

1. While the OVP search was occurring, I constantly sought out friends who I felt would be best in the position, but it never really occurred to me that I may be just as good of an OVP. From the start of my freshman experience I was involved in community engagement and outreach- from service to cultural immersions to storytelling, I learned a little more about myself, my peers, and the city of Milwaukee. I want to be OVP because I want to bring these same experiences to others at Marquette. I want other students to go through the self-discovery moments in service, feel connections at storytelling events, and engage in discussion with artists in our community. Right now at Marquette there is a stigma that service and engagement mean the same thing. Recently, I have challenged myself to do what I can to break this stigma, and as OVP, I am able to reach the greatest number of students, have access to the most dedicated students with similar visions, and work towards a greater understanding of each other and ourselves.

2. One important part of my involvement is that I have been a part of the Outreach department since it first began my freshman year. Because of this, I have been able to grow and learn with outreach, and have tried and tested many things. This will help me be more effective in the role of OVP as I have the experience in outreach. Another opportunity that will help me as OVP is my involvement with the office of community engagement. As a student assistant in this office, I have been able to see firsthand the university forge new bonds with community partners in Milwaukee and truly understand how engagement is part of our everyday lives. This experience in working with community partners, using data to tell the stories of engagement, and the social media and wiring experiences I have learned all will prove to be useful as OVP.

3. A class that has helped prepare me for this role is Community Organizing, a class I took second semester freshman year. This class helped shape the way I understood what it meant to be a community, and how to get people, especially youth, engaged and passionate about issues within their community. This class gave me the tools I needed to understand the impact of campaigning, which can be directly applied to advertising for an event or advocating for a cause. Most importantly, this class taught me that engagement and outreach isn't a one or two way street, but rather a roundabout of a continuous flow of ideas, stories, and experiences that helps us reach better places in our communities.

5. Outreach in MUSG is coming onto a unique turning point. Since the two years Outreach has been established, this part of MUSG has had the opportunity to establish many initiatives such as Neighborhood Cleanup, managing the Executive Council, and Adopt a Block. Outreach has also been able to get involved with some pretty cool initiatives, such as the Christian-Muslim symposium and Dialogue Dinners, as well as continuously brainstorming new ways to engage immerse Marquette into Milwaukee. However, it is time to grow beyond the initiatives outreach has institutionalized. Outreach means much more than cleaning streets, and can expand beyond the same groups of students typically involved in outreach. My goals for the OVP position are not very defined, because they are not my goals, but rather the goals of the whole outreach department. However, I have smaller "goals" for understanding and planning this new phase of outreach that MUSG is entering. First, I hope to use my train-in period to understand the role of the OVP and what initiatives the current OVP is working on that can be continued into the next year. My goal is also learn about where Outreach fell short and what caused it to occur; giving the outreach department a way to reflect in order to strengthen next year's work. Another goal of mine is to connect the outreach department with on campus offices and clubs that are involved in similar work. It is my goal that as we connect with other resources on campus, we are able to engage and impact the most number of students and community members. I hope that through the train in period and

interactions with those involved in senate, outreach, and community members, I am able to create more defined goals that Outreach can collectively work towards.

6. This spring semester my main time commitments include;

- 15- credit course load; classes MWF 8 AM-2 PM
- Internship, Murray Hill Consulting; MW 2:30-5
- Campus Job, Office of Community Engagement; 8 hours/week
- Commuter Senator; Senate, CEC, Student Orgs

This semester I have been able to be successful at balancing MUSG with my other commitments (academic and non-academic). Looking ahead, my my commitments will not change much, however as Outreach VP I understand it is a much bigger commitment than being a regular senator. Currently, I have 2 weekdays structured into my schedule where a majority of my day is empty. I use these days to study, as well as do work revolving around my involvement. If i become OVP, I hope to utilize these days to dive into MUSG and learn more about its working parts and further specifics of what the current OVP does. This schedule will be fairly similar next semester, having days buffered into my schedule to allow me to be on top of things. While I expect my commuter status as a potential challenge to this role, I know that my reliable transportation will ensure I am able to be on campus in the evening, which is when many MUSG meetings and activities happen.