



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

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Karen Y. White-Edwards, MBA, BSN, RN, CNOR

1. Describe what makes you the most qualified candidate for the office of President-elect.

A transformational leader with a passion for new ideas and innovation, my unique experience, skills, and character traits make me the most qualified person for this role.

I have a deep passion for perioperative nursing and a strong commitment to the mission and values of AORN. I have dedicated my career to advancing the practice and standards of perioperative nursing, and I am fully invested in the success and growth of this profession.

I possess strong leadership skills that will enable me to effectively guide and inspire others. Throughout my career, I have held leadership positions within professional organizations and committees, where I have successfully led teams to achieve common goals and drive positive change. I am a strategic thinker and problem solver, seeking innovative solutions to complex issues.



VOTING MATTERS

On the national level, serving on the Board and committees has provided me with a broader perspective of the challenges faced by our profession. Working alongside industry leaders and experts, I have been exposed to a wide range of issues, trends, and best practices that impact our profession nationwide. This exposure has given me the ability to see the bigger picture and understand how different factors interact and influence our profession.

2. How do you plan to engage with our members and stakeholders to ensure their voices are represented in our organization's decision-making processes?

Engaging with members on the local, national, and industry levels requires a multi-faceted approach that involves effective communication, collaboration, and creating meaningful connections.

On the local level, it is important to establish strong relationships with individual members and local chapters. This can be done through regular meetings, events, and workshops that focus on addressing their specific needs and concerns. Actively listening to their feedback, providing resources and support. AORN currently offer Board members Chapter visits in person. Expand virtual



visits as another option, to increase the number of Chapters that receive a Board member visit.

On the national level, utilize communication channels such as newsletters, emails, and online forums to keep members informed about important updates, initiatives, and opportunities for involvement. Encourage participation on a regional level through conferences, seminars, and webinars to help members stay connected and updated on industry trends and advancements. Additionally, establishing committees and task forces with diverse representation from different regions can provide platforms for collaboration and idea sharing.

Engage with industry partners to build mutually beneficial relationships, to better understand their priorities, challenges, and goals. Through bi-annual meetings, networking events, and conferences to provide opportunities to connect with industry partners and strengthen establish partnerships.

3. What activities or interests outside of your professional life do you believe contribute to your overall well-being and your effectiveness as a leader?

In my journey as a leader, I have actively participated in numerous community service organizations and received



VOTING MATTERS

valuable training for diverse leadership roles. These experiences have truly shaped the effectiveness of my leadership involvement.

I have served as a Vice President overseeing programs that create a tangible impact in our communities. Some of these initiatives focused on childhood hunger, empowering families, advocating for social justice, and uplifting our local community through youth leadership. Within these positions, I honed my leadership skills by navigating through different administrations and adapting to varying program initiatives.

Moreover, I have undergone comprehensive leadership development training in a volunteer national organization at the master level. This training, coupled with my active involvement as a delegate in organizations, has allowed me to make a positive impact through program development. It has also equipped me with the ability to effectively collaborate with multiple committees and individuals, organize events, and implement training programs for future leaders.

By cultivating strong relationships, promoting transparency, and providing comprehensive training, I am confident in my ability to lead and support our organization towards greater success. Together, we can



empower our members, strengthen our local chapters,
and drive transformative change within our profession.