



## LaKeisha R. Henry, MD

### Candidate for President-elect

***What is the Academy's greatest challenge and how would you address it?***

***What do you see as the most important items for the Academy's 2025 strategic plan and why?***

The greatest challenge for the Academy is growing and sustaining membership while providing premier, valuable, and relevant tools and resources to navigate the ever-changing healthcare landscape. A collaborative approach involving all aspects of Academy leadership and membership is vital to engage members and master technology and research, while balancing education and advocacy. We must utilize our collective voices, enact change, expand membership, and embolden healthcare and specialty advocacy. A diversity, equity, and inclusion section within the Academy is crucial for growth and sustainment and overcoming these challenges.

As members face challenges in career navigation, work-life balance, student or education debt management, and healthcare policy changes, the Academy must be a beacon of tangible value and a foundation of support. To maintain its relevance, we must unite through participation, action, advocacy, and engagement for better healthcare policies and membership growth. Our union and collective voice will ensure the Academy truly works for and represents each of us.

A grassroots effort is needed to advocate for and emphasize specialty and patient needs through leveraged technology, research, and program content excellence. Increased advocacy efforts on all levels within the Academy and outside are necessary to promote healthcare policy change and initiatives in support of the specialty and patients. We must promote the value and relevance to every member and recruit potential members, students, and residents by implementing new policies, investing in staff development, exercising financial and fiduciary responsibility, and further fostering a culture of innovation and continuous improvement.

We must continue advocating for the needs of our members and patients, fostering inclusive diversity and education, ensuring a robust and representative workforce, incorporating research, and embracing and adapting to change. We must be proactive, flexible, vigilant, and attentive to overcome challenges and continue the advancement of our specialty and patient-centered care.

The Academy's 2025 strategic plan must prioritize the business of medicine, diversity, equity, and

inclusion, advocacy, education, and global outreach goals and initiatives. These areas of focus address the key challenges and opportunities in otolaryngology. The business of medicine initiatives and education platforms span professional development and practice management tools and resources essential to maintain viable practices and deliver the best patient care.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies foster a more diverse and inclusive workforce, necessary efforts to attract, recruit, and retain underrepresented groups. Further education in cultural competency, humility, implicit bias, and healthcare disparities is necessary to provide the highest quality healthcare to all, but especially underserved and underrepresented communities.

Advocating for policies and initiatives to raise public awareness about the importance of ENT health, overcoming barriers to patient-centered and highest-quality care, and sustaining diverse practice environments are underutilized avenues to fight for our specialty and ensure sustained, viable practices.

As the premier source for otolaryngology education, consistent, robust initiatives that support all facets of adult learning and relevant value-added content must be prioritized. Programs need to attract participation and encourage membership, and detailed, insightful plans to ensure the Academy's financial stability and long-term viability are necessary.

I am incredibly humbled and grateful for the opportunity to apply for the position of President-Elect. My vision for this role is one in which more members participate in advocacy for our specialty on the national levels through increased participation and growth of our membership. By ensuring the broad interests of our members and strategic goals are aligned, we can ensure that the Academy is positioned as the premier platform for our diverse body of members while attracting and sustaining additional members. My vision is one of increased medical student awareness of our specialty with decreased health disparities within medicine through the realistic and healthy promotion of diversity, equity, inclusion and unity of efforts to foster collaboration with our specialty and subspecialty societies. I will champion social and political advocacy that helps return the focus our care/work on providing the best care for our patients less hampered by interests that run contrary physician leadership, the business of medicine and patient centered care. Urging more members to participate within the organization and attendance at meetings will also more of us to interact across the breadth of the organization, promote better business practices that sustain our careers as physicians and surgeons. My goal is to make our voices heard through the ENT PAC. I envision teamwork and champions that promote our specialty and needs through and all appropriate channels that we can promote to strengthen our specialty.

The foundation of my background has been a career of military and public service – filled with strong leadership experiences coupled with a servant leadership style. I am proud to describe myself as a humble but highly capable, competent, and effective leader. I recognize the need for teamwork. I vow to bolster support for the mission and strategic goals. I will seek to optimize membership participation and support for the leadership, Academy and Foundation Staff as well as our many committees. This will ensure strength and diversity while we pursue the support and advocacy needed to sustain our success. I am flexible and fiscally responsible. I will foster such environment through my leadership and utilize our collective voice to fight for better representation of our needs. I will encourage collaboration and partnership that will improve our diversity, inclusion and equity to bolster our needs and expectations as physicians, clinician scientists and leaders.

The hallmark of my bedside manner has been compassion and listening to my patients, arming myself with knowledge, and providing the best care for each and every patient. In this manner, I will listen, hear, act appropriately and advocate to the best of my ability. I will remain dedicated to the mission, the strategic interests, and membership. I am devoted and determined to ensure mission accomplishment and the organization would be in a better place that where it is today.

I am uniquely qualified for this role. I am prepared and ready to listen to the membership, to balance the strategic interests of the Academy and Foundation and dedicated to our mission and members.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Name:** LaKeisha R. Henry

**Current Employment:**

Ear Nose and Throat Consultants of Nevada (Private Practice)  
8840 W Sunset Rd Ste A, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

**Place of Birth:** Tuscaloosa, Alabama

**Education (include institutions, dates, degrees):**

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) Aug 1994 - May 1998 Doctor of Medicine  
United States Military Academy (USMA), West Point, NY Jun 1998 - May 1992 Bachelor of Science Engineering  
Management

**Residency and Fellowship:**

Residency (Jul 2001 – Jun 2005): San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium (SAUSHEC) Otolaryngology,  
Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, TX  
Internship (Jul 1998 – Jun 1999): General Surgery, David Grant Medical Center, Travis Air Force Base, CA

**Specialty:**

Comprehensive/General Otolaryngology

**Licensure and Certification:**

Nevada Medical License, Texas Medical License  
Board Certification: Otolaryngology Jun 2006 - Jun 2016, Recertified to Jun 2026; participating in CertLink/MOC

**Previous Employment:**

Otolaryngology Master Clinician Joint Base San Antonio – Ft Sam Houston, TX Aug 2020 – Sep 2021  
Additional Duties: Advisor to DoD Hearing Center of Excellence and Regional Commands

Executive Director, DoD Hearing Center of Excellence Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland, TX Mar 2017 – Jul 2020

Otolaryngology Master Clinician/Teaching Faculty Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland, TX Aug 2016 – Mar 2017  
Congressionally Mandated Center of Excellence established by Duncan Hunter Public Law National Defense  
Authorization Act of 2009

Congressional Reports:

Hearing Protection Measures House Report 116–120, Pages 102 - 103, Accompanying H.R. 2500, the  
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020

Hearing Center of Excellence Hearing Registry House Report 116-84, Page 315, Accompanying H.R. 2968,  
the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2020

Commander, Surgical Operations Squadron; Joint Base Andrews, MD Aug 2014 – Aug 2016

Additional Duties: Otolaryngology Staff/Teaching Faculty; National Capital Region Surgical Representative

Flight Commander, Surgical Specialties Nellis Air Force Base, NV Aug 2012 – Jul 2014

Additional Duties: Acting Chief of the Medical Staff Jan 2012 to Jul 2012; Attended Quality System Program Assessment  
Review (QSPAR)

Air Force Surgeon General Chief Otolaryngology Consultant

Nellis Air Force Base, NV (appointment while at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center) Oct 2011 – Sep 2018

Chief, Otolaryngology Services Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany Jun 2010 – Aug 2012

Additional Duties: Acting/Deputy Chief of Surgery - 2011-2012 Staff Otolaryngologist Jul 2009 – Jun 2010

Deputy, Chief of the Medical Staff Royal Air Force Lakenheath, UK Sep 2008 – Jul 2009

Chief, Otolaryngology Services/Otolaryngology Element Leader Royal Air Force Lakenheath, UK Jul 2005 – Jul 2009

Additional Duties: Acting Surgical Operations Squadron Commander - 2008-2009

Element Leader, Flight Medicine Flight Andrews Air Force Base, MD Jul 2009 – May 2001

Additional Duties: Staff Flight Surgeon

Deputy Program Manager MILSTAR Shelter Program Tinker Air Force Base, OK Jul 1992 – Aug 1994

Additional Duties: Training Officer and Acting Budget Officer, Military Strategic Tactical Relay (MILSTAR)

Obtained Level 1 Certification in four acquisition training programs: Program Management, Logistics, Communications/Computer Systems, and Systems Planning, R&D, and Engineering

#### **Memberships and Offices Held /Academy and other societies:**

##### **AAO-HNSF:**

Board of Directors, Director At-Large for Private Practice, Oct 2019 – Oct 2023 (Executive Committee Oct 2022 – Oct 2023)

Member, Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee Oct 2022 to present

Member DEI subcommittee task force Nov 2023 to present

Member, Women in Otolaryngology Leadership Development and Mentorship Committee, Oct 2022 to present

Member, Otolaryngology Private Practice Section (OPPS) – Oct 2023 to present

OPPS Business of Medicine Committee – present

Member, Credentials and Membership Committee 2023 to present

Member, Private Practice Study Group 2021-2023

Member, Articles of Incorporation and ByLaws Committee 2022-2023 (Revisions for Academy and Foundation bylaws)

Member, Credentials and Membership Committee 2023 to present

Member, Audit Committee 2020-2023

Chair, Trauma Committee Oct 2019 - 2021

Chair-elect, Trauma Committee, Oct 2018 - Oct 2019; Member, Trauma Committee, Oct 2016 - Oct 2018

Board of Governors, Society Representative for Society of Military Otolaryngologists, AAO-HNSF 2019 – present

OTO-HNS Journal Editor-in-Chief Search Committee 2021/2022

Education Coordinator Search Committee 2022

**Others:** Board of Directors, Society of Military Otolaryngologists (SMO) 2018 - present

President, Society of Military Otolaryngologists (SMO) 2017- 2018; Vice President, SMO Treasurer 2015 – 2016; Secretary, SMO 2014 - 2015

Candidate for Fellowship, Triological Society;

Member, National Medical Association; Member, Harry Barnes Society

Fellow, American College of Surgeons

ENT PAC donor & member

State Trackers Advocacy member representing Nevada (elevate/discuss/communicate state/national advocacy issues)

Ex Officio Member, National Institutes of Health National Deafness and other Communication Disorders Advisory Council

Jan 2019 - 2021

Chair, Hearing Restoration Research Program Panel DoD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program

2017 to 2021

Chair, Collaborative Auditory and Vestibular Research Network, 2017 – 2021

Consultant, Office of Naval Research & United States Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory; Pharmaceutical

Interventions for Noise Induced Hearing Loss Working Group Integrated Program 2017-2021

#### **Honors/Awards:**

AAO-HNSF Honor Award 2022

Legion of Merit Medal 2021

Continental Who's Who 2022

Women in Medicine Top Docs 2021

Defense Meritorious Service Medal 2020

Special Experience Identifier (MF) - Master Clinician/Excellence in Clinical/Academic Teaching  
Special Experience Identifier (H) Chief Consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General  
Meritorious Service Medal 2009, 2014, 2012, and 2016  
Army Commendation Medal 2008  
Field Grade Officer of the Quarter Medical Operations Squadron 2007  
Texas Otolaryngology Research Award First Place May 2005  
Society of Air Force Clinical Surgeons (SAFCS) Otolaryngology Section Research Award Apr 2, 2003  
U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal 2001  
Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges 1997 - 1998  
Outstanding Academic Performance Award Gross Anatomy 1995  
U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal 1994  
Headquarters CSC Booster Club Appreciation Award 1994  
Dean's List United States Military Academy (USMA 1988-1992)

**Community Service:** Las Vegas Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Member (Membership Services Committee, Voter Registration Advocacy/ Assistance, Breast Cancer Awareness, Suicide Prevention and STEM Activities)  
Volunteer Task Group Chair, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Science & Technology Organization Human Factors in Medicine 285 Speech Understanding of English Language in Accented Speech 2021- present  
Volunteer Administrator Society of Military Otolaryngologists (SMO) 2019- present

**Regional/Local Hospital Participation:**

Task Group Chair, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Science & Technology Organization Human Factors in Medicine – 285 Speech Understanding of English Language in Native and Non-Native Speakers/Listeners in NATO with/without Hearing Deficits September 2021 to present  
Teaching Faculty, Mountain View Medical Center General Surgery Residency Program, Las Vegas, NV 2021- present  
Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, USUHS – Appointment November 2020 - current  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, UT Health San Antonio, University of Texas Health Science Center of San Antonio September 2020 to present (expires 2024)  
Advanced Trauma Life Support Instructor USUHS, Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute, Brooke Army Medical Center (volunteer 2021 - present)

**Summation of Published Works Within the Specialty:**

Tonn, CR, Ward, ML, Abadie, WM, Lally, JW, Bevans, SE, Henry, LR. Military Injuries to the Head and Neck – Implications for Practice in Resource Constrained Environments. *Operative Techniques in Otolaryngology*, 2020; 31:339-352.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.otot.2020.10.012> Senior and Corresponding Author

Henry, LR, Gal, TJ, Mair, EA. Does Increased Electrocautery During Adenoidectomy Lead to Neck Pain? *Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery*, 2005; 133:556-561.

Henry, LR, Danaher, PJ, Boseley, ME. Laryngeal Sporotrichosis Mimicking Recurrent Merkel Cell Carcinoma. *Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery*, 2005; 132:336-338.

Henry, Maj LR, Packer, Maj MD, Brennan, Col J. Airway Obstructing Laryngeal Candidiasis in an Immunocompetent Host. *Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery*, 2005; 133:808-810.

**BOOK CHAPTER**

Henry LR, Andrews JN, Mitchell J. Salivary Gland and Duct Injuries. In: *Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Combat Casualty Care in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, a Textbook of Military Medicine*. The Borden Institute, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School. December 2015. p. 227-238