

Ballot Questionnaire: Carolyn Bottone-Post, Nominating Committee

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

I subscribe to the mission, vision and values of the organization and wish to see the ranks of Nurse-Midwifery grow and care for women from all walks of life. I have been an "in-the-trenches" CNM for many years and gained experience in many aspects of midwifery. It is imperative we foster leaders in the profession and recognize those who wish to lead.

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

After examining ACNM's Strategic Plan, core commitments and five strategic domains, I cannot choose a single area as more important than the rest and would be remiss to identify one as the embodiment of my practice. During my career as CNM and educator, diversification and inclusion have been in the forefront while working alongside midwives and providers with similar or different backgrounds, education, and preparation. The overarching goal has been to provide safe, satisfying care for all women and families of every configuration.

Currently I teach in an FNP program and strive to improve provision of healthcare for women by expanding women's health teaching across the curriculum. This requires a focus on interprofessional practice and communication with individuals providing women's services. Students benefit from seeing this modeled in practice, which helps advance women's healthcare. It is critical that we grow and nurture future leaders of the profession. I participated in the Leadership pilot and focus group from ACNM to help recommend topics of importance for all midwives, especially ones early in their career. Participants armed with leadership information will recognize the importance of being active in the organization and advocate for positive changes in the provision of women's health and support our organizations strategic plan.

Finally, partnering with stakeholders to improve access to and provision of women's healthcare globally is a goal I am committed to. I serve on the medical advisory board for Project Cure, CO, and have been on three medical trips with them. Currently we are working on protocols to provide women's cervical cancer screening and treatment on all medical trips to developing countries.

Ballot Question 3: Visit the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) [HERE](#). What ideas do you have for enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging?

To enhance DEIB in the profession, we must recognize the rich diversity of our members, including educational preparation, practice styles, age, race and ethnic origins. A diverse organization which values all its members enhances the profession and may help promote care to all women.

Inclusion must start at the grass-roots level, as we focus on recruitment and retention of minority students in nursing programs, and further support their entry into midwifery.

Ballot Question 4: What is your vision for innovation and improvement within ACNM?

I have devoted my career to promoting improvements in women's healthcare and advocating for those who may have less voice. I commit to serving women, our professional organization and our future midwives with energy, purpose and passion, subscribing to what T.D. Jakes said: ""If you can't figure out your purpose, figure out your passion. For your passion will lead you right into your purpose"