

**J Adam Rindfleisch, MPhil, MD**

**University of Wisconsin**

**Briefly describe why you are interested in being considered as a candidate for the Board of Directors.**

Like so many of us, I believe that Integrative Health is the future of medicine. For over 20 years, the Consortium has anchored our shared vision and brought us together to support health care transformation. I would like to give back to this amazing community. For the past 20 years, I have been working to build bridges at my home institution and in VA facilities around the country. This is an opportunity to do that in another forum. I have had the pleasure of getting to know a large number of the consortium members - they are friends and valued colleagues, and I want to deepen my connection to our group.

**Summarize your involvement to date in the Academic Consortium.**

I started attending Consortium meetings in 2005, as a fellow, when our organization joined the Consortium. I have been involved in the Education Interest group over the years, presented at various conferences, and more specifically, I have been involved in efforts to outline Integrative Health learning objectives/competencies and fellowship accreditation protocols. I have attended national meetings and the IM Congress as often as possible over the years.

**Please describe the experiences and expertise you bring that will be an asset to the Academic Consortium.**

I directed an Integrative Health fellowship for eleven years and one of the largest Integrative Health departments in the country for the past four. I designed multiple courses for clinicians in the VA around the Whole Health model of care, which is closely linked to Integrative Medicine. Over the next few years, I will be helping to create a new Integrative Health focused medical school and inter-professional certification programs. I have had the pleasure of doing a lot of writing and presenting around Integrative Health topics over the years, to learners at all levels, and I am committed to making education in Integrative Health as effective as possible.

**Please describe your vision for the field and the role you believe the Academic Consortium must play to achieve the vision.**

I love that we are fast becoming a global organization. I want to see us continue to be a close-knit community, even as we grow. My vision for our field, especially in this era of the COVID pandemic and heightened awareness of the fundamental importance of the social determinants of health, is that the Consortium can lead the way in demonstrating how to offer the sort of care - preventive, inclusive, holistic, responsible, respectful - that the world needs now more than ever.