

Candidates' responses to the Q&A are presented in their entirety without changes, edits, or corrections.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATE

Crystal Bricker, MSN, RN, CNOR

- 1.) Surveys of members indicate the most common reason they don't vote is that they feel that they "don't know the candidates." To help the members get to know you better describe something you are passionate about or enjoy doing in your free time.**

Right after I graduated from nursing school I decided I wanted to learn to Crochet. So I took some classes at one of our local craft stores and have been "hooked" ever since. Over the years this has been more than a hobby to me, it has provided a positive outlet for stress and anxiety. The repetition and patterns have a calming effect on me. And as an added bonus, I have something pretty as a result. Over the years I have challenged myself to learn how to read patterns and new unique types of stitches. Quite often the items made are given to others. It's a win-win. I get the benefit of stress relief, and others get something beautiful and hand made just for them.

2.) Describe your most meaningful day in the OR, or in the office, and how it has impacted your current practice, or work, as a nurse.

Within the first year of my career as an OR RN I made the decision that I wanted to become certified. In discussing my plans with other RNs in the department I found several others were interested as well. Who knew my personal career goal would turn into the largest CNOR certification push our department had experienced in years. We went from 1 CNOR RN to 7 RNs obtaining their CNOR. That was 6 years ago and many of us have renewed. That experience sparked my interest in education and helping others achieve their personal professional goals. It inspired me to obtain my Master's degree and am now the NPDS for my department. I enjoy helping staff achieve their professional goals. It is not always easy, but there is truth to the statement when you enjoy what you do, you will never work a day in your life.

3.) Identify the two most important things you feel need to be a part of the candidate selection process.

One of the most important things that should be part of the candidate selection process is diversity. We need to have candidates that come from a variety of backgrounds and



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experiences because the membership is made up of a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences. This allows for more equal representation of the membership at large. It also promotes diversity of thought and perspective as well.

In addition to diversity there needs to be effective teamwork. Narrowing down the list of potential candidates to those who will appear on the final ballot is a team effort. Being able to work well within a group and communicate efficiently is important when taking on that task.