I am honored and humbled to serve as the 2020 KAMA President. I am most passionate about the mission of providing the best patient care and serving the KAMA community, and educating and mentoring young physicians and students to become future leaders in academic medicine and in our medical communities. I am part of a three-generation medical family. My husband, Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi is the Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine and a fellow physician-scientist. My father and his father were graduates of Seoul National University Medical School in 1949 and 1951, respectively. Both of our families immigrated to the U.S. when we were very young. The story of our immigration is chronicled in a chapter in the book titled *Journeys: An American Story* (edited by Andrew Tisch and Mary Skafidas, RosettaBooks, New York, NY 2018, pages 72 – 77). Our older son, Dr. Justin Choi, is now an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and an academic hospitalist at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Weill Cornell. Our younger son Alex Choi is a medical student at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. With this strong background in medicine, it should not surprise anyone that I am committed to help lead KAMA forward to even greater achievements.

Mary E. Choi, MD is Professor of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and Attending Physician at the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital Weill Cornell. Dr. Choi received her B.A. with Distinction, and M.D. from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. She completed her Internal Medicine residency at Duke, and her Nephrology fellowship at Johns Hopkins. Subsequently, she was a faculty member in the Division of Nephrology at Johns Hopkins, Yale, and University of Pittsburgh. Prior to her move to Weill Cornell, she was on the faculty of Harvard Medical School as an Associate Professor and a full-time physician at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. During her tenure at Harvard, she served as the Course Director of the Interhospital Clinical Elective & Advanced Seminar in Renal Pathophysiology.

Dr. Choi is a physician-scientist and an established investigator in the field of cell signal transduction and kidney pathobiology. Dr. Choi’s research centers on understanding the molecular mechanisms of acute and chronic kidney injury, including mitochondrial dysfunction, inflammation, and fibrosis in the pathogenesis of acute kidney injury (AKI) and chronic kidney disease (CKD). Her research program has longstanding support by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and current investigations are focused on the mechanisms of regulation and function of autophagy/mitophagy and necroptosis in various models of organ injury, including the kidney, lung, and cardiac fibrosis, and sepsis. The ultimate goal of research in Dr. Choi’s laboratory is to identify novel therapeutic targets that will provide cytoprotection against tissue injury and the development of progressive fibrotic diseases. Her additional contributions to the scientific community have included serving on numerous grant review committees, including the NIH study sections and the Wellcome Trust, and Editorial Board member of journals such as the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, American Journal of Physiology, Kidney Research and Clinical Practice, and Physiological Reports, as well as several key committees including the National Kidney Foundation, American Heart Association, and American Society of Nephrology.

Dr. Choi is committed to training and mentoring young researchers and currently serves on the Executive committee of NIH T32 grant on Multidisciplinary approach training in respiratory research, and she is the Director of Training Unit in lung and vascular injury. She has served as the mentor and sponsor for NIH K08 grant and Physician-Scientist/Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards of trainees who have gone on to secure academic faculty positions.

Dr. Choi currently is the President of the Korean American Medical Association (KAMA). She had previously served as a KAMA Executive Committee Member, Scientific Co-Chair, and Research Chair, and led initiatives aimed at promoting KAMA women in medicine, and mentoring students and young physicians of Korean American Medical Student Association (KAMSA) and Korean American Medical Residents and Fellows (KAMRAF).