

Nominating Committee

Position President Elect-Cathy Collins-Fulea

(Please answer these questions and submit to Maura Christopher and Venay Uecke. Responses will be cut to 150-200 words for quickening)

**After reading the position description, do you still agree that you are interested in running? What makes you interested in this position? What qualifies you for this position?**

I am interested in running for president elect because I believe I can make a difference in our member experience and in the health of the women and families we serve. During previous volunteer roles with ACNM, I demonstrated success collaborating with diverse stakeholders including the CPM community through the USMERA group and ACOG at the national level through numerous committee appointments. I see these two organizations at odds on many issues, yet as a representative among the three in collaborative work ACNM was engaged in, I was able to build bridges in many conversations. Also in my role as Division Head of Midwifery for the Henry Ford Medical Group over the last 28 years I have proven my ability to advance patient care, achieve financial objectives, ensure regulatory compliance, improve patient satisfaction and enhance employee engagement in a large, complex health system. These accomplishments occurred by growing a diverse workforce serving populations routinely challenged by health system inequities.

**Undertaking an elected position is a huge time commitment. Do you see any responsibilities that you might not be able to carry out?**

I do not anticipate any difficulties fulfilling the time commitment or the responsibilities of this position. During my tenure as Vice President of ACNM, there was significant turn over at the national office. I stepped up to fill some of the role responsibilities of the employed staff including serving as the annual meeting planner while continuing with my role as vice president and maintaining my full time position as a director of a large practice. I am excellent at time management and able to prioritize and complete projects well.

**What ACNM Strategic plan commitments best embody your personal philosophy?**

I fully embrace the five ACNM strategic domains as well as the core commitments. I believe diversification and inclusion, leadership development and communication best embody my personal philosophy. We grow stronger by embracing our diversity and assuring everyone is in the circle. This brings new perspectives and ideas to the table that may be view with other lens. We need to invest time in growing strong leaders. I would see my role as inspiring the next generation. Communication has always been at my core. The best plans cannot be successful if you cannot communicate the need and the value of the solution.

**In changing purpose to impact, what tools or skills do you have to promote success?**

The best tools for promoting success in any endeavor, including changing purpose into impact, are empowerment, listening, honesty and transparency. I listen well and can understand a wide variety of perspectives and approaches. I can provide and encourage others to offer novel approaches and differing perspective by waiting for all voices in a through and deliberative process and working toward a solution that everyone will embrace. I am not afraid to ask tough questions, respectfully disagree, or

advocate for meaningful change however I do this respectfully and with compassion for all stakeholders. I can then translate that into action steps that are easy for others to follow.

**What ideas do you have for spreading innovation and improvement?**

The best way to spread innovation and improvement is to create an environment where setbacks are not a failure but a stepping stone on the ladder to success. A culture where people feel safe sharing ideas and trying something different without being judged. A culture where improvement is continuous and the expected norm, not just to fix something that is broken.