

Kristopher Schamber, MD, FACP
Biography & personal statement

I am a life-long Wyomingite and I know what it means to live and practice medicine here. I was born in Riverton and raised in Green River. My path has taken me from Western Wyoming Community College and the University of Wyoming for my undergraduate and master's degrees, through the WWAMI program, then residency followed by a chief resident year in Idaho. After training, my wife Chele and I planted roots in Sheridan, where I practice primary care and hospital medicine. Together we raise our two young boys and help guide my daughter through college.

From an early age I dreamed of becoming a physician, and physicians as I understood them seemed to do a bit of everything. Internal medicine served to fulfill that dream. Primary care medicine holds a special place in my heart. I deeply value the relationships built as they lead to a more meaningful experience for me and my patients. Through primary care I have the honor and privilege to help guide my patients through life, and death, as gracefully as possible. I consider myself fortunate to be able to share this passion with WWAMI medical students and Billings Clinic Internal Medicine Residents on a regular basis.

I hold many leadership roles in the community. I am the Chief of Medicine, medical director for hospice and home care, and the pharmacy and therapeutics committee chair at Sheridan Memorial Hospital. I serve as the medical director for the local charitable clinic. I have been the medical liaison for the Dementia Friendly Communities effort, helped develop and participate in a community-wide case-management program through the Sheridan Community Care Team, and educate community members through a quarterly series at the local senior center.

I presently serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Wyoming Medical Society. My introduction to the organization came during my first year of medical school when I served as medical student representative. Fast forward nine years, only two years out of training, I quickly realized that I must be involved in order to foster change. For this reason, I accepted a nomination to the board, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience thus far. I am in regular contact with WMS leadership and staff, have engaged in conversations with legislators, and have testified at a committee hearing here in Sheridan. Most recently, I have taken an active role in helping design, and vet resources for, the WMS COVID-19 page. My experience with the Wyoming Leaders in Medicine course has been transformative to say the least, truly helping me to become a better leader and fostering honest work with the WMS.

I hold in high regard the mission of the Wyoming Medical Society, particularly in how I fulfill that mission in a non-partisan manner. I believe this is no more important than in rendering my vote as a board member. As difficult as it may be, WMS policy decisions should be based on how they will impact physician and PA medical practice and the physician/patient relationship, and not partisan politics. I believe I have voted this way, even when not congruent with my own beliefs, and will continue to do so. I also feel strongly that I am not only a representative of Sheridan County, but also the state as a whole, and I must consider perspectives from all communities. Given my experiences around the state, I believe I am well equipped to help make unbiased and thoughtful decisions in my role as county representative, board member, and Secretary/Treasurer. In my role as Vice President, if elected, I would like to continue efforts on member engagement. I ask for your vote!