

Ballot Questionnaire: Jessica Ellis, Nominating Committee Candidate

Ballot Question 1: What makes you interested in this position? Why are you running for this office?

To gain experience in leadership by sitting on a national committee for ACNM

Ballot Question 2: Visit ACNM's Strategic Plan [HERE](#). What part of the strategic plan embodies your personal philosophy?

My philosophy includes the importance of membership and service in professional organizations such as the American College of Nurse-Midwives. Professional membership allows for a more significant impact on healthcare as a collective voice rather than the voice of an individual. Increasing membership is part of ACNM's strategic plan.

Ballot Question 3: What ideas do you have for enhancing diversity and inclusion?

1. Recruit a diverse cohort of student nurse-midwives.
2. Provide mentorship for underrepresented groups practicing midwifery.
3. Encourage conversation at business meetings to that highlights the different needs of our practicing body of midwives.

Ballot Question 4: What innovation or improvement would you bring to ACNM?

An area of innovation I could bring to ACNM is encouraging the use of individualized care guidelines for labor management. This idea stems from my area of research. I used a nationally representative cohort of women undergoing induction of labor and stratified my outcomes by BMI category. The results of the study showed that women with obesity need a longer time to birth as compared to normal-weight women. I hope to use this data to influence guidelines and policies at the national level. I also feel I bring a perspective on the differing needs of membership that is somewhat unique since I have had the opportunity to work in urban and rural areas in several different states and regions across the nation.