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Job Title: Assistant Director – Satellite & Outdoor Facilities

What do you believe is the role of ORSA?

The easy answer can be found within our purpose in our constitution. But I would argue that our role is even more than what is stated so succinctly there. I consider ORSA to be a leading state association among the many state associations within NIRSA. Ohio is a state that has always produced very active NIRSA members that have served the association in so many valuable ways over the years. This involvement is critical to the growth and success of our association and also provides a valuable service to NIRSA. In addition to this, and even more importantly, ORSA is an organization that has always actively sought out ways to involve students and young professionals across the state. Helping to develop undergraduate students for graduate school or graduate students for that first professional is a vital role that ORSA plays. Whether it is officiating, volunteering, or otherwise being involved with an Extramural tournament; attending or presenting at the annual state workshop or summer outreach; serving on a state committee or as the state student rep; ORSA has always provided valuable personal and professional development opportunities for all members within the state. Another role that ORSA has continued expand upon over the years- thanks to the outstanding leadership of our officers- is that of an organization that gives back to its members. As the organization continues to experience success with both sponsorships and well attended state workshops, the number of scholarships and stipends for both student and professional members has continued to increase. This opportunity for our members is exceptional. The positive relationships our association has formed and continued with many vendors across the state and region is outstanding. This investment in the development of our members is critical and must continue.

What do you think is the role of an ORSA Executive Officer should be and how will you positively impact ORSA by fulfilling this role?

The stewardship provided by any ORSA Executive Officer should be one based in teamwork, open communication, altruism, and authentic leadership.

TEAMWORK

Our association is obviously not lead by one person, and for good reason. The elected officers must be able to work seamlessly as a team in order to operate efficiently. Clear direction, defined roles and working towards a common goal are paramount. As with any successful team, differences of opinions may occur, but it is through the discussion of those differing opinions that positive action can be achieved by the team.

OPEN COMMUNICATION

Open communication must occur in many different spaces and in many different directions. The Executive Officers of ORSA must have open and honest dialogue within their group. Committee chairs must communicate within their own committee and with the Executive Officers. The Executive Officers most importantly should have clear and concise communication with the membership of ORSA.

ALTRUISM

The Executive Officers role should be one based in the selfless concern for the well-being of others. The officers provide a service to the association, and while each officer may not know everyone within the association on a deeply personal level, their work should benefit the members of ORSA first and foremost.

AUTHENTIC LEADERSHIP

Authentic leaders have self-awareness, are genuine and transparent in communication, are fair-minded, and internally want to do the right thing at all times. They understand their own personal values, inspire and empower those around them, and understand the history of the organization they lead. Lastly, authentic leaders are consistent in their thinking and focus on the long-term results while drawing on their own experiences. If I am fortunate enough to serve in this role, I would strive to serve the association in this same way.

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What opportunities for growth do you see with the following ORSA events: State Workshop, Summer Outreach, ORSA Social at NIRSA Annual Conference?

ORSA and its members are very fortunate that the current state of events like the State Workshop, Summer Outreach and the annual social at the NIRSA Annual Conference are in a very good space. But I think what is important is that we learn from each event and look to improve where we can for the next event. One aspect that I currently enjoy about each event is that the host institutions are able to add their own local flare in certain areas which allows for a slightly different experience each year that allow the hosts to celebrate their institution and surrounding area. As mentioned previously, the total number of scholarships offered has increased in recent years. I would hope this would only continue to grow in the coming years. Anything that ORSA can do to make these great events more accessible to the masses, especially our students, will benefit the association in both the short and long term. One idea that I believe could merit consideration if funds are available is the inclusion of paid invited speakers for events like the State Workshop. A polished, properly vetted speaker can provide an impactful, memorable message that leaves a lasting impression on attendees. Such an addition would be an attraction that may allow our participation numbers to grow even more.

Please list your present and past involvement within ORSA, NIRSA or any other professional organization?

Please See Resume