

**Name:** Joe Laughlin

**Institution:** Youngstown State University

**Job Title:** Graduate Assistant Intern, Club Sports and Summer Camps

**What do you believe is the role of ORSA?**

ORSA in my eyes is the connecting body between every campus recreation department in the state of Ohio. I know that's super vague, so let's break that down. I think the most visible thing ORSA does, aside from planning the annual state workshop, is the newsletter. I think this does a great job of keeping everyone in the state up to date with applications and other current events happening with the state workshop. ORSA is also a great provider of networking opportunities for undergrads and young professionals. I say this because I actually got my position at Youngstown State from networking at ORSA in 2018, so I would consider myself kind of an ORSA success story.

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

I think the visibility factor of what ORSA does can be taken to another level, and I could be a big part of that as the Student Representative. My role would be working with the ORSA Student Committee to further reach into helping undergraduate students learn about how people can have a career in campus recreation. Every time I hear about how someone got into campus rec, it seems like they usually just fell into it extremely late in their undergraduate time because they came to an ORSA conference, a Student Lead-on, or a NIRSA conference and found out they could do this as a career. I think ORSA could benefit from a Students Tab on the website. We could make generic job descriptions, Student Highlights (short bios about members of the student committee with a picture), and brief overviews on what each area of campus recreation does and how it is staffed. Campus recreation is a field full of passionate people, and I think it could get a lot bigger if we more clearly outlined for college students what a career in this profession would look like.

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

I honestly think the biggest area for growth would come in the area of what kind of experience we can provide for undergraduate students. As a member of the Student Committee this past year, we have put forth an idea for a networking lounge or some kind of job fair idea. I know something like that is being done this year, so I am excited to see how it goes so we can tweak it and make it even better for next year.

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

ORSA Student Committee Member, 2019-2020  
Region III Student Lead-on Planning Committee (Marketing and Sustainability),  
2019-2020 Presenter at 2019 Region III Student Lead-on