

2019 Ohio College Personnel Association

Elections Information

Hunter Taylor – Graduate Student Member-at-Large Candidate

Please describe your involvement with OCPA.

My involvement with OCPA has always been as an attendee. During my second year as an undergraduate student at Miami (Oh), I attended OCPA's Careers in Student Affairs conference. Through the experience I learned more about the scope of student affairs and the positive role that many institutions in Ohio play in Higher Education.

This year, as a first year graduate student, I attended the annual conference. There I took the opportunity to connect with full time professionals and other graduate students across Ohio. The accessibility and inviting nature of the conference was appealing to me, especially as a first time attendee and graduate student seeking to develop my professional identity.

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

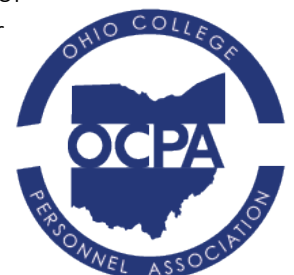
I am interested in serving on the Executive Board as one of the Graduate Student Members-at-Large because I want to give back to OCPA and the greater Student Affairs community of Ohio. I believe that building community, supporting personal and professional development, and advancing the inclusive practices of practitioners are key endeavors that will not only sustain our field, but prepare us for the future. I see ways that OCPA is currently exploring these ideals, as well as ways that they can be expanded upon to fit the needs of graduate students.

In addition, I am interested in assisting in the development of OCPA as an organization. As the structure and funding of Higher Education is changing, so are the roles of professional organizations. By anticipating and preparing for change, OCPA will be better equipped to serve the needs of Ohio's students.

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

I possess many qualities and skills that I would bring to the Graduate Student Member-at-Large position and to the OCPA Board in general. I have strong communication, organization, and transnational skills. I am a strong team player because of my willingness to help others with tasks outside of my own role for the betterment of the team. My capacity to serve as a professional and personal support to the other members of the board is a quality that I know would lead to successful programs and initiatives.

Furthermore, I apply critical thinking skills and reflection to everything that I learn and do. I seek opportunities to reconstruct ideas and framework to create more inclusive spaces for professionals and students. I am critically reflective on my own identities and power in spaces, a quality that I believe is integral for an elected position.



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

I believe that OCPA and other professional organizations have many roles. I believe that building community, supporting personal and professional development, and advancing the inclusive practices of practitioners are a few ways that OCPA serves the field of Student Affairs. Also, I believe that professional organizations set the tone for advancing inclusion, diversity, and equity across individuals and institutions. By role modeling the way, professional organizations can make a difference in the practices of student affairs professionals and therefore student experiences.