

# **Andrew Rohrer**

Vice President Pre-Slated Candidate

## **Tell us why you are passionate about CNSA.**

I am passionate about our California Nursing Students Association because I firmly believe in and stand for its fundamental mission and purpose. I have seen firsthand within my own community that we as nursing students can move mountains when we come together to achieve our goals. As the largest state chapter of the NSNA, CNSA provides us even greater opportunities to work together as a strong, diverse, and collective body of students from across our state toward becoming the most influential and purpose-driven future nurses of California that we can possibly be.

## **Why do you think you are the best fit for the position you are running for?**

First and foremost, I have a strong passion for helping others. As Vice President, my primary goal will always be to fulfill all of my duties and responsibilities in such a way that I am of service to individual members, school chapters, and to the CNSA Board of Directors. Furthermore, in developing my own school chapter, I have become very familiar with the bylaws of the CNSA and NSNA, which has provided me a lot the fundamental knowledge necessary to work with and lead our Bylaws Committee. As Vice President, I will consistently strive to enhance my knowledge of these bylaws, policies, and procedures. I will also work hard with the Bylaws Committee to continue the task of developing and maintaining documents that are legally compliant, consistent with NSNA standards, and meet our needs as a state chapter. I also believe that I have strong leadership skills and experiences that I can bring to the table in serving our CNSA Board of Directors.

**What leadership experience do you have that will help you serving on the CNSA Board of Directors?**

While I was first working on my nursing prerequisites, I served on the Student Senate of the Associated Students of Sierra College from 2012-2013. During this time, I became very familiar with student organizations, development of bylaws, parliamentary procedure, and policy implementation. Within this last year as a nursing student at Modesto Junior College, I have served as the Lead Class Representative for first and second semesters. I am also the Founder and President of the Modesto Junior College Student Nurses Association (MJC-SNA), chapter of the NSNA and CNSA.

**Provide an example of a time you had a conflict with a peer and how you resolved it.**

Throughout the process of creating our MJC-SNA school chapter, I worked closely with several students in creating a strong set of bylaws that would meet the needs of our nursing students while maintaining compliance with NSNA standards. One of these students and I did not initially see eye-to-eye on what the given responsibilities of several different officers should be to promote chapter development, as written in our original Bylaws Proposal. However, when we sat down one-on-one and really listened to each other's perspectives, we were able to work together as a team to create a new Chapter Development Officer position, whose primary function was to meet all of these goals.

**How has being involved in a student nurses association impacted your nursing education?**

One of the projects our SNA decided to take on this year is the appointment of student representatives to serve as voting members of our faculty committees at MJC Nursing; particularly the Curriculum Committee and the Policies & Procedures Committee. This impacts my nursing education as well as the other students at Modesto Junior College

by allowing us to voice the needs and opinions of nursing students in a directly influential manner.

**How do you think CNSA could be more involved at the chapter level?**

From my own experience, I have seen how important the CNSA Board of Directors is in working closely with school chapters to develop, strengthen, and flourish as successful student organizations. I think that increasing initial outreach is one way that the CNSA can strengthen this relationship with school chapters, and work to maintain those relationships in the 2019-2020 year to come. I also think that active participation of the Board of Directors in both school and state chapter events can help foster that unique spirit of community and support that I love so much about fellowship among nursing students.

**Please write a short bio about yourself and your personal goals in your career as a nurse.**

I decided that I wanted to become a registered nurse when I was seventeen years old. I spent a lot of time in and out of the hospital during high school because of a series of medical conditions I suffered from at that time. I was so profoundly influenced by the amazing care I received from the pediatric nurses on the floor that I knew that's exactly what I wanted to do with the rest of my career. Ten years later I am so excited to have the opportunity to make that dream come true, and I am passionate about nursing education and professional development. I am currently a student nurse in two nursing programs. During the Fall and Spring semesters, I take my generic ADN courses at Modesto Junior College Nursing Program. Over the Summer semesters, I have started taking my upper-division BSN courses through the new Sequential Enrollment Program at the CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing. This has allowed me the unique opportunity to see firsthand the different needs of both community college and four-year university nursing students. My long-term educational goal is to earn my DNP, and to practice as

an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner. I also want to work in health policy and advocacy throughout my nursing career, particularly in those issues related to childhood wellness and safety.