

2018-19 OCPA Executive Board Nominee Information

Nominee Name: Allyson Hays

Nominee Institution: Columbus College of Art & Design

Title: Academic Advisor

Positions for Consideration: 4 Year Private Member-at-Large

Please describe your involvement with OCPA.

I've been a member of OCPA since 2016, when I joined as a graduate student at Ohio University. The 2016 OCPA Annual Conference was the first conference for Higher Education and Student Affairs that I attended, and I was fortunate to have the opportunity to present at the conference with one of my peers. In my first year as a working professional, I attended the 2016 OCPA Careers in Student Affairs conference and presented two sessions. After attending the Careers in Student Affairs Conference, a colleague encouraged me to seek out additional involvement with OCPA and I applied to serve on the Conference Planning Committee for the Annual Conference. I was selected to serve on the Publications & Marketing Committee for the 2018 OCPA Annual Conference and I volunteered during the conference as well.

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

While attending the 2016 OCPA Annual Conference as a graduate student, I felt that my contributions were valued during presentations and dialogue with seasoned professionals. This experience resulted in OCPA becoming my first professional "home." Since that introduction, I have felt that OCPA is an inclusive and supportive space for folks from a variety of institutions, functional areas, and with varied years of experience in the field. The opportunity to give back to an organization that has been a key resource in my professional development is something that I find exciting. After serving as a member of the 2018 Annual Conference Planning Committee, I am eager to find additional ways to engage with OCPA and contribute to the organization's goal of providing professional development opportunities for Ohio higher education professionals. As an alumna of a private, 4-Year institution and a professional working at a private institution, I feel particularly drawn to the Member at Large, 4-Year Private position.

What qualities and skills do you think you can bring to the indicated positions, and to the OCPA Board?

As an alumna of and current working professional at a 4-Year Private institution in the state of Ohio, I feel my background, coupled with my desire to continue to connect with professionals at other private institutions in the state, makes me a great candidate to serve as the Member at Large, 4-Year Private. As an academic advisor, I work closely with both academic and student affairs. As a result, I have honed my organization and communication skills, along with my ability to build relationships and trust with professionals in a variety of functional areas. I believe these qualities would allow me to represent the interests of professionals at 4-year

private institutions in the state of Ohio. Finally, I believe my experience serving on the 2018 Annual Conference Committee would prove an asset to this role on the OCPA Board as I worked with the other members-at-large to coordinate a round table session for the 2019 Annual Conference.

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

I believe professional associations serve as an invaluable opportunity for professional development for its members. As such, I feel professional associations have an obligation to strive to meet the development needs of its diverse membership. Professional associations also provide opportunities for networking and collaboration for its members, creating opportunities to share best practices and brainstorm solutions to challenges professionals may experience in their individual roles. I believe professional associations serve as a guide and resource, providing insight into expectations and guidelines for good professional practice, as illustrated by the stated mission, standards, and goals of the organization. Professional associations should set a high standard for professional practice and support its members and provide opportunities for learning and development as they strive to reach the set standards and grow as professionals in higher education.