

Thad Doyle

Senior Associate Director, Student Life

The University of Akron

**Professional Involvement:**

OCPA- Professional Member OCPA-Mock Interview/Resume Review Volunteer, Annual Program Presenter, 2011 OCPA Annual Conference, Logistics Chair ACUI- Professional Member ACUI- 2015 ACUI Region VI Conference Planning Team, Education Coordinator AFA- Professional Member AFA- 2016 40th Anniversary Celebration Chair, 2014 National President, 2013 President-Elect, 2010-12 Executive Vice President, 2009-2011 Vice President for Membership, 2008 National Conference On-Site Arrangements Coordinator, 2007 Regional Director

**Why are you interested in participating as a member of the OCPA Executive Board?**

Being a member of OCPA for several years and attending the annual conference has allowed me the ability to stay connected with colleagues across Ohio who share in the ever-changing dynamics of working in the higher education landscape. From my time over the last 18 years working in higher education, I have been able to volunteer in a variety of professional associations, including OCPA. Given my previous experiences as a member of other Executive Boards/Board of Directors, I am confident that I have a strong skill set that would be a positive asset to the overall team of the OCPA Board. I am organized, hard working and dedicated to those volunteer opportunities that allow higher education professionals to come together and share in working towards mutual goals and in turn moving an organization forward. As OCPA continues to grow in membership over 500, I believe it's an exciting time to be involved and help shape the trajectory of what is to come. In support of the core values of OCPA, I firmly believe in the member involvement and accountability, so what better way than to invest in the association and give back through my time and investment in the future of OCPA. I value opportunities to work with a diverse group of professionals who are committed to making a difference and impacting our work in student affairs, regardless of our role in our day to day positions.

**What qualities and skills do you think you can bring to the indicated position(s) and to the OCPA Board?**

The President-Elect role is the beginning of a three year journey on the Executive Board and one that I am familiar with from previous positions. I was fortunate to serve as the 2014 President of Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors (AFA) and chair the Board of Directors. In this role I oversaw the Association of 1500 members, a seven person Board of Directors and supervised the full-time Executive Director. I dealt with a variety of areas of association management including board development, membership, professional development offerings, annual conference, budget, foundation relations, supervision of staff and strategic planning.

During my six year tenure on the national board, I was fortunate to be involved with three different strategic planning processes- the completion of a five year plan, creation and execution of a three year plan and the creation of strategic frameworks. I believe my experience with this area would be a strong asset to the OCPA board as the President- Elect oversees the Strategic Management Plan. In addition, my strong communication skills and interpersonal skills allow me to work well with fellow board members to create positive working relationships that allow us to reach our common goals. I believe I bring a variety of transferable skills from my active involvement in several other higher education associations that would prove positive and beneficial to the OCPA Executive Board.

**What do you believe to be the role of professional associations like OCPA?**

OCPA exists to fulfill many roles, including professional development, networking and intentional learning and growth for Student Affairs Professionals. Professional development is a hallmark of OCPA and provided through the annual conference, Careers in Student Affairs conference, Professional Development Institute and volunteer opportunities for members. It is through these various professional development opportunities that new, young and seasoned professionals can gain valuable experience in the field of student affairs, while at the same time providing exposure and experiences to graduate students as well who are pursuing a future careers in student affairs. The family like atmosphere that is fostered within OCPA is very welcoming and an open and safe space for staff from all areas across Ohio to come together to network and learn from one another. The in person meetings and conferences allow members to further enhance working relationships and build strong networks across campuses. Intentional learning and growth for members is available through a variety of ways from attending the annual conference, presenting, participating in the Case Study competition, attending a Professional Development Institute or dedicating time and talents to an appointed or elected volunteer role. All these examples are ways that members can grow and develop through the role and purpose of OCPA. OCPA provides a necessary organization that brings together professionals from across the state who share in the commons purpose and passion of student affairs work.