# Pennsylvania Action Coalition Cohort of Exchanged Learning: Preparing for Your Interview

Adriana Perez, PhD, CRNP, ANP-BC, FAAN, FGSA

Assistant Professor of Nursing

Senior Fellow, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics

Faculty Fellow, Harnwell College House

#### Introduction

In a perfect world, job interviewers would be able to gauge your talents with great accuracy, so that you wouldn't need to engage in any form of boasting or self-promotion. But talents can be notoriously hard to judge, particularly in short-term interactions with other such as job interviews: there is only a 4% overlap between interview ratings and subsequent job performance ratings.

Chamorro-Premuzic, T. (2017). Harvard Business Review

## Preparation (Pre-Interview)

- Know the organization/school well. What is the mission, vision & values and how would you contribute to these?
- Plan ahead when you schedule your interview & get plenty of rest!
  - Know where you are going. Time your travel, know the building.
  - Make sure you have the interviewer's contact information on hand.
- Review & print a copy of your resume and cover letter to the interview.
  - Recommend a list of strong contacts for recommendations.
- Write down questions, based on your assessment of the organization/school.
  - Remember: interviews are a mutual exchange with the goal of both parties benefitting from the outcome.

## During Your Interview

- 1. Turn your phone on silent.
- 2. Be attentive (try to avoid distractions).
- 3. Briefly quantify your most relevant experience.
- 4. Speak about your passion rather than your skills.
- 5. Focus on your potential.

### Post Interview

- 1. Follow up with a "thank you" email or letter.
- 2. If you do not receive the job offer, find out if the organization can provide feedback on your interview/application.
- 3. Turn your fans into advocates. You are starting to build your career trajectory.
  - -- Ultimately, your reputation is made of what others (not you) think of you.

#### Resources

Video: INTERVIEW TIPS for New and Experienced NURSES

Reference: 30 Behavioral Interview Questions You Should Be Ready to Answer

For More, Visit: The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Career Resources

for Students