



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

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joanne D. Muyco, DNP, RN, NE-BC, CNOR

### **1. Describe what makes you the most qualified candidate for the office of Nominating Committee.**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying perioperative nurses who are passionate about advancing the mission and vision of AORN. I am the most qualified candidate for the Nominating Committee because my experience in numerous AORN initiatives, committees, and specialty assemblies has provided opportunities to collaborate and connect with nurses to better understand perioperative nurses' issues and concerns. I have been able to advocate and identify opportunities where frontline perioperative nurses can become involved with the national organization to advance perioperative nursing. I have also gained insight into how we can create real actionable solutions that perioperative nurses can use to improve their practice and profession. Finally, as a Nurse Scientist, I have used every opportunity to champion perioperative nurses, our roles, and our nursing practice. I am a firm believer that this encourages all in our



profession to take ownership of and celebrate what makes our perioperative specialty unique.

**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?**

It is important to collectively identify opportunities for AORN leadership to create avenues to intimately connect with the membership and hear their concerns. However, it is not enough to simply discuss issues—we must also collaboratively develop solutions and programs that lead to real action. I plan on engaging with members and stakeholders by continuing my involvement with AORN initiatives, committees, and specialty assemblies, advocating for the needs of frontline perioperative nurses and nurse leaders. Additionally, I would try to attend various regional events, conferences, and local chapter meetings to further build connections. Finally, I would advocate for adding additional opportunities for leaders and perioperative nurses to engage with one another throughout the year (e.g., town halls, think tanks, leadership meet-and-greets) to encourage conversations and build connections with members and stakeholders to ensure their needs, issues, and concerns are represented and heard in the national organization.

**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?**

Outside of being a perioperative nurse, my greatest joy is being a mom to my three daughters. My middle daughter, Gemma, is neurodivergent and autistic. I continue to learn every day about how to be the best advocate and champion for neurodiversity acceptance and inclusion. As a Filipino American, I also explore neurodiversity through a cultural lens and how this impacts our journey.

Throughout this experience, I have learned the true meaning of compassion and empathy. I have learned to be open-minded to creative solutions and new ways of thinking. I have been able to translate this into my growth as a perioperative leader. These experiences have helped me to become a leader who can truly advocate for the needs of others, who can share our stories of failures and successes, and who can celebrate even the smallest moments that make what we do as perioperative nurses worth it.