



Dear FLASCO Members and Corporate Partners,

It is my sincere honor to serve as your new FLASCO President. In the realm of nonprofit organizations dedicated to oncology, leadership transitions mark pivotal moments in shaping the trajectory of their missions. As the mantle of leadership passes to a new president, the landscape of possibilities unfolds, presenting both challenges and opportunities in the quest for progress against cancer. I am unsure how I was voted in as your President...but here we are!

In the context of collaboration with corporate partners and the engagement of our members, my presidency assumes a multifaceted role as a visionary, collaborator, and advocate for transformative change. At the heart of my role is the mission of eradicating cancer and alleviating its burdens on individuals and communities. My presidency embarks on a journey fueled by empathy, determination, and a relentless pursuit of innovation. Through my journey, I am inspired by the dedication of our members and the perseverance and bravery of our patients facing the adversity of their cancer journey. With a profound understanding of the complexities of oncology, I hope to become a beacon of hope, inspiring our stakeholders to unite in the fight against cancer. Including the patients as they can be their own best advocate.

I graduated from the University of Jordan. During medical school, I did not feel that oncology would be my path. In 1995, when I had the opportunity to come to the States for an elective, where I served a month with the oncology team, I was so impressed with the innovations in oncology that I felt the new century would be for oncology innovations. I was not disappointed, as the evolution of therapies is at light speed now. Still may not be accessible to all people, hence the importance of pursuing equitable access to cancer care and resources. I will champion initiatives aimed at reducing disparities, expanding access, and promoting health equity for underserved populations. By advocating for policy reforms, resource allocation, and structural interventions, we will advance a holistic agenda that addresses the social determinants of health and promote inclusivity across the cancer care continuum.

Through strategic investments in fellowship and residency programs, and medical schools, FLASCO cultivates a vibrant ecosystem of learning, collaboration, and mentorship. These programs serve as incubators of talent, providing aspiring oncologists with invaluable opportunities to engage in cutting-edge research, clinical trials, and multidisciplinary collaborations. By fostering a culture of curiosity, inquiry, and intellectual exchange, organizations empower fellows and residents to push the boundaries of knowledge, challenge the status quo, and drive innovation in cancer care. I would like to strengthen the fellows meeting and add medical students' and residents' tracks.

It is within my personal values to uphold the commitment to inclusivity, transparency, empowerment, and nurturing a culture of collaboration. As FLASCO President, I am determined to expand beyond the confines of boardrooms (although I nap best in those rooms) and organizational structures, resonating across broader ecosystems of healthcare, academia, industry, and advocacy. I will embrace a multifaceted approach to stakeholder engagement, catalyze synergies, bridge silos, and foster interdisciplinary collaboration to address the multidimensional challenges of cancer. By convening thought leaders, innovators, and change agents, we will create platforms for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collective problem-solving, driving transformative change at the intersection of science, policy, and practice. One of the goals is to have a research grant for clinicians in the state, this I'm hoping to evolve to a collaborative intrastate research group between academics and community practices.

I look forward to working with you all and hope to see you at a FLASCO meeting or event soon.

Sincerely,



Maen Hussein, MD

President, Florida Society of Clinical Oncology