

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR MCC ASSOCIATION BOARD

(printed in order that nomination was submitted)

DREW LAWRENCE

I respectfully submit my letter of candidacy to serve as the faculty representative on the MCC Association Board of Directors. My propose for serving is to have the opportunity to give back to students by providing a leadership voice on the MCC Association Board representing my colleagues at MCC. During my 15 years at MCC, I am the advisor to the Hospitality Club and currently the department representative on Faculty Senate.

I have extensive knowledge of the important role the MCC Association has as it supports the mission of the college. Prior to my career at MCC, I worked for a similar association at another New York State Community College as the Director of Dining Services for over 20 years. I indirectly reported to the board by providing fiscal oversight of the department that I managed.

It would be a great honor to represent my colleagues at MCC, and have the opportunity to provide a voice of wisdom to the MCC Association Board of Directors. I will offer my expertise and untiring energy to recommend creative approaches to achieving their goals. Together we will continue to deliver outstanding student services and athletic programs.

Drew Lawrence, Associate Professor
Hospitality Management

LISA EKIERT

I would like to enthusiastically express my interest in serving as a board member for the MCC Association, Inc.

I was an employee of the MCC Association from 2009-2017. I first served as the Campus Center Coordinator at the Damon City Campus, and then Assistant Director of Campus Life. During this time, I worked with student government, all DCC clubs and organizations, student leadership, orientation and the First Year Experience program. Part of my role in working with student government was educating the student members about the MCC Association board and its mission and function. I also mentored the one or two students that held a seat on the board each academic year, helping them to understand their roles and responsibilities. In addition, I had the opportunity to attend many meetings over the years, and experienced first-hand the hard work and dedication of the members.

I am passionate about representing the MCC faculty and staff. I understand the vital role of the Association and the importance of the continued collaboration and communication between the Association and the College. I will also be a strong advocate for the Downtown Campus, and believe it's important to have Downtown representation.

In my new role as an Academic Advisor, I interact with faculty, staff and students on a daily basis. This provides me the unique opportunity to hear from all members of the MCC community. If selected as a board member, I will be fully committed to the service and to attending all required meetings. It would be a privilege to represent the MCC community. Thank you!

Lisa Ekiert
Academic Advisor
Student Services, Downtown Campus

PATRICIA ORNT

I am currently a Senior Advisor with the Advisement and Transfer Services Office. I have been with the College for the past 22 years and am a proud alumni of MCC. My passion is serving our students and their success. I want to enhance and enrich the quality of their education and campus experience.

There are several reasons I am interested in applying for the position as a MCC Association Board Faculty Representative. The first being my commitment to student recruitment, success and retention. I believe the more a student becomes involved and supported by our college, it will definitely influence their accomplishments.

Secondly, I would like to play an important part in helping to nurture an atmosphere which promotes diversity in many areas of college life. Being the mother of two adopted Asian children, I especially appreciate the cultural aspect. Both of my children attended and graduated from MCC. They also lived in campus housing. I believe this experience along with belonging to various clubs helped with their growth both educationally and culturally. I would like other students to have the same positive opportunity my children experienced.

My schedule permits me to commit to any committee assignment and MCC Association Board meetings.

Patricia Ornt

BILL DRUMRIGHT

In my sixteen years as a MCC faculty member, I appreciate this reality: Just as a town is more than its Town Hall, a college campus is more than its educational mission. As an institution, a college is a complex structure in which various aspects of the student experience must be properly addressed on an ongoing basis if students are to succeed.

The MCC Association has eleven areas of responsibility under its purview. These areas encompass both human needs (food, clothing, and shelter) and such educational necessities as textbooks, e-mail and, when needed, child care. From Athletics to the Campus Center Service Desk, the work of the Association affects all MCC students in some fashion and as such, the Association's work is vital to the achievement of student success.

As faculty representative to the MCC Association Board, I would keep this responsibility in the forefront: The MCC Association relies upon its board members to provide the advice and oversight needed to facilitate both the efficient and effective operation of the eleven areas under the association's purview. Serving and having served on various committees during my tenure at MCC, I appreciate the importance of this oversight and of the committee work upon which such oversight is built upon.

Bill Drumright