

# 2019 Ohio College Personnel Association

## Elections Information

### **David Vale – Secretary/Membership Chair Candidate**

#### **Please describe your involvement with OCPA.**

Since moving back to Ohio, I have enjoyed being a part of OCPA and have steadily increased my involvement in the association. The first year I was back, I became a general member of OCPA and attended and presented at the annual conference. The following year, I decided to step up my involvement as served as a member of the Mid-Level Managers Annual Conference Committee. The following year I applied to be on the Executive Board as the Chair of the Careers in Student Affairs Conference. After completing my role as the Chair of the Careers Conference, and due to the position opening up, I became the Secretary & Membership Chair. In addition to the positions I have held within the association, I have presented as well as volunteered at the Annual Conference each year. Finally, I consistently talk to colleagues on campus at Case Western Reserve University, as well as others around the state of Ohio on the benefits of being involved with OCPA.

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

I am interested in serving as a member of the OCPA Executive Board for two main reasons. As a student affairs professional, I believe strongly in the mission of the association and want to continue working to advance student learning and development for everyone involved with OCPA and their partner institutions. I believe strengthening the network of professionals and paraprofessionals involved with OCPA, along with the educational and professional development opportunities, benefit not only the members of the association, but the effects ripple back to the home institutions and ultimately benefit the students. I believe OCPA is a student driven association and I want to continue sharing my voice and assisting in any way I can. On the personal side, I have really enjoyed my time serving as an involved member of OCPA. Working alongside colleagues who share similar values and beliefs in what higher education and student affairs should be for all students is what drives the work I do.

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

I am interested in the Secretary & Membership Chair position on the OCPA Executive Board. In January 2018, I expressed interest in stepping into the vacant Secretary & Membership Chair for the association. I have enjoyed serving in this role for the past year and believe my professional strengths coincide with the Secretary & Membership Chair's requirements and responsibilities. I am very detail-oriented, pride myself on being administratively strong, and put a lot of time and effort into building and maintaining relationships. These strengths would allow me to take detailed notes of all meetings and events within the association. These skills have also assisted me in keeping track of the current membership within OCPA, while working to grow and expand membership within the association. After being in the position for one year, I'm familiar with the requirements of the position and believe I could benefit the association greatly if given the opportunity to complete a full term in the role.



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

The role of professional associations, such as OCPA, is two-fold. On the professional side, involvement in the association brings so many benefits to institutions, professionals, and students. The sharing of knowledge, best practices, innovative ideas, and building collaborative partnerships allows higher education professionals to improve not only the field as a whole, but the departments we work in, the programs we manage, and the holistic experience for the students we work with. On the personal side, I believe involvement in associations like OCPA have numerous benefits as well. Networking, building, and maintaining professional relationships with colleagues across the state continuously reignites my intrinsic motivation to be in the field and my commitment to this profession. In addition, I believe statewide organizations are large enough to allow an individual to continually be growing professionally, while being small enough for the association to feel familiar and have a personal touch.