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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amanda Heitman, BSN, RN, CNOR

1. **What AORN value is the most meaningful to you, and how do your values align with the mission, vision, and values of AORN?**

I believe communication is an essential value of AORN. We must strive to communicate effectively with our members, because without our members what would AORN be? We must communicate to learn what our members need to help make them successful in providing safe quality patient care and in reaching their own personal professional goals. I strive to do this every day with my team as a supervisor educator. I bridge communication with our organizational leadership to help ensure staff are supported and successful in their roles. I want to do the same as a member of the AORN BOD, so that our organization can provide members with the necessary tools to continue their professional development, as leaders both in and out of the OR. I want to help our membership recognize that what they do every day really does matter, and that AORN can help them to succeed.

1. **What trends or changes in perioperative practice do you believe are most important for perioperative nurses and how should the BOD address these?**

Multidisciplinary collaboration within the healthcare network is a growing trend. AORN leaders have done a great job interfacing with a wide range of perioperative professionals. We need to continue to cultivate these relationships for a new generation of AORN members. The BOD plays an important role by helping to mentor the next generation of leaders. I have worked as a perioperative nurse in several different roles in rural and suburban healthcare organizations, and I know maintaining close relationships with different entities i.e. surgeons, anesthesia, surgical technicians, perianesthesia nurses, sterile processing, and vendors is necessary to build a successful organization. As a board member I can bring to the table different ideas from the many aspects of my career. We are a team in the OR, and we need each other to be successful. We need to continue to advance multidisciplinary relationships as we look to the future of our organization.

1. **What motivates you to serve as a member of the AORN BOD? What personal or professional qualities and attributes do you possess that would make you an effective member?**

My passion for perioperative nursing and our future is what motivates me the most. I have been an educator and supervisor, developing and mentoring nurses for over twenty years, while still staying involved clinically as a circulating and scrub nurse providing quality patient care. I love what I do, and I want to continue to share that with others out there on a national level. As a member of the BOD I can reach out to a broader group of nurses that need the encouragement that I have received as a member of this wonderful organization. I want to help them understand that AORN is valuable to their futures. I am ready to support our profession, not only as a knowledgeable perioperative nurse, but as a neutral voice to look at all aspects of our healthcare profession to make a difference for everyone involved in the future of this organization.