Registered Nurses Breaking into the Political Arena: A Qualitative Study

Sigma Theta Tau 26th International Nursing Research Congress
San Juan, Puerto Rico July 23-27, 2015

Joyce Miller, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, FNP-BC, Associate Professor
Sharon Cannon, EdD, RN, ANEF, Regional Dean
Carol Boswell, Ed.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, Professor
Disclosures

• Neither author has any known or potentially perceived conflicts of interest with the content being presented.

• Neither author has received any known sponsorship or commercial support regarding the information to be presented.
Objectives/Questions to be discussed:

- What attitudes and skills are needed to aid in the political arena?
- What suggestions/recommendations can novice nurses use to transition into a political role?
- What key aspects for development are needed to help for being successful in the political arena?
A pilot study …..

Descriptive, qualitative methodology

Listing of nurse currently serving on boards or within the last 5 years

Snowball sampling method to identify 10 consenting nurses for participation

Telephone call interviews

Semi-structured interview

Maximum length of no longer than 60 minutes
From nursing to boardrooms......

- Attitudes, skills, needed to aid in the political arena
- Key considerations for political trajectories
Political advocacy

• Professional lobbyists
• Political fundraising
• Grass roots involvement
• Commitment
  • Often intimidating
  • Skills and attitudes developed
Political arena

Showcasing skills & attitudes from nursing for governing boards:

• Trends
• Attitudes
• Recommendations
• Role expectations
Expert strategy recommendations ....

....for threading political activism and serving on boards based on learned experiences.....
Questions
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
School of Nursing™