



South Central is excited to kick off our 2022-2023 Board Features by introducing Alice J Chen, MD, PhD of Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies as our President.

QUESTION: Why did you decide to get more involved with SCABB through service on a committee and/or the Board of Directors?

ANSWER: My first committee to join was the Technical and Scientific Committee, and I wanted the opportunity to work more closely with respected experts in the field, as well as participate in the development of the program track for the annual meeting. I have found that to be one of the best ways to stay current on new trends in the field! I decided to become involved with the Board of Directors because I think South Central offers a unique environment for collaborations and connections, and I wanted to be part of the success and growth of the organization. One bonus of serving on the Board has been learning about how associations are structured and operate, especially in cross-functional teams!

QUESTION: What is something you love to do outside of work?

ANSWER: I love to travel to places off the beaten path, seeing new biomes and experiencing different cultures. I always travel with my family, so my kids can also be exposed to the world beyond their daily existence. During COVID, obviously we didn't travel, and my passport actually expired, but I've just gotten it renewed, and hopefully this summer we'll be on a road trip across the permafrost in Canada, driving to the Arctic Ocean and learning about the Inuvialuit culture.

QUESTION: If you could share just one benefit of SCABB membership with a non-member, what would it be?

ANSWER: No question, the ability to network with some of the most respected individuals and institutions in the field and industry. The interactions that are possible through South Central are very personal and much more in depth than usual. I will always remember being seated next to Dr. Louis Katz at a South Central dinner, having never met him in person before, and having a wonderful, broad-ranging conversation extending through the entire meal! Plus, SCABB has that southern friendliness characteristic down pat.