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Contact: Angie Porter
919-297-7152
aporter@ASEcho.org

American Society of Echocardiography Elects New Board President

(DURHAM, NC, July 1, 2022)—The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Stephen H. Little, MD, FASE, FRCPC, FACC**, as the organization’s new Board of Directors President, effective July 1, 2022.

Dr. Little has a strong understanding of the needs of ASE and its diverse membership from his nearly 20-year career dedicated to clinical, educational and research activities in cardiovascular ultrasound, and the numerous leadership and volunteer positions he’s held within the Society.



During the 33rd Annual Scientific Sessions in Seattle, Wash., June 10-13, Dr. Little shared his vision as ASE’s 2022-2023 President. ASE brings together cardiovascular ultrasound imaging experts, enthusiasts and multidisciplinary partners from across the globe, and he explained that a varied and active membership not only makes ASE stronger, but also improves the field and ultimately patient care.

“ASE attracts all users of cardiovascular ultrasound and each member’s professional needs and concerns may differ,” said Dr. Little. “During my term as President, I want to communicate the many opportunities members have to become fully engaged based on their professional interests and areas of expertise. In the ‘big tent of echo,’ each ASE member should feel valued and connected to leadership and to each other.”

Dr. Little also mentioned the importance of highlighting ASE’s quality initiatives, and education and advocacy efforts.

“For ASE to continue to lead in this field, we must recognize that our members are professionally diverse, identify their needs, act quickly and educate thoroughly. The current strategic goals of ASE focus our efforts where they are most needed. These include developing strategic partnerships to support research, being indispensable in the development of new technology, meeting the educational needs of a growing variety of clinicians, and being the voice of and embracing all cardiovascular ultrasound users,” he said.

Dr. Little earned his medical degree from McMaster University in Ontario, Canada, and completed two clinical and research fellowships in echocardiography at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute in Ontario and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. He is a cardiologist at Houston Methodist Hospital, and holds leadership positions as the director for the cardiology fellowship training program, and is the system director for Structural Heart Disease. He is also professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College and an adjunct professor at Rice University in the Department of Bioengineering. In

each of these roles, he's honed his skills in effective communication, consensus building and strategic action.

Dr. Little is an active member and longtime leader in a variety of healthcare-related organizations, including ASE. He initially joined ASE as a cardiology fellow more than 20 years ago and has been a member of multiple committees—Information Technology, Research, Industry Relations and Public Relations, among others. He was also Chair and Co-Chair of both the Structural Heart Disease Task Force and the Committee on Guidelines and Standards. Most recently, he served on the Executive Committee on [ASE's Board of Directors](#) as the 2021-2022 President-Elect.

ASE membership also elected ten new Board members to serve the Society starting July 1, 2022. The 2022 Executive Committee welcomes newly elected Vice President **Theodore Abraham, MD, FASE**, University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; Council Representative **Keith Collins, MS, RDCS, FASE**, Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, IL; and Secretary **Kelly Thorson, DHSc, MSRS, ACS, RDCS, FASE**, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, Palo Alto, CA.

In addition to the new officers, the following new Board of Directors members were elected to serve two-year terms: **Jose Banchs, MD, FASE, FACC**, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO (Member at Large); **Akhil Narang, MD, FASE**, Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, IL (Member at Large); **Fadi Shamoun, MD, FASE**, Mayo Clinic Arizona, Scottsdale, AZ (Council on Circulation & Vascular Ultrasound Steering Committee Chair); **Neha Ringwala Soni-Patel, MEd, RCCS, RDCS (AE/PE), FASE**, Cleveland Clinic Children's, Cleveland, OH (Member at Large); and **G. Monet Strachan, ACS, RDCS, FASE**, UCSF Health, San Francisco, CA (Council on Cardiovascular Sonography Steering Committee Chair). **Sujatha Buddhé, MD, MS, FASE**, Seattle Children's Hospital, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (Leadership Academy Representative) and **Arthur Labovitz, MD, FASE**, Naples Cardiac & Endovascular Center (Retired), Naples, FL (Council on Critical Care Echocardiography Steering Committee Chair) will each serve a one-year term.

Learn more about ASE by visiting, ASEcho.org.

About American Society of Echocardiography

American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the Society for Cardiovascular Ultrasound Professionals™. ASE is the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging serving physicians, sonographers, nurses, veterinarians, and scientists and as such is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines for the field. The Society is committed to advancing cardiovascular ultrasound to improve lives. For more information, visit the ASE website ASEcho.org or social media pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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