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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Stella Yau, BSN, RN, CNOR

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

Hearing other’s stories and finding ways to share ideas in person, in print, through social media, and on virtual platforms brings me a sense of excitement and joy similar to meeting new lifelong friends. The work of the Nominating Committee centers around finding and presenting the best candidates for our future Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. We can empower members of our global perioperative community to come up with innovative ideas to support our profession while balancing the responsibilities of the organization.  I believe that I can harness my tendency to connect with others to seek out members in our community that will come up with novel ideas and lead us through the evolving landscape before us.

1. **Describe a time when you had to make a difficult and unpopular decision that would affect your staff or colleagues. How did you handle the situation?**

While managing several services, I recognized that it had been years since the preference cards had been reviewed. Knowing that updated cards are the key to communicating the needs for the procedure, I tasked the service leads with reviewing all of their cards with the surgeons. The most common concern from the service leads was the time it would take and the difficulty getting surgeons to review the cards with them. I worked with service department heads to get buy-in from the surgeons so that they would cooperate with the initiative and found administrative time for the service leads to work on their cards. I also aided in reviewing and editing some of the cards. By taking on this project, our team was better able to anticipate the needs for the procedure and help the department to run more efficiently.

1. **Share one life experience, hobby, or fact about you that most people don't know and would be surprised to learn about you.**

A good part of my life has been centered around my parents’ restaurant. I remember being a little kid running around the restaurant asking customers questions, getting to know the regulars, and keeping them company as they ate their meals. When I was old enough, I helped out by cleaning tables, vacuuming, restocking supplies, bagging food, and eventually serving patrons. I learned a lot of great lessons that shaped me to be the person that I am today. Work ethic, customer service, collaboration, communication, efficiency, and critical thinking are all concepts that easily apply to both the restaurant business and healthcare. Now that I think about it, being in that restaurant prepared me for my future as a nurse. I took for granted the memories and experiences my parents and the restaurant gave me. Glad that I now realize the value this place holds in my life.