My first year serving on the American Mensa Committee has been such a pleasure. As a child growing up in and around this organization, my parents instilled the concept that volunteering and leading are often referred to as "serving" for a reason. The bonus of doing that within Mensa is that I get to have a lot of fun along the way.

I have so enjoyed being able to meet more of the fantastic members of Region 6. I have been able to meet with 7 of the 15 groups in this region in the first year of this term and plan to make it to visit the remaining groups in the next year. I have found leaders who are engaged in their groups and consistently seek ways to improve the experience of all of their members.

I want to commend all of the local groups in Region 6, as our region achieved the second highest growth rate in membership through the 2015-16 year. We also had a retention rate of 86.6%, putting us well ahead of the national average. This is very promising in my view, as I believe that the members of Region 6 see the value of Mensa in their lives. Members who are excited about the organization allow us to grow and thrive. I am so excited to continue serving alongside the members and leaders of Region 6. Their new ideas and projects are essential for us to continue our growth trend.