

Could it BE YOU

By Carolyn Green
Secondary Board Representative



Could it be you? Yes! There could be a spot waiting for you on the 2004-2005 National Executive Council.

Have you ever asked yourself, "What makes a successful national officer?" What kind of person has the potential or the capacity to be a successful national officer? I bet you could describe an unsuccessful national officer very easily. You might say – the person who is unable to do the job properly. The slacker is the one that doesn't have true compassion for what he or she is doing. We know how it feels to assume additional responsibilities because another person cannot perform the assigned task.

When asked to describe the characteristics of a successful national officer we think of intelligent, hard working, respectful, competent, efficient, and determined. Yes, that sounds good, right? But what exactly does that involve?

It seems quite obvious that successful national officers must know how to perform the tasks that are part of the office. They need to be knowledgeable of what they are doing. However, each of us has had the experience with a co-worker, friend, or classmate who knew what to do but was ineffective in doing it. We have seen physicians who acquired great scientific knowledge but who failed in practice. Knowledge alone is certainly no guarantee of being a successful national officer.

The successful national officer is personally involved with as many HOSA members as he/she possibly can be. The individual right for the job needs to be committed to the members. The successful national officer is a very generous person who is willing to share with the members his or her positive attitudes and beliefs – a person who is willing to share a smile, enthusiasm, and confidence with others.

National officers must be able to deal effectively with their job responsibilities. More than just having a title motivates successful national officers. They are not concerned with fame, but instead are working for something that they believe in: HOSA!

Successful national officers are flexible and receptive to doing things the way another person might want them to. In other words, they are not rigid that things have to be done their way. They are willing to approach another method. Being a national officer means being able to find true satisfaction in what you are doing – regardless of whether or not the performance is applauded by others.

Yes! It could be you. Leaders cannot prove to be capable without first trying. A national officer's spot could be yours in 2004-2005. Don't let someone less qualified fill that position. If you think you have the qualifications of a national officer then prove yourself. One cannot climb the ladder to success without taking the first step.



Editorial

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Leadership 101

By Kelly James, Postsecondary
Collegiate Vice President



How to Interview Successfully

If you are anything like me, you may tend to get a little nervous when it comes down to interview time. I am hoping that these pointers will help you feel more relaxed when you are "under the gun".

The most important thing to remember is that the people interviewing you are human too! They have all been in the hot seat themselves, so they know what you are feeling and they want you to succeed. They would tell you to have someone help you perform a practice interview before you go in for the real thing! I know that sounds odd, but if you have the opportunity to sound things out ahead of time, it will help you feel more confident during the real thing. **BE YOURSELF!**

In my opinion, the number one rule when interviewing is to just be yourself. It is easier than you may think to tell when someone is putting on a show or if that individual is being sincere, and sincerity is the best route. Get plenty of rest the night before, and try to relax while you're waiting to be called! If you go into any professional setting looking like you haven't slept for days, it is going to be a deterrent for those interviewing you. Finally, be attentive, and most of all, **SMILE!**

Get Your Members Pumped

Most of you will know what I am talking about when I say that one of the hardest responsibilities in leadership is to get the delegates' attention and keep it! It is difficult to be up on stage and feel like nobody is paying attention, or even cares what you are saying. A few quick tips for getting the delegation on their feet and ready to go may be what you need.

First and foremost, if you are not enthusiastic about what you are doing, they won't be either! When you walk into that room or onto that stage, it is imperative that your enthusiasm be written all over you! Second, start out by getting the audience involved in what you are doing. There are many icebreakers that are available to get this done. If you don't want to start with an icebreaker, start with a question such as "How does HOSA make a difference?" You can also get your audience hooked by starting on an interesting subject, giving them just enough to catch their interest, then pausing and telling them you will finish the story at the end of the program. Last but not least, be an informative leader. It is next to impossible for people to get enthused about something they know nothing about!
And, once again, be yourself!

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