

**Coalition on Men and Masculinities  
Leadership Team Candidate Profile  
Winter 2016**

Name: Kyle Ashlee

Professional Title: Doctoral Student & Doctoral Associate

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Are you a current member of ACPA?  Yes  No Member #: 0065611

Do you have support from your supervisor to run for this position?  Yes  No

Please indicate which position you intend to run for:

Vice Chair for Research & Scholarship  
 Vice Chair for Membership Engagement

Please respond to the following questions below (no more than 250 words for each answer):

1. Why are you interested in running for a Coalition on Men and Masculinities leadership team position?

This will be my third year being involved with the Coalition on Men and Masculinities within ACPA. In that time, I have come to find the CMM as a professional home, providing support and community at convention and throughout the year. Additionally, I've just begun my doctoral studies in Miami University's Student Affairs in Higher Education program. While my research agenda has not been formally decided, I plan to situate my research in the area of masculinities in higher education. Being able to connect with the CMM community during my research process and contribute to the knowledge of practitioners within this community would be incredibly fulfilling considering how much the community has helped me in my professional development.

2. What would be some goals that you have for the Coalition on Men and Masculinities if you were to be elected to your position?

My goals as the Vice Chair for Research and Scholarship would include finding concrete and practical ways that practitioners can incorporate scholarship into their educational practice. Through my doctoral studies, I've learned that many student affairs professionals do not utilize or engage in research in meaningful ways (Blainch & Wise, 2010). Studies indicate that by doing so, their practice and their students would benefit greatly (Sriram & Oster, 2012). Rather than a problem of time or resources, evidence suggests that the problem lies more in desire and motivation (Blainch & Wise, 2010). Therefore, my hope is to create initiatives that increase professionals' desire to engage with research. Whether that be through creating practical opportunities like webinars and publications or conceptualizing initiatives for changing student affairs culture through engaging institutional divisions or graduate preparation programs, my hope is to get men and masculinities scholarship into the hands of professionals who will use it.

3. What unique skills, talents, and contributions can you bring to your specific leadership team position on the Coalition on Men and Masculinities?

I would say that the most unique qualification I have for this position is that I have previous experience in the role. From March 2013 to January 2014, I served as the Vice Chair for Research and Scholarship for the Standing Committee on Men and Masculinities. Due to a professional opportunity overseas, I had to step down from that position. During my time in the position, I helped to launch a successful webinar series that brought several educational webinars to hundreds of student affairs professionals across the country. Additionally, utilizing social media, I collaborated with colleagues to engage a broad audience in conversations about masculinities through the hashtag #MasculinityMondays. Finally, I have nearly ten years of experience working as a student affairs professional engaging specifically in male gender identity development. This combined experience makes me a unique candidate for the CMM Vice Chair for Research and Scholarship position.

4. What potential collaborations would you be interested in pursuing in your specific position on the leadership team with other Coalitions, Commissions, or other professional associations outside of ACPA? How might you follow through on seeing those collaborations come to fruition?

One potential collaboration that I'm interested in pursuing is developing a concrete and specific initiative with the NASPA Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community. I have recently joined as a graduate student member of NASPA and I plan on attending the 2016 conference in Indianapolis. While I haven't been officially involved with the MMKC, was awarded the MMKC 2013 Innovative Initiative Award. Knowing that many of the educators involved with the ACPA CMM are also involved with NASPA's MMKC, it only makes sense for there to be some kind of partnership outside of the bi-annual

Conference on College Men. This could be an annual journal publication or the creation of an online educational curriculum related to masculinities in higher education. Regardless of the outcome, I feel as though the collaboration with the MMKC could only help to strengthen the work both organizations are doing.

## References

- Blainch, C.F. & Wise, K.S. (2010). Moving from assessment to institutional improvement. *New Directions for Institutional Research*. (pp. 67-78). Wiley Periodicals Inc.
- Sriram, R. & Oster, M. (2012). Reclaiming the "scholar" in scholar-practitioner. *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*, 49(4), 377-396.