

## Thoracic Education Cooperative Group (TECoG) Summary Report 2021

### Committee Members

Ikenna Okereke succeeded David Odell as Chair of TECoG. Kirsten Freeman was appointed Vice-Chair of TECoG. Brian Mitzman was appointed as secretary/treasurer of TECoG.

### Academic Productivity

TECoG was responsible for two publications last year concerning the role of virtual interviews during the cardiothoracic residency application process. Given that this format was newly instituted by cardiothoracic programs due to the pandemic, TECoG queried applicants over two seasons of the match process. The references are listed below.

1. Taylor M, Wallen T, Mehaffey J, Shirafkan A, Brescia A, Freeman K, Louis C, Watson J, **Okereke IC**. Interviews During the Pandemic: A Thoracic Education Cooperative Group and Surgery Residents Project. *Ann Thor Surg* 2021 in press. Impact Factor 3.919
2. Taylor M, Freeman K, Mehaffey JH, Wallen T, **Okereke IC**. Applicant Perception of Virtual Interviews in Cardiothoracic Surgery: A Thoracic Education Cooperative Group Study. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2021 in press. Impact Factor 5.261

### Mentoring

TECoG has developed a mentoring relationship with the Thoracic Surgery Residents Association (TSRA). TECoG will assist TSRA members with projects and begin their involvement early in the process. We feel that this mentorship will be educational for TSRA members and support their academic yield.