to receive this award as a testament to all of those who have provided mentorship, guidance and medical care to me throughout my lifetime that have enabled me to be successful in a field that I am so passionate about.

What have you advanced in your local community outside of or in conjunction with your medical practice?

The strong collaborations with the pediatric oncology partners I have in Cincinnati have truly enabled us to provide longitudinal care for patients on active treatment and into survivorship. This work has really enhanced the all-encompassing care that active treatment patients and survivors have to access rehabilitation services throughout the continuum of care.

What special skills or unique attributes do you bring to the Board?

One set of attributes that I will bring to the board is both an ear and a voice of a person with physical disability to an organization whose mission is appropriately directed toward. I believe that the Academy has been very inclusive of persons with disabilities on committees and leadership councils and that there is benefit from the input provided from such individuals.

What is a current or future challenge to the Academy or the specialty that you look forward to addressing as a Board Member?

In recent years, I have had the opportunity and pleasure of working with AAPM&R's GME Committee in envisioning potential recommendations to consider in assessing the current curriculum needs of training PM&R residents for their career needs both now and also 10 or 15 years in the future. The committee has put a great deal of time and effort into thinking about these needs and I look forward to working collaboratively as a Board Member to provide a review and direction for these recommendations once they are finalized.