

2018-19 OCPA Executive Board Nominee Information

Nominee Name: Ashley King

Nominee Institution: Cleveland Institute of Art

Title: Graduate Assistant, Student Life and Housing

Positions for Consideration: Graduate Student Members-at-Large

Please describe your involvement with OCPA.

As a Graduate Student, I am excited to begin getting involved with OCPA. I became a member shortly after I became aware of the organization. I wanted to take steps to be involved in OCPA to improve my professional development and learn best practices in the field. In January, I attended the OCPA annual conference in Columbus and participated in the case study competition. By connecting to other professionals and graduate students, I have seen great value in OCPA.

As part of the Kent State Higher Education Administration Program, I was a part of the team that wrote the proposal to host the Ohio Graduate Student Affairs Conference (GSAC) at Kent State University in the fall, a program sponsored by OCPA. This conference was derived from the OCPA model of Careers in Student Affairs Conference, but for graduate students by graduate students.

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

As a member of the OCPA Executive Board, I would hope to learn from the professionals who are serving on the board, while also being the voice for current graduate students across the state of Ohio. I also hope to get more graduate students involved in OCPA, as it is a great resource for emerging professionals.

I am interested in furthering my professional development while encouraging others to do the same. I would be committed to the mission of OCPA, "facilitates the sharing and creation of knowledge and best practices for student affairs practitioners in the State of Ohio through professional development and networking opportunities." As part of the OCPA Executive Board, I would hope to act as a liaison between OCPA and emerging professionals.

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

As an achiever with a can-do attitude, I am someone who will put in the work to make sure the goals are accomplished. I am highly involved in my co-hort at Kent State University and would hope to positively impact the graduate membership of OCPA.

The position description of the Graduate Student Member-At-Large includes coordinating the Case Study competition, which I participated in this year, and working to be a liaison to preparation programs in Ohio. I have planned large scale programs both in undergrad and in

graduate school. My Graduate Assistanship's primary responsibility is to plan and implement new student orientation at The Cleveland Institute of Art, along with responsibilities in housing and student activities. With my background in marketing, ability to plan programs, commitment to connecting people to one another, I believe I would be a great fit for this position.

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

Professional development associations as organizations have a key role in moving their given field forward. OCPA serves three primary purposes: building networks, providing strategies of best practices, and allowing for forums of communication and idea generation. The leadership of these organizations have a responsibility to carry-out this vision and serve those in the field.

Without professional development organizations, we would be siloed at our individual institutions without the rejuvenation and input of others in the field. Connecting to one another, identifying best practices, and moving forward the field of higher education allows us as professionals to best support our students.