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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Lynch, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, 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.

As a member in the health care profession, I have a passion for life-long learning. Pursuing education and certification has fulfilled my interest in knowledge acquisition. Professional organization involvement has been a benefit to me personally. Networking within the profession through committee membership and building professional relationships has been rewarding. In my personal free time, I like to read and partake in crafts such as knitting, quilting, and sewing. Watching movies with my husband and having a family game night with our daughters and their husbands is most enjoyable.

Additionally, I have become a grandmother, so spending time with my grandson and building a relationship with
him has been a new blessing. I am most interested in watching him grow and learn new things. Experiencing him smile, laugh, and grow is so gratifying.

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.

During my tenure as a staff nurse, it was meaningful to me when I was able to connect with patients and their families. Providing education about the perioperative experience and building trusting relationships with the patient when they are most vulnerable, has always been meaningful. Holding the patients hand during induction and being at their side when they awoke from anesthesia was important, and keeping their families notified of progress throughout surgery was essential. I have been in both situations, the anxious patient and the nervous family member, informational updates are vital. Quality and exceptional patient care are critical to superior patient outcomes. As the Associate Director in Surgical Service, I am involved in the meaningful process of evaluating processes and the quality of care provided. Using my past experiences, skills, knowledge, standards, and current role is pivotal in the impact of my current practice and work as a nurse.
3. Identify the two most important things you feel need to be a part of the candidate selection process.

I believe there are many important aspects of selecting the ideal candidate for AORN committees and board appointments. The candidate should have a thorough review of their curriculum vitae (CV) which should highlight advanced education, professional engagement, certification, and commitment to both healthcare and community. Education, skills, and experiences should emphasize the candidate's dedication to the health care profession.

In addition to the CV review, interviews should be conducted to ascertain the candidate’s focus and goal in pursuing a membership on the AORN board and committees. The interview should recognize and categorize the candidate’s qualifications and desire to become a member of the AORN board and committee. The aspiration and appeal of the candidate should match that of AORN’s vision, mission, and values.