

Anna Holle: VP of Outreach and Assessment, VP of Finance

Why are you interested in these positions??

I am interested in the VP of Outreach and Assessment position because receiving feedback and being able to act effectively on it is one of the most important aspects of being in an organization that wants to be the best version of itself. Through town halls and meetings with other student organizations, RHA will be able to tailor its actions to the wants and needs of the members. I admire how outreach and assessment leads to improvements. For example, Meal Plan Committee is constantly looking for feedback from students to make IU Dining better. And as president of Union Street, I had to listen to the interests of the residents. My interest in the VP of Finance position is similar to my interest in Outreach and Assessment. I know that RHA collects student activity fees and has, as of now, a large budget. I think it is important to keep in mind that this is student money, and that we should be using it on the students in the year that they live in the residence halls, whether that be through programming or through money given to other student organizations through the funding board. In addition, I like the detail-oriented aspect of this position. Taking minutes and reviewing transactions is important for documentation, and it is important to avoid mistakes in these areas.

How do you feel you would contribute to the Executive Board??

I think that being an executive board member calls for a person that 1) is passionate about RHA, 2) puts students first, and 3) has ideas for growth. I have been involved in RHA for the past two years on campus, and my time spent interacting with residents in different types of halls is valuable to RHA. I know the impact that good programming and events can have on the sense of community in a residence hall, and I think that one of the most important experiences in college is, in fact, living in a residence hall and, hopefully, finding your people. My passion for cultivating community and giving people opportunities to come together will shine on the executive board. I feel that RHA has potential to grow in the way that it connects with residents. A lot of people still do not know what RHA is after living on campus for a whole year, and then the cycle begins again with new freshmen the next year. As a member of the executive board, I want to make sure that residents understand they have people representing them to the university, that their money is being returned to them in the form of programming, and that we are constantly aiming for improvement. I do not want RHA to stagnate as an organization. I want us to grow and become even more involved in the campus communities. If I am the VP of Finance, I want to make sure that we use resident's money responsibly. If I am the VP of Outreach and Assessment, I want to make sure that we hear what the residents are saying. Either way, I want to make sure that the RHA executive board remains focused on students and growth. Another thing I will contribute to the RHA executive board is a long-term outlook. Universities move slowly, and it is not always possible to start and finish a project within a year. I believe that it is important to start planning for the future, even if you don't know whether you'll be the one to finish the project.

What experiences have you had that make you qualified for these positions??

I am currently the president of Union Street Center. Last year, I lived in the Teter Honors Community, and was the chair of the Teter Honors Council, which is also part of RHA. In both positions, I was responsible for leading meetings, making agendas, and executing programming within the community. I know what it is like to work with a team to plan programs and generate ideas. For the past two years, I have had to work around a budget, so I know many of the rules that come with making purchases for programs or events through RHA. I have experience planning how to effectively use a budget without going over or letting residents' money go to waste. I also do a lot of outreach to hear what the residents want to see from their residence hall governments. In addition, last summer I was a summer assistant with the Jackson County Purdue Extension Office, which is responsible for the 4-H program and the yearly 4-H exhibition at the fair. As a summer assistant, I spent a lot of my time gathering the opinions of the community on the best way to transfer the fair to a virtual format. This form of outreach helped me realize the importance of hearing multiple opinions and getting new ideas from the community you serve. My two years within RHA and my summer experience make me qualified for both VP of Finance and VP of Outreach and Assessment.