

2018-19 OCPA Executive Board Nominee Information

Nominee Name: James Workman

Nominee Institution: Baldwin Wallace University

Title: Hall Director

Positions for Consideration: Graduate Student Members-at-Large

Please describe your involvement with OCPA.

My involvement started at the undergraduate level when I was a sophomore at Hiram College. My supervisor was the Historian at the time and she encouraged me attend the Careers in Higher Education Conference. Not knowing what to expect and not knowing if this was the field for me, I went. It was held at Kent State University and it was a life altering experience. Once I left that day I knew that I wanted pursue a career in Higher Ed. That is where I gained my attachment to the organization and stayed involved by asking my supervisor question around every corner. As a graduate student I have attended both the Careers in student affairs conference, with some of my students to share the experience that I had, as well as the Annual Conference. At the Annual Conference I presented on the topic of how to supervise graduate students. OCPA is a huge contributing factor as to why I have ended up in this field, and I hope to provide that feeling to future generations of student that get bite by the "Higher Ed Bug".

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

As I stated above, OCPA has provided a lot to me. Sharing my experiences with students is a large reason why I would like to be a part of the Executive Board. Also, I really would appreciate the experience to see how the inner workings of an organization, such as OCPA, conducts itself from within. I have seen all of the hard work that goes into Conferences, and it would be an amazing experience to help work to make these environments possible for other students.

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

I am an extremely hard worker and a dedicated person. I really enjoy the work that I do and that makes it easier for me to accomplish tasks. Having such a strong connection to the organization helps push me to improve it and make it possible to help make opportunities for students and graduate students possible. While I am a very dedicated worker, I am also very passionate about advocating for my peers. I believe that that is a large role as the graduate member at large, to help provide as many opportunities as possible all the while helping my peers continue to be involved in a professional organization.

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

I believe that organizations, such as OCPA, are an established platform for professionals in the field of Higher Education to meet and network. Also, to share ideas and knowledge from the region.