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The American Society for Matrix Biology has played a formative role in my scientific career, from awarding me my first travel award to attend the 2010 ASMB meeting in Charleston, SC, to recognizing me as its Junior Investigator awardee in 2018. As I celebrate my 17th year as a member of our Society, I would be delighted to give back to an organization that has done so much for me by serving again on its council.

Throughout my past involvement with ASMB, I have sought to strengthen our community through leadership and new initiatives. As council member (2016-2021) and Chair of the Outreach and Communication Committee (2016-2021), I spearheaded the creation of the Society's social media presence, launched a quarterly e-newsletter that I edited from 2020 to 2022, and oversaw the introduction of virtual e-symposia during the COVID-19 pandemic.
I have also helped shape ASMB's scientific programming, served on the Council of the International Society for Matrix Biology (2017-2021), and currently advise trainees through the ASMB mentoring program. My service on the editorial boards of our Society's journals, *Matrix Biology* and *Matrix Biology Plus,* further reflects my commitment to advancing our field.

As a more established scientist, I have also witnessed, with great pride, some of my trainees take an active role in our Society's activities.

If elected to the council, I would draw on my experience in ECM research, scientific leadership, and community building to strengthen mentoring and networking opportunities for early-career researchers and broaden the reach of ECM research by expanding collaborations with other scientific societies.

Having personally experienced how meaningful the Society's support can be at different stages of one's scientific career, I will strive to help create those same opportunities for generations of matrix biologists to come.