## **2021 GSACEP Board of Directors Ballot** President Elect Candidate Statement

## LCDR Grace Landers, MD

## Colleagues,

I seek your support to serve as President Elect for GSACEP. Over the past year, I have been welcomed as GSS 2021 Conference Co-Chair and voting Councillor. The first virtual symposium presents many learning opportunities as we build program continuity for the future. It has been an honor and pleasure to work with our staff and members across the globe to deliver an effective online platform. I remain grateful for the mentorship opportunities and would appreciate your vote of confidence.

From the beginning as a USU medical student, my heart has been set on advocating for opportunities for operational physicians. I served on the USAFP Board of Directors and the Commission on Continuing Professional Development for the AAFP until internship graduation in 2012. Following graduation as an Undersea Medical Officer, I served with Naval Special Warfare Group THREE until 2016 when I returned to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth as a resident in Emergency Medicine. In residency, I was the Primary Investigator for research on hemostatic agents in a prolonged field care environment and Resident in Charge of the Bio Skills lab, with focus on our Orthopedic Trauma Curriculum and ECMO. Following residency, I advocated for 80 personnel as the 2nd Medical Battalion Unit Commander for NMRTC-Portsmouth, while completing the Faculty Development Program for Emergency Ultrasound. During the summer of 2020, I attached to Combat Logistics Battalion-26 as the MEU Surgeon and Director for Emergency Ultrasound-NMC Camp Lejeune.

Throughout these experiences, I have seen first-hand the vast nature of the task representing you. This pandemic has brought to bear challenges well known to our members and we have triumphed as service-oriented communicators with grit. GSACEP is a flexible group with committed and talented people; I welcome the opportunity to represent you.

## What do you think the biggest challenge facing GSACEP members is today? How would you tackle that challenge?

GSACEP has a history of advocating for our members. This platform has only strengthened with the recent development of our chapter's strategic plan. However, the transition to DHA and workforce uncertainty due to the pandemic present even greater challenges for our members as they navigate their future. My hope is that GSACEP continues to provide a tri-service and federal network of camaraderie and shared purpose. My desire is to foster cooperation and collaboration across the uniformed and civilian components of our membership, ensuring we present a cohesive voice at the national level. Stability and connection promote wellness through this lifelong calling of medicine and government service.