

To the Esteemed Members of the AAGL Board,

It is with profound respect, enthusiasm, and a deep sense of professional commitment that I submit this vision statement as a formal request for your consideration of my candidacy to join the Board of Directors of the AAGL, an organization that has played a transformative role in my career and continues to inspire my dedication to the field of minimally invasive gynecologic surgery.

My medical journey began in Valencia, Venezuela, where I was born and raised. I completed medical school in my hometown and pursued a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Caracas. Seeking broader opportunities and driven by the instability in my home country, I relocated to the United States. There, I completed a second residency in OB/GYN in Staten Island, New York, followed by an AAGL Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery at Florida Hospital Orlando. I later joined the University of Miami, where I now serve as Professor and Director of the Division of Minimally Invasive Gynecology and Robotic Surgery.

Throughout this journey, I have come to deeply value the mission of the AAGL. Having faced the challenges of migration, adaptation, and academic progression, I understand the importance of equitable access, transparent communication, and inclusive representation—principles that I believe should be at the core of our leadership.

In my roles as a board member of the Pelvic Pain and Hysteroscopy Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and as a founding member of the Global Community of Hysteroscopy, I have gained firsthand insight into the global nature of our specialty and the critical role the AAGL plays in shaping the future of gynecologic endoscopy worldwide. These experiences have further strengthened my desire to serve our diverse membership with a commitment to openness, innovation, and collaboration.

With this vision, I respectfully request your support in accepting my candidacy to become a member of the AAGL Board of Directors. If given the opportunity, I will work diligently to foster transparency, elevate underrepresented voices, and build meaningful connections across our global community—ensuring that every member feels heard, valued, and empowered to contribute.

Thank you for considering my application. I am eager to continue contributing to the growth and excellence of the AAGL and to represent the shared values of our vibrant community.

With sincere appreciation,

Jose “Tony” Carugno, MD, FACOG

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