

NATIONAL FELLOW-IN-TRAINING REPRESENTATIVE TESTIMONIALS



"Serving as the National Junior Fellow-in-Training Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents has been an absolute pleasure. I feel incredibly fortunate to have had the opportunity to be part of such a vibrant, hardworking, and welcoming leadership community. Throughout the year, I grew as a leader while gaining a much deeper understanding of how organizations like ACAAI work to support their members and advance our specialty."

One of the things I appreciated most about this role was how naturally it complemented my fellowship training. The time commitment was very manageable and the experience was incredibly rewarding. I often left meetings energized by the conversations, ideas, and initiatives underway and excited about what was ahead for the College and our field.

The role has also been a wonderful opportunity to build relationships with fellows and allergists across the country and to gain both formal and informal mentorship as I navigate the next stages of my career. Having the opportunity to learn from people with different experiences and career paths has been one of the most valuable parts of the experience.

I am so glad I decided to apply for this position. For any fellow considering becoming more involved with ACAAI, developing as a leader, and building connections beyond their own training program, I would wholeheartedly encourage you to apply."

- **Afia Adu-Gyamfi, MD 2025-2027 National FIT Representative**



Serving as the National Junior Fellow-in-Training (FIT) Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents this year has been an incredibly meaningful and energizing experience. From day one, I felt truly welcomed and empowered to contribute not only as a trainee but as a valued member of our national community.

This role opened doors to unique opportunities for professional growth, leadership, and connection. Attending the ACAAI Leadership Summit was a highlight, where I gained insight into the strategic vision of the College and left inspired by the mentorship and support shown to fellows. Collaborating nationally with peers to

develop initiatives like the ACAAI FIT session during the national meeting, co-leading board review question creation, and participating in educational projects like the AllergyTalk Podcast helped me realize how much our voices as FITs can shape the future of our specialty.

Most of all, I've loved building relationships with other fellows, College leadership, and dedicated allergists across the country. It's been so fun to see what we can accomplish together. I feel proud to contribute to a community that prioritizes education, collaboration, and innovation. If you're even a little curious about getting involved, I can't recommend this opportunity highly enough, it's a chance to grow, give back, and find your place in the broader A/I family.

- **Amber N. Hardeman, MD, MPH, MBA, 2024-2026 National FIT Representative**

"As the Senior Fellow-In-Training (FIT) Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents, I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to represent my peers on a national level. I have been able to learn more about what the College Board does behind the scenes outside of the Annual Meeting, from advocacy efforts on a national scale to the breadth of preparation throughout the year that goes into organizing the national meeting. Through this opportunity, I have been fortunate to network with a multitude of fellows across the nation, as well as a wide variety of Allergists/ Immunologists at various stages in their career. I've also been able to help the FIT committee put our ideas into action by teaming up with AllergyTalk to create a podcast series about career development and pilot a job search webinar for FITS. At every step of the way, the ACAAI Board of Regents have been incredibly welcoming and supportive of me in my early career as an allergist. This experience has truly been invaluable to my career, and I have greatly appreciated all the mentorship and experience it has afforded me. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the field of Allergy/Immunology, especially early on in your career, I highly encourage you to apply for this incredible opportunity."

- **Kylie Jungles, MD, 2023-2025 National FIT Representative**

"Serving as the Senior FIT Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents over the past two years has been an immensely rewarding experience, providing me the opportunity to collaborate with passionate allergists and immunologists nationwide. Leading enthusiastic FIT regional representatives and participating in various committees has deepened my understanding of our national organizations and their commitment to fellow development and education. I am continually impressed by the College's responsiveness to FIT-directed initiatives, such as editorial overhauls, community grants, and resource toolkits, which empower us to shape the future of our field. It has been a privilege to represent fellows and contribute to the advancement of our specialty, and I look forward to further engagement with the College, utilizing the insights and tools gained during this time."

- **Vinh Nguyen, MD, 2022-2024 National FIT Representative**

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to represent my peers as the National Fellow- in-Training Representative to the College's Board of Regents ... I have gained tremendous respect for what the College does "behind the scenes" for its members. The diligence, professionalism, and collegiality that define our organization were evident from my first Annual Meeting, and the mentorship and training I have received as the Junior FIT Representative will continue to be invaluable throughout my career. If you are interested in a unique, meaningful opportunity to represent your fellow FITs while developing as a leader in a world class Allergy & Immunology organization, I highly recommend that you apply for the College's Junior FIT Representative position."

- **Brent Griffin, MD, MPH, 2021-2023 National FIT Representative**

"In addition to learning clinical and academic allergy/immunology in my local program, the College afforded me the opportunity to grow as a professional in our field on a national level through my role as the Fellow-in-Training Representative to the Board of Regents during my two years of training. Taking on the additional responsibilities of the FIT Rep directly impacted the depth of my understanding and appreciation of our chosen specialty while also allowing me to facilitate projects championed within or collaboratively engaged by the ACAAI FIT Section's Executive Committee with other leaders in the College ... what sets the College apart from other professional organizations is how our FIT perspective is openly invited and appreciated with a voting seat at the same table as our core leaders of the Board of Regents, our Executive Director, and our Advocacy Council ... I encourage anyone looking for a way to advocate on behalf of your fellow colleagues while also advancing your own professional development to strongly consider this unique opportunity within the ACAAI FIT community!"

- **Christopher Foster, MD, 2020-2022 National FIT Representative**