



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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Debra C. Callender, DNP, RN, CNOR, CSSM

### **1. Describe what makes you the most qualified candidate for the office of Board of Directors.**

My commitment is to professional development, life-long learning and excellence in nursing practice. I am a servant, and transformational leader who advocates, inspires, encourages others to grow, get involved and have a voice. I advance my leadership knowledge and through advanced studies to support nursing practice, represent AORN practice and our members. I continually advance and utilize my leadership skills to encourage, engage nurses to be involved and become advocates at local and national levels. As a member of the BOD my vision is to represent AORN periOperative practice, through research, professional development for the benefit of our members and all perioperative teams globally. I take pride in upholding AORN standards and practice, as a representative for my team(s), my patients, my community, and those I encounter every step of my journey.

**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?**

I plan to engage members through inclusion and organization's update. This allows opportunities to look through members' telescope, learn their needs and develop successful engagement. It will also actively contribute and participate in our organization's operational, financial, practice, research findings, and historical data when making decisions. Membership engagement increases through, listening to members' contributions, concerns, transparency, and timely feedback. AORN's members are valuable to our organization, as we continue to grow professionally and personally. It will be important to engage with stakeholders to develop sound and effective relationships whereby building our organization's reputation globally. As a member of AORN's BOD I will work on leveraging our stakeholders' insight which will be invaluable to providing and improving products and services, resulting in organizational benefits.

**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?**



As a child, I was passionate about helping others and had a strong desire to be a nurse, or an educator. I am honored to practice in both disciplines. I followed my mother's profession in my early years by becoming a local designer/dressmaker. I designed male, female and children's clothing. I also adopted baking and advanced into catering events. I became a manager and master-baker, prepared breads, cakes, and pastry to ship to other Caribbean islands. By the mid-eighties I was catering events, and I currently bake cakes for weddings, anniversaries and birthday for friends and family. Cooking and baking are my hobbies and stress reliever. I love seeing people enjoy a tasty meal. However, I remained focused on my childhood passion; nursing and education.