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In the space below, please describe your involvement with ACPA, including any leadership positions you have held.

I have been fortunate to be involved with ACPA for many years and through many opportunities. In ACPA's entity group spaces, I have served as a Directorate Board member for the Coalition for Women's Identities, the Chair of the Coalition for Women's Identities, and the Assembly Coordinator on the Governing Board for Coalitions and Networks. In terms of ACPA's professional development opportunities, I have served as a faculty member for ACPA's Institute on the Curricular Approach for the past seven years, co-chairing the Institute twice. My ad hoc involvement includes co-chairing the Nominations and Elections Task force that examined ACPA's election policies and serving as a representative for the Association on a working group exploring new partnerships within the higher ed association landscape. I am currently chairing the Research and Storytelling sub-committee for the ACPA @ 100 working group that is planning ACPA's centennial celebration in 2024.

These roles, both in breadth and depth, have given me a strong foundation of understanding the Association and how it functions. The perspectives of both a participant in our processes and a leader in our processes allows me to think about how ACPA moves and grows with and because of its members.

Please describe how you will work to advance ACPA's Core Values if elected/appointed to this position.

The core values of our Association are truly only as meaningful as the actions we take to embody them. I understand much of who I am as a professional in our field in large part because of the way ACPA members and mentors have demonstrated their commitment to these shared values. They are what initially attracted me to ACPA as a new professional and what have kept me invested in ACPA throughout my career. I consider myself a highly relational leader who focuses on people, and the people-centered effects of product and policy. I am thoughtful and strategic but also direct and honest. The ACPA core values are also MY values.

I have long understood that as ACPA goes, so goes the field. It is clear to me that we lead the conversation around justice in its many forms, around understanding what decolonization and intersectionality mean beyond higher ed buzzwords, and what Student Affairs has to offer higher education for the public good. Leading the conversation in these areas does not mean that we have cracked the code and are perfect examples with no room for improvement--it means that

we must consistently live these core values out loud and when we fall short we must engage in restorative practices around the harm we have caused.

As the ACPA Vice President, I would lead collaborative thought processes that are guided by the theory and research of our field and a fiduciary duty to our Association. The Governing Board must be led by a vision that centers justice and includes historically and currently marginalized communities and knowledges at the center of our work. Angela Davis (2016) posited “The question is how to create windows and doors for people who believe in justice to enter.” This must be the guiding question for the ACPA Governing Board to make decisions in alignment with our core values.

After reviewing the qualifications of the position for which you are applying, please describe briefly below how you believe you meet each qualification.

The work I have done in ACPA in conjunction with the professional roles I have held have prepared me--as much as is possible--for ACPA’s Vice Presidency and subsequent leadership. I have the very great honor of serving as the Director of the Gender + Equality Center and Assistant Dean of Students at the University of Oklahoma. As the director of a center that includes multiple functional areas (gender-based violence awareness, prevention, and advocacy response; gender identity education and programming; and LGBTQ2S+ programming and education), I spend my professional energy on centering students, faculty, and staff who have been forced to exist in the margins of higher education. Throughout my career I have had the good fortune to work in multiple functional areas within our field (campus activities, housing and residence life, and diversity, equity, and inclusion) and these areas have given me a broader understanding of how our field can advance justice-oriented higher education for public good.

I meet all of the stated qualifications for the ACPA Vice President beginning with length of membership and Association leadership experience. My role on my home campus has provided me the requisite experience in strategic planning and resource and personnel management.

As a leader, how will you contribute to the work of the Association?

As ACPA approaches it’s centennial celebration, it is clear to me that our field needs our voice even more. The contributions our Association has made to our field are truly legendary and we have the opportunity to continue to impact the field moving forward. We are the Association born at a Dean of Women’s Annual Meeting by a group of “appointment secretaries” led by May Cheney--a group of women in 1924 looking for a better way to serve students after being excluded from other spaces. We are the Association led by our entity groups overall, with our Coalitions and Networks demanding space and place for the fullness of our identities alongside our professions. We are the Association that nearly 100 years later continues to press our field toward a serious reckoning and sustained work toward racial justice and decolonization. That is who ACPA is, and any contribution I may make as a leader will be in service to this identity honed over the past 100 years.

One of the contributions I am able to make as a leader is my skill as a strategic planner and facilitator. I am dedicated to understanding our Association from a long-range lens that includes

grappling with our history where needed and investing in our future always. As ACPA embarks upon it's next 100 years, this will be especially relevant for our leadership to engage in critical strategic planning.

I am also able to offer years of experience in developing strategic learning opportunities for communities and stakeholders. My time learning with faculty colleagues at the Institute on the Curricular Approach has led me to understand that we must take the same level of care and intentionality with our own learning and development that we take with students. I imagine the "syllabus" of our next 100 years to be filled with a meaningful and accessible curriculum that centers the Strategic Imperative for Racial Justice and Decolonization. This work must speak to both the immediate and long-term needs of members as practitioners on their home campuses. We must prepare ACPA members to lead not only our Association, but higher education writ large.

After reading the introductory statement about the ACPA Leader Selection Process and the Strategic Imperative for Racial Justice and Decolonization, take a moment to self-reflect on your own experiences at the intersections of diversity, equity, and inclusion. How will your identities, experiences, and competence help you in the Association's work to champion diversity, equity, and inclusion within and outside the ACPA community?

I joined ACPA as a new professional because mentors in the field told me it was a space that valued equity and inclusion. At the time I was searching for a community who would value all of the disparate pieces of myself that seemed to be held separate and distinct from a whole. The first space that I found within the Association that made me feel whole and seen was the Coalition for Women's Identities. It was the first space in my professional career that not only valued all of those disparate pieces but also asked me to consider what it meant for me to hold them as separate and what it could mean for me to value them as a whole.

I was fortunate to be on the Governing Board as an Assembly Coordinator when the Strategic Imperative for Racial Justice and Decolonization was conceptualized. I think about these two distinct experiences within my membership as connected: I could not have been in a space to articulate my support and need for a concept like SIRJD if I had not first experienced the care, support, and learning within CWI. The scaffolded learning that ACPA afforded me as a young professional moving into mid-level and more senior roles required growth and development from me that supported my professional growth.

I understand myself as a person who lives at the intersections of my identities. I am a queer, white, cisgender woman who is currently able bodied. I grew up in a very rural, working class environment that is often only represented by deficit narratives. I have intentionally created a long-term community and career at one institution in large part due to the way I understand community to operate based on that upbringing. This means that I have developed and relied upon the ability to build long-term relationships, collaborate across differences, and engage in restorative practices to sustain that community. I have learned what resistance work moving toward justice looks like when navigating current and historical harms and I have grown substantially as a professional while remaining committed to a place and local community. I understand myself as a person with a deep and abiding local community and a substantial

global network of colleagues through ACPA that have challenged me to do better work on my home campus.

All of these facets of who I am come to bear as I navigate my work within higher education and within our Association. It is incumbent upon me to continuously create space where the whole self--mine and perhaps most especially my colleagues'--is valued and known.