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## 2020 Auditor General Questionnaire

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### CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

Candidate Name: **Nina Ahmad**

Office Sought: **Auditor General**

I have read the attached questionnaire responses and certify that the information provided is accurate and the opinions stated accurately reflect my own positions.

Candidate Signature:  Date: 2/14/2020

Please complete, sign and return this form via email in Word format to [info@phillynn.org](mailto:info@phillynn.org)

and mail or fax a copy of the signature page to

Gloria Gilman  
121 South Broad Street Suite 1720  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
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**I. BACKGROUND – PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR CURRICULUM VITAE AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:**

1. What, if any, elected or appointed government office(s) have you held?  
I served as the Committeeperson for the 9th Ward, 2nd Division from 2010 until early 2016 at which point, I had to resign when I was appointed as a Deputy Mayor for the City of Philadelphia.
2. If you have previously held a government office(s), state:
  - a. the name(s) of the office(s) and dates served: Philadelphia Deputy Mayor for Public Engagement; January 2016 to November 2017
  - b. The primary issue areas with which you were involved?

I established the first Office of Public Engagement (OPE) in a Philadelphia administration. OPE was tasked (1) To make government inclusive, transparent, accountable and responsible. This required OPE to be intersectional in its activities with other departments serving as a bridge to communities. Examples of such work included working with the Planning department in RCO applications for community groups as well as the Department of Transportation to have community impacted by roadway improvement participate in focus groups to get accurate reflection of problems to be corrected. OPE served as a conduit for connecting communities to their government (2) OPE created and coordinated opportunities for direct dialogue between the Administration and the public, while bringing new and diverse voices to the table and ensuring that everyone can participate and inform the work of the Administration , providing oversight and overseeing specific Boards and Commissions including the Office of Black Male Engagement (with oversight over the Mayor's Commission on African American Males), the Office of Youth Engagement (with oversight over the Philadelphia Youth Commission), the Office of Engagement with Women (with oversight over the Philadelphia Commission for Women), Millennial Advisory Committee, and the Mayor's Commission on Asian American Affairs (3) As a Cabinet member, I was part of a team which engaged with assessing, giving feedback and producing some deliverables on broad initiatives such as Universal Pre-K and Community Schools as well as finding efficiencies during budget periods.

- c. Your main accomplishments: (As Deputy Mayor)
  - i. Establishing the first Department of Public Engagement and its various offices.
  - ii. Operationalizing the Philadelphia Women's Commission created by amendment of the Home Rule Charter.

- iii. Establishing the Annual Philadelphia Summit for women and Girls; issuing the annual data driven “State of Women and Girls” report.
  - iv. Creating the first Millennial Advisory Committee with a very transparent process of selection of members. We received over 400 applications for 21 slots.
  - v. Playstreet Book Club, a summer reading program during the month of July, in collaboration with USDA to participating in outdoor summer meal sites. The initiative distributed 1,700 free take-home books to more than 350 children at 13 participating sites during the month-long program.
  - vi. My Brother’s Keeper Philly (within the Office of Black Male Engagement) and the White House (My Brother’s Keeper National) sponsored an Implicit Bias training at City Hall which was highly interactive, involved introspective exercises, and small group dialogue of difficult topics.
3. What about your background qualifies you to hold this office, including any civic activity that you may have been involved with over your adult life?

As a scientist (University of Pennsylvania, Ph.D. in Chemistry; Molecular Genetics Postdoc at Thomas Jefferson Univ.), I am trained to understand the value of data and the power of analysis. I’ve brought that skill set to every position I’ve held. As Deputy Mayor for Public Engagement, I focused on ensuring that community voices were represented in every aspect of our public policy. As a Cabinet member I was tasked to find efficiencies in our \$4 billion operating budget. I served for 9 years on the Board of the Philadelphia Foundation. As a member of the Investment Committee, we had to safeguard the \$550 million endowment while making responsible investment choices. As the Chair of Grant making Committee, I had the fiduciary oversight of \$40+ million given out in grants and responsible. Being appointed by President Obama to his Asian American & Pacific Islander Commission was a great honor and I learned the importance of representation as government shapes public policy. I worked on Nail salon worker safety, antibullying in schools and disproportionate deportation in some Asian American communities. I currently serve on the National Board of the National Organization for Women. I was a local Chapter President in Philly. As a current Board Member of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and the former Chapter President in Philly I have worked to end sexual harassment and to level the playing field for marginalized communities, advocating for living wage, working conditions and a fair and just work environment for those in low wage jobs.

4. What three things would you most want to accomplish if elected?

The substantive issues that I am focusing on are Healthcare, Education, and Gun Violence. These are all informed by the overall theme of my campaign which is accountability and transparency and the understanding that the taxpayers end up paying more if we ignore the problems that perpetuate inequality and injustice. I will take on Big Pharma to lower costs on life saving medicines with a focus on Pharmacy Benefits manager to increase efficiencies, protect and increase education funding to make sure our students have the best education in safe and healthy environments, and fight the NRA, by giving lawmakers the data they need to pass tough new gun laws.

5. What is your evaluation of the current Auditor General in the performance of his duties? I will continue some of the excellent work started by the current Auditor General particularly in the areas of the closure of the Berks family detention center, climate change and Pharmacy Benefit management contracting. These issues will need continued monitoring and advocacy to bring about lasting and substantive changes.
6. What do you understand the powers of the Auditor General to be, and would you seek to change them in any way?

The Auditor General is part of the Executive branch along with the Governor, Attorney General and State Treasurer in Pennsylvania. The Auditor General along with being a fiscal watch dog also assesses the implementation of public policy via performance audits. As a data repository of financial performance of all state departments and institutions receiving State and federal funding, this office has the unique opportunity to generate public policy information to support the legislature in formulating key legislations in gun control, run-away prescription costs, and increased school funding. I will show clearly with data and political leadership that programs and policies which help the most vulnerable, are not just compassionate but fiscally prudent and cost-effective.

Too much happens behind closed doors and in the dark. I'm going to restore trust in government by letting in the light. My approach to conducting audits and investigations will be much more intersectional and holistic. In order to truly discover inefficiencies and deficits. I will be assessing and modifying the nature and focus of the current audits. For example, human trafficking is closely linked to children in foster care. As Auditor General, I will put this specific lens on the audits of Child and Youth Services. Also, the current auditing of Department of Corrections has been too limited to only tracking incidents of violence perpetrated by inmates, while ignoring an accounting of the resources necessary for rehabilitation of the inmates. And WHYY recently exposed that women in jails are paying

twice as much for tampons as they would if not incarcerated. The human rights as well as health violations must be rectified and funds need to be identified to resolve this atrocity.

7. What is your strategy to win this race, including all relevant organizational, financial and grass-roots components?

Of all the potential candidates currently identified in this race, I am the only one who has recently run statewide, where I came in second with 184,429 votes in my campaign for Lt. Governor in 2018. In that 5-person race, I captured 23% of the vote, winning in 16 counties; all done in 11 weeks. I won both the Philadelphia and Harrisburg media markets and came in 2nd in the Scranton and Pittsburgh markets. These markets represent 90 percent of the state's Democratic primary voters. My own results of the 2018 Primary show that PA is ready and hungry for change. The winning formula for me in 2020 is my unique story, science background, bold progressive record, a statewide voter and donor base coupled with the electorate's desire for new leadership. Additionally, I am the only candidate from Philadelphia and Southeast PA, a significant advantage in the voter rich area.

In my 2018 race I was able to appeal to urban, suburban, industrial and rural voters. I plan to build on that statewide recognition as I look to expand my tent to include more organizations, particularly in the area of organized labor. I already have organizational support from some of the trade unions and am working to convert that to outright endorsements with direct financial resources. I am also applying to public sector unions and a variety of grass roots organizations who have statewide presence.

## **II. INTRODUCTION**

Although many of the questions below call for a simple yes or no answer, please feel free to provide an explanation for any of your choices. If you have not yet come to a final decision, please state which way you are leaning and what additional information you would need before deciding, if any.

## **III. QUESTIONS**

1. The Auditor General in the past has issued a number of Special Reports (based on audits) that address economic and social issues – e.g., the high cost of prescription drugs in Pa., cost of climate change in Pa.; workforce development. What are the top three issues you would target in audits and Special Reports?

The substantive top three issues that I would focus for Special Reports (based on audits) on are Healthcare, climate change and intersect that with workforce development. Why the Department of Human Services reported that it paid pharmacy benefit managers \$2.84 billion in 2017, compared with \$1.8 billion in 2013 will be a starting point. The current AG issued a report on the cost of climate change noting that last year there were \$261 million in statewide costs related to severe weather events. I would like to pivot to work on cost benefit analysis of the transition to green energy, what job creation and re-skilling will be needed for an equitable transition so no worker is left behind and there is a pragmatic transition so that PA achieves a robust economy with labor union jobs. Such a report should facilitate a conversation with Labor and environmentalists amongst other stakeholders to craft a strategic direction for Pennsylvania.

What power does the Auditor General have relating to the City of Philadelphia, the School District, and their related entities?

The Auditor General has the power to conduct performance audits for any entity receiving state funds. This most certainly includes the School District as well as the City of Philadelphia and other related entities.

2. Would you be interested in auditing the State Revenue Dept with a focus on the extent to which it maximizes collection of corporate and other taxes that fall on high-income taxpayers?

Yes. I oppose what is commonly referred to as the Delaware loophole. [If we are going to get our economy back on track, corporations must pay their share of taxes like the rest of us. Only then will we be able to invest in strong schools and other building blocks of our economy.](#)

3. Do you believe you would have the power to analyze whether the State, and the City of Philadelphia, maximize the return they get on funds within their control and whether they could be enhanced by moving funds into a public bank? Would you pledge to conduct such a study?

Yes. I would be very interested in expanding the study to explore the option of a state public bank. Given that the Commonwealth is already involved in a form of public bank for funding transportation infrastructure projects through its Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB) revolving loan fund, there is precedent to support broader public banking platforms both at the State and City levels. I will support with data and performance audits of treasury functions at State and City levels that public banks can play a significant role in reducing cost of borrowing, increase supply of low-cost financing through loan participations, reduce overhead costs in certain treasury functions, and increase returns on short term deposits and reserves that are now held at large commercial banks with very little returns. I will support the Commonwealth and large municipalities like the City of Philadelphia to take a

leadership role in establishing a public bank, which over time, can also offer consumer products funded through interest costs savings and improved returns and meet the demands of the un-banked and under-banked communities in the City and the Commonwealth.

4. Would you commit to doing a financial or performance audit of the new voting machines in Philadelphia and of the process used to select these machines? [Yes.](#)
5. Would you commit to a performance audit of the Philadelphia Pension Fund's engagement of private managers to determine if the pension investments further or detract from the City's policies on the environment, reducing poverty, public health, affordable housing, and living wage?

Yes. The issue of pension investments and the costs of private managers are critical both at the City and state pension systems. I will support performance audits with an eye towards best practices around the country that have cut private money manager costs by moving some portion of the investments into indexed funds; commit to a double bottom-line Asset allocation strategy that commits to prudent investments in environment, poverty alleviation, public health, affordable housing and small business development.

6. Do you believe you have the power to audit the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation and would you do it?

Yes, any entity that receives funding from the Commonwealth is subject to audits by the Auditor General. PIDC and its subsidiary Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development (PAID), are both recipients of various State funded programs including the most known Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP).

7. Would you commit to a performance audit of the Dept of Environmental Resources, specifically regarding its enforcement of fracking regulations?

Yes. As an elected official in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I will have a Constitutional obligation to protect our environment for current and future generations. To the extent that fracking threatens our current and future environmental quality, it will be my responsibility to examine all aspects of appropriate regulation enforcement as well as the financial consequences to our state and its residents.

8. Would you commit to conducting an audit of the personnel practices of selected State offices to determine if, and the extent to which, personnel practices are conducted in a nondiscriminatory manner?

Absolutely. This issue has always been a lynchpin of my political activism. As the former chair of Philadelphia NOW I worked against sexism and sexual

harassment in the workplace and by those in public office or public service. As an immigrant and person of color I am keenly aware of the impact of employment discrimination in our society. Our state government and local governments must set the standard of good and fair conduct in the workplace.

9. What role, if any, do you see the Office of Auditor General playing on issues for economic, social and racial justice?

If elected I will be the only woman and person of color in the Executive branch of our state government. This in and of itself sends a clear message of a move towards inclusion and equity. But beyond that I will use my role as the chief financial watchdog, data collector and independent investigator to promote initiatives that are both good economically and address the vast economic and racial disparities that are still so prevalent today.

10. As a general matter, why should it matter to progressives, poor people, people of color and marginalized communities, who wins this office?

My lived experience as a brown woman, immigrating to the US from the war-torn country of Bangladesh and my ongoing commitment to progressive issues, civic engagement and activism, are a critical lens that is missing from the current political leadership. Diversity, inclusion and equity are not just the right thing to do, but something that benefits all of society.

11. How would you bring more public attention to the results of your audits and reports?

As a former Deputy Mayor, establishing Philadelphia's first Office of Public Engagement I have the track record and commitment to engaging communities on public policy issues. My role was always to bring diverse and marginalized groups together to learn how to participate in the democratic process and empower them to improve their own communities. As Auditor General I will use the same methodology to bring information and attention to my audits and reports.



testimony. Dr. Ahmad is a Court qualified Expert Witness in Forensic DNA Analysis and as a Forensic DNA Consultant provides testimony as well as reviews DNA typing results and interpretation (due to Presidential appointment, this effort was put on hold).

Assistant Professor and  
Director of Molecular Biology  
Research Division  
Wills Eye Hospital  
September 1992 to December 2005.

Assistant Professor  
Department of Ophthalmology  
Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
1994 to 2005.

Responsible for developing independent self-sufficient research program in molecular genetics of ocular disorders including collagen related diseases and ocular tumors; developing broad based research collaborations involving clinical and research environments; supervising and training Research Fellows, technicians and medical students doing Research rotations.

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
November 1989 to August 1992.

Investigating the molecular basis of inherited diseases involving type II collagen, specifically the Stickler syndrome (Arthro-ophthalmopathy). This is an autosomal dominant disease with ocular, orofacial and skeletal manifestations and presenting a variable phenotype. Application of state of the art molecular biology technology including: Genetic linkage analyses of Stickler pedigrees; preparation of human genomic DNA cosmid libraries, screening of libraries, Southern blot DNA analyses; cloning and sequencing of double standard plasmid DNA; Allele-specific oligonucleotide hybridization; primers design for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) amplification from genomic DNA; direct sequencing of PCR products; adaptation to robotic workstation (Beckman-Biomek 1000) for rapid screening of patient DNA. Establishing criteria for pedigree selection and world-wide sample collection.

Training and supervision of laboratory technician in basic biochemical and molecular biology techniques; direction and supervision of senior research project of pre-medical student from Haverford College, Pennsylvania; training visiting research fellow from United Kingdom.

#### **BOARD AFFILIATIONS**

Board Member, National Organization of Women (2018-present)  
Board member (2011-2019) and Grant Committee Chair, 2013; Member, Investment Committee, The Philadelphia Foundation (2012-2019)  
Founding member 2010-2011, Asian Mosaic Fund (Grant Committee Co-Chair & currently Advisor to the Fund)  
Board Member & Vice Chair, Women's Campaign International (2013-present)  
Commissioner, President Obama's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders (May 2014-2016)

#### **ELECTED POSITIONS**

Committee Member (2nd Division, Ward 9), Philadelphia Democratic Party (2010-2016)

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Ahmad's involvement in the community and specifically Philanthropy is expansive. In addition to the boards listed above, Dr. Ahmad serves on the Richardson Dilworth Award Selection Panel, which acknowledges and rewards outstanding contributions by City of Philadelphia public servants and was on the Taskforce for Racial and Cultural Harmony of the School District of Philadelphia. Dr. Ahmad is a recognized leader amongst Pennsylvania's critical stakeholders in government, private, non-profit, creative and grassroots sectors. Hence, she has been invited by the White House Office of Public Engagement to participate in multiple roundtables over the last few years. Dr. Ahmad has used her analytical skills to create a culture of participation amongst underrepresented groups, including Philadelphia's immigrant community. Using the approach of Micro-targeting and engaging specific audiences, her approach encourages niche groups to participate in the larger community and be empowered in ways that honor their individuality and strengthen their role in their communities for long-term sustainability. The ultimate goal is to foster a culture of participation and create access to resources.

Under her leadership, the City of Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Asian American Affairs (MCAAA) was extremely successful in establishing a broad Pan-Asian outreach platform and addressing issues pertaining to this multiethnic community. The Commission partnered with South East Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA) to host an extremely successful Job fair for the entire community in April 2014. Not only did this event result in job placement for many who have been struggling in this recovering economy, it also created a pipeline of potential employees who are tweaking their skill sets to be eligible for future jobs. The Commission was active in participating in business and trade organizations as well as economic policy institutions, highlighting the role of Asian Americans play in driving the economy as small business owners and their participation in all sectors of American life. Dr. Ahmad has delivered keynote speeches at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the Bangladesh Taxi of Greater Philadelphia, and participated in national discussion on the growing national debt: *Our Budget, Our Economy*' National Town Meeting, organized by *AmericaSpeaks*. She was a key participant in the Economic Roundtable discussion in collaboration with the Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell, the Mayor's Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs and the Commerce Department with featured guests Ambassador David Wu of the Republic of Vanuatu and Mr. Cheng Bi, President & CEO, Yuantong Worldwide Education & Culture Enterprise Group, People's Republic of China. She has expanded such cross-cultural transactions and helped create forums for global exchange of ideas on business, trade, cultural and educational exchange with important partners understanding that this is fundamental to the well-being of Philadelphia. The Commission continues to work to assist in fostering a safe and secure environment for all students in Philadelphia; Dr. Ahmad was a member of the Taskforce for Racial and Cultural Harmony of the School District of Philadelphia created in response to the violence at South Philadelphia High School and contributed to the final report to the Superintendent and the School Reform Commission outlining recommendations for effective and sustained focus on diversity awareness, cultural competency, and inclusive excellence. The Commission itself held meetings where stakeholders testified about their best practices, experiences and perspectives in the realm of public education in the City. The new Superintendent, Dr. Hite has been a guest at a recent Commission meeting to establish a working relationship to continue fostering a safe and welcoming environment for all students.

Through her Board membership on Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP), Dr. Ahmad is engaged in framing the national AAPI public/ private partnership to increase investments in AAPI communities. This effort has been seeded by The Ford Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation – who together pledged \$1 million to support an exploratory planning process focused on the development of national public-private partnerships to increase philanthropic investment in the Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. This public/ private partnership is the outcome of National Philanthropic Briefing on the Asian American/Pacific Islander Community, conducted by the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and was intended to leverage and encourage concrete action on public-private partnerships to address a full range of complex social and economic needs in AAPI communities across the country.

Dr. Ahmad was appointed by President Obama to serve on his Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. This Commission, which is charged with the improving the quality of life for AAPIs through increased participation and access to federal programs, advises the President on innovative ways to engage AAPIs across the country. In this capacity, she has been engaged in organizing a AAPI Leaders Summit during the AAPI Heritage month at the White House (May11, 2015) which is convening influential leaders from across the country to solicit feedback, guidance, and future engagement in supporting one of the fastest growing segments of the U.S. population; by 2060, the

AAPI population will more than double to almost 40 million. Other initiatives have included speaking engagements throughout the country de-mystifying the Federal Government as well as engaging communities in workshops with different Federal agencies. The AAPI Heritage Initiative's projects under the auspices of the Department of Interior include the AAPI theme study and AAPI historic site nominations which will capture the contributions of communities to be shared with future generations.

Active in various political campaigns at the local, state and federal levels, Dr. Ahmad focused her outreach efforts on re-election campaign for President Barack Obama as part of AAPI for Obama Leadership Council, PA (OFA-PA). Her expertise is to help candidates present themselves to new/immigrant voting audiences, potentially attract new campaign donors, and ultimately, increase their chances of a win in the elections. She was involved in the historic Sheriff's race as well as the Register of Wills, both of which resulted in African American women winning those seats for the first time in history. She was also involved in turning the tide in Delaware County, which saw total Democratic control of the County Commission after the 2019 elections as well as the very first African American Muslim woman became a Common Pleas judge. Dr. Ahmad attended the Democratic Nation Convention of 2012 as a Delegate at Large of the PA Delegation.

In her very first run for political office as Lt. Governor, she defeated the incumbent Lt. Governor and came in 2nd having only run for 11 weeks. In that short time, in a field of 5, she won 184,429 votes from all 67 counties of PA, won the Philadelphia and Harrisburg media markets, and came in second in the Pittsburgh and Scranton media markets.

She has been a fierce advocate for women and marginalized communities. She was elected to the Board of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 2018 and is the former President of the Philadelphia Chapter of NOW. She works to end sexual harassment and to level the playing field for marginalized communities, advocating for living wage, working conditions and a fair and just work environment for those in low wage jobs.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

2017 Honoree of the City & State PA Inaugural 50 over 50 celebration: Dr. Ahmad was amongst the 50 Pennsylvanians recognized as most influential Pennsylvanians in government, business, culture and social services to have passed the half-century milestone.

2016 Honoree of the Pennsylvania Immigration & Citizenship Coalition. This event on October 19<sup>th</sup> celebrated and highlighted the work of local leaders like Dr. Ahmad across Pennsylvania who facilitate the full participation of immigrant and refugee communities in civic life through language access, voter engagement, and community education.

2016 Honoree of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) at their Annual Spring Celebration on April 21<sup>st</sup> for contribution to the feminist community.

Unsung "SHEro" of the Year Award: Dr. Ahmad was also recognized as one of the outstanding APA Women by the Community Advisory Board of 6ABC-TV at their ceremony on May 22, 2013.

The International Vision Award (2012): The International House of Philadelphia awarded Dr. Ahmad with which honors prominent leaders in the APA community who have had a positive impact on life in the region.

"Detection of retinoblastoma, the most common malignant eye cancer in children"

Principal Investigator: Nilofer Nina Ahmad, Ph.D.

Agency: Pennsylvania Department of Health: Health Research Formula Fund of PA (2002-2005)

The Murray Foundation for Eye Research Award for project titled "Genetic Characterization of Ocular Von Hippel-Lindau Disease", 1997-1998 (\$20,000).

RAE S. UBER TRUST Award for the project titled "The Molecular Mechanism of Stickler Syndrome", 1997 (\$1000.00)

Mellon PSFS Award for the project titled "The Molecular Mechanism of Stickler Syndrome" July 1998 (\$2000)

The Murray Foundation for Eye Research Award for project titled "Genetic Characterization of Ocular Von Hippel-Lindau Disease", 1993, 1994 & 1996 (total: \$30,000).

Elsa U Pardee Foundation Research grant for project titled "Genetic Characterization of Retinoblastoma", December 1995 (\$20,000).

Wills Eye Lions Research Award, September 1995 (\$1000.00).

James A. Shannon Director's Award from National Institutes of Health, for project titled "Molecular Mechanism of the Stickler Syndrome" October 1995 - September 1997 (\$100,000).

Henry and Corinne Bower Retina Fellow, June, 1993 - June, 1994.

Student Fellowship for Fight for Sight, Research Division of Prevent Blindness America for Valla Djafari : Summer 1994 .

Student Fellowship for The Murray Foundation Inc., for Jeffrey Dimascio: Summer 1994.

National Research Service Award from National Institutes of Health for Postdoctoral training in "Developmental Biology", November, 1989 - June, 1992.

Teaching Commendation, University of Pennsylvania, 1985.

American Institute of Chemists Outstanding Senior Award, 1983.

Magna Cum laude, Lawrence Institute of Technology, 1983.

Merit Scholarship, Lawrence Institute of Technology, 1982.

National Merit Scholar, Dhaka Medical College, 1977 to 1979.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Invited member of Lambda Iota Tau (Scholastic Honor Society), Lawrence Institute of Technology

Vice-President, Phi Lambda Upsilon (Honorary Chemical Society), University of Pennsylvania, 1986-87

Association of Women in Science.

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

## **APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor of Research, Wills Eye Hospital, September 1992 to 2005

Director of Molecular Biology, Wills Eye Hospital, September 1995 to 2005.

Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, February 1994 to 2005.

Member, Institutional Review Board, Wills Eye Hospital, August 1994 to 2005.

## PUBLICATIONS

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## LECTURES

Ahmad NN, Ala-Kokko L, Knowlton RG, Weaver EJ, Maguire JI, Tasman W, Prockop DJ. Am J Hum Genet 47:A809. Speaker at the 41st Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics, Cincinnati, Ohio. October 16-20, 1990.

Ahmad NN, McDonald-McGinn DM, Zackai EH, Knowlton RG, LaRossa D, DiMascio J, Prockop DJ: A second mutation in the Type 11 Procollagen Gene (*COL2A1*) causing Stickler syndrome (Arthro-Ophthalmopathy) is also a premature termination codon. Presented at the 12th East Coast Connective Tissue Meeting, Boston, MA, March 27-28, 1992.

Baldwin CT, Harrison DA, Hopkinson I, Buxton PG, Korn RM, Ahmad NN, DiMascio J, Considine EL, Williams CJ and Prockop DJ: Detection of sequence variants in the gene for human Type II procollagen (*COL2A1*) by direct sequencing of polymerase chain reaction-amplified genomic DNA. Presented at the 12th East Coast Connective Tissue Meeting, Boston, MA, March 27-28, 1992.

N.N. Ahmad. Molecular Genetics of Stickler syndrome. Speaker at the Philadelphia Genetics Group, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, April 14, 1992.

N.N. Ahmad. Overview of the Molecular Genetics of the Stickler syndrome. Speaker at the Dept. of Molecular Pathology, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. October 15, 1993.

Ahmad NN, Dimascio J, Knowlton RG, Dua HS and WT Tasman: A single base pair deletion in the non-helical C-terminal end of the type II procollagen gene in a family with the Stickler syndrome (Arthro-ophthalmopathy). Speaker at the Annual Meeting of The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmopathy (ARVO), Sarasota, Florida, May 1-6, 1994.

Ahmad NN, Donoso LA and Shields JA: Rapid screening of a DraI RFLP by PCR to identify segregation patterns in familial retinoblastoma. Speaker at the Wills Eye Hospital 46th Annual Conference, April 21-23, 1994.

Ahmad NN, Tasman WS: Molecular genetics of Stickler's syndrome. Speaker at the Wills Eye Hospital 47th Annual Conference, March 16-18, 1995.

NN Ahmad, DM McDonald-McGinn, P Dixon, EH Zackai and WS Tasman: Rapid PCR based assay to identify mutation in a family with Stickler syndrome: powerful tool for genetic counseling in a syndrome with variably expressed phenotype. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmopathy (ARVO), Sarasota, Florida, May 14-15, 1995.

Ahmad NN, Donoso, LA, Shields JA: Oncogenic point mutation in the Rb1 gene in a family showing incomplete penetrance of retinoblastoma. Presented at the Wills Eye Hospital 49th Annual Conference, March 20-22, 1997.

Ahmad NN, Melo MB, Donoso, LA, Shields JA: Oncogenic point mutation in exon 21 of the Rb1 gene in a family showing incomplete penetrance of retinoblastoma. Speaker at The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmopathy (ARVO), Ft Lauderdale, Florida, May 10-16, 1997; Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis Sci. 38/4:A2103.

Ahmad NN: Invited speaker at Grand Rounds, Department of Neurology, Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia. "Molecular Genetics of VHL", May 30, 1997.

Ahmad NN: Invited speaker at the First American Stickler Conference, University of Iowa, Iowa City. "Overview of the Molecular Genetics of Stickler syndrome", June 6-8, 1997.

Ahmad NN: Invited speaker at the Third Stickler Conference, Manchester, England. "Recent genetic research on Stickler syndrome in the USA", November 8-9, 1997.

Ahmad NN: Invited speaker at the Second American Stickler Conference, Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. "Stickler Syndrome Update", July 11-12, 1998.

Ahmad NN, Libba Affel: "Ocular characterization of transgenic mice with inactivation of col2a1 gene". Wills Eye Hospital Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA. February 18-20, 1999.

Ahmad NN: Molecular Characterization of the VHL gene in retinal angiomas. International Congress of Ocular Oncology. Philadelphia, PA May 2-6, 1999

Invited speaker at the Duane Ophthalmological Society Research Symposium, Jefferson Medical College: Molecular genetics of the Eye. Jan 27, 2003

## **PATENTS**

Methods of detecting a Genetic Predisposition for Osteoarthritis