

# My Experience as a Member of the ASE Leadership Academy

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**A**S A MEMBER of the second cohort of ASE's Leadership Academy, it has been a true privilege to participate in this carefully crafted longitudinal experience and to now describe it to the members of ASE at large.

Our group began our 18-month journey at the height of the COVID pandemic in the late fall of 2020. Although I had been looking forward to the leadership program even prior to this world changing event, I can think of no time more applicable to the lessons on teamwork, conflict, communication (and many more!) that the Leadership Academy had to offer. Under the incredible direction of Drs. Neil Weissman and Vera Rigolin, our group was led through a carefully curated series of self-directed learning experiences and shared virtual group discussions – with speakers ranging from the incredible leadership lecturers Kathy Pearson and Todd Henshaw to words of wisdom from Dr. Madhav Swaminathan (graciously donated by the first leadership academy class as part of the ASE Foundation silent auction). Although our plans for an in-person kickoff meeting were stymied by travel restrictions imposed by the pandemic, I truly felt that over the ensuing months, I developed a deep connection to my other cohort members through our virtual meetings. Coming to the Leadership Academy from a perspective of engaging in ASE mainly in the sphere of vascular ultrasound, I found the topics broadly applicable to the challenges faced in all aspects of echocardiography, or indeed, in all of clinical care. Beyond this, the chance to meet and learn from my colleagues, coming from all over the world and from a diverse background of interests, was truly priceless. Finally meeting them

Finally meeting in person  
at our recent retreat in  
Washington, D.C.



in person at our recent retreat in Washington, D.C., was nothing short of amazing. Through this, I have felt more connected than ever to ASE as my professional home, during a time when disconnectedness has been increasingly prevalent. To any members of ASE who have found themselves in an early leadership position in their home institution, I would give the highest recommendation to considering applying to the ASE Leadership Academy. The lessons and the connections forged are an opportunity that cannot be missed.

**The application window for the third cohort of the ASE Leadership Academy will open on June 1st.**

*Dr. Matthew Vorsanger is a clinical cardiologist at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine where he directs the cardiology clinic and cardiac rehabilitation program at Bellevue Hospital, and the vascular ultrasound education program for the cardiovascular disease fellowship. Dr. Vorsanger is a member of the ASE Council on Circulation and Vascular Ultrasound and co-chair of the Circulation track at the 2022 Scientific Sessions. He can be found on Twitter at @MHVorsanger.*