



## **2021 Election for Board Treasurer**

### **Candidate**

Neil Sarkar

### **Professional Title And Affiliation**

President & CEO, Rhode Island Quality Institute; Associate Professor, Brown University

### **Personal Statement**

AMIA has been my professional home for more than two decades. I am a biomedical informatician with interests and experience spanning the full spectrum of the field, from translational bioinformatics to public health informatics. My involvement with AMIA has included creation and leading of working groups, committees, and the Board of Directors (serving as Treasurer since 2020). As a member of the AMIA Audit Committee, I have a working knowledge of AMIA's financials and the necessary experience to serve as treasurer. As your Treasurer, I have been committed to preserving the financial health of our organization and identifying ways to support strategic investments to continue improving the value of AMIA to its members. This was essential as I worked with the financial planning task force to guide decisions in leading AMIA through the complex financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic on an organization dependent on conference-based revenue. If elected to another term, I will work closely with the new CEO to develop a diverse funding strategy to further ensure the long-term financial health of the organization and ensure the AMIA continues its growth in services and resources to best serve our community of biomedical and health informaticians.

### **Informatics Interests**

Translational Bioinformatics

Clinical Informatics

Public Policy

Informatics Education, from High School to Post-Graduate

### **AMIA Engagement and Participation**

Treasurer, AMIA Board of Directors

Editor-In-Chief, JAMIA Open

Chair, Scientific Program Committee, 2017 AMIA Annual Symposium

Director, AMIA Board of Directors

Chair, Audit Committee

Co-Founder, AMIA High School Scholars Program

Member, AMIA Audit Committee

Chair, AMIA Education Committee

Member, AMIA Meetings Committee

Member, AMIA Public Policy Committee  
SPC Member, 2012 AMIA Annual Symposium  
Founding Chair, AMIA Regional Informatics Action Working Group  
Founding Track Chair, AMIA Summit on Translational Bioinformatics  
SPC Chair, 2011 AMIA Summit on Translational Bioinformatics  
Regular Participant at AMIA's "Hill Day"  
Editorial Board Member, JAMIA  
Editorial Board Member, Journal of Biomedical Informatics

### **Participation in other organizations**

Member, Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative  
Editorial Board Member, Briefings in Bioinformatics  
Associate Editor, Methods of Information in Medicine  
Member, ISCB Conferences Committee  
Chair, Data Analysis Working Group, Consortium for the Barcode of Life

### **Education and Experience**

1999	BSc	Microbiology	Michigan State University
2004	PhD	Biomedical Informatics	Columbia University
2008	MLIS	Library Science	Syracuse University
2016	ScM	Ad eundem	Brown University

### **Recent Publications**

(selected from over 130)

1: Lai J, Sarkar IN. A Phylogenetic Approach to Analyze the Conservativeness of BRCA1 and BRCA2 Mutations. AMIA Annu Symp Proc. 2021 Jan 25;2020:677-686. PMID: 33936442; PMCID: PMC8075528.

2: Eisman AS, Shah NR, Eickhoff C, Zerveas G, Chen ES, Wu WC, Sarkar IN. Extracting Angina Symptoms from Clinical Notes Using Pre-Trained Transformer Architectures. AMIA Annu Symp Proc. 2021 Jan 25;2020:412-421. PMID: 33936414; PMCID: PMC8075440.

3: Shah NR, Eisman AS, Winchester DE, Morrison AR, Qureshi R, Sarkar IN, Wu WC. E-Consult Protocols to Improve the Quality of Cardiac Stress Tests. JACC Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb;14(2):512-514. doi: 10.1016/j.jcmg.2020.08.009. Epub 2020 Sep 30. PMID: 33011119; PMCID: PMC8045139.

4: Bardenheier BH, Gravenstein S, Blackman C, Gutman R, Sarkar IN, Feifer RA, White EM, McConeghy K, Nanda A, Mor V. Adverse events following mRNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccination among U.S. nursing home residents. Vaccine. 2021 Jun 29;39(29):3844-3851. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2021.05.088. Epub 2021 May 28. PMID: 34092431; PMCID: PMC8162901.

5: Karagounis S, Sarkar IN, Chen ES. Coding Free-Text Chief Complaints from a Health Information Exchange: A Preliminary Study. AMIA Annu Symp Proc. 2021 Jan 25;2020:638-647. PMID: 33936438; PMCID: PMC8075463.

### **Honors and Awards**

- 1999 Medical Informatics Training Fellowship, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health
- 2001 Summer Research Fellowship, Lister Hill Center for Biomedical Communications, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health
- 2003 International Lipari School Scholarship, Italian Ministry of Research and Universities
- 2006 Donald A.B. Lindberg Research Fellowship, Medical Library Association
- 2008 Award of Recognition for “outstanding contributions to the launch and success of the Encyclopedia of Life Project,” Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
- 2009 Beta Phi Mu (International Society for Librarianship and Information Science)
- 2011 AMIA Distinguished Paper (for two submissions)
- 2014 IBM Faculty Award IBM
- 2014 Elected Fellow, American College of Medical Informatics (ACMI)
- 2019 AMIA Leadership Award

### **Evidence of Strategic Thinking/Experience in Activities of AMIA or another non-profit or institution**

I have experience in strategic thinking and leadership in multiple contexts. I was a member of the Board during its last two strategic planning sessions that have resulted in AMIA’s strategic plans. I was the founding director for a university center at Brown University that engaged academic, clinical, and government partners to develop a sustainable statewide informatics program. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer for Rhode Island’s only state-designated Regional Health Information Organization, where I have led the development of its five-year strategic plan. Finally, I am a member of several statewide initiatives in Rhode Island that involve developing strategy for leveraging electronic health data to support healthcare delivery reform, including the Long Term Health Plan for Rhode Island and the Health Information Technology Steering Committee.

### **Contributions to Activities that Support Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

I am proud to have been a loud voice in support of DEI programs and initiatives in AMIA. Healthcare delivery reform depends on DEI, as in my own work to address health inequities in Rhode Island (focusing on Hispanic/Latinx communities). My focused initiatives have included development and deployment of health information technology solutions to address challenges faced by federally qualified health centers and free clinics, as well as ensuring the involvement of patient perspectives that consider cultural barriers. At my own organization, I have engaged my staff in an intensive, nearly yearlong education and training in DEI, which is also included as a key component of our strategic plan. I firmly believe that purpose-driven DEI initiatives position AMIA and its membership to support truly inclusive healthcare delivery reform for our nation.