

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

Name: Cody A. Rapp

Professional Title: Graduate Student

Institution: Canisius College

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Are you a current member of ACPA? Yes No Member #: 0063434

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?

I am interested in running for a leadership team position because of the opportunity and engagement that can be maintained and further created with continued emphasis on Membership Engagement. Having a membership in not only ACPA, but also having an affiliation with the Coalition is powerful and important. The Coalition is vested with specific agency and responsibility that requires active involvement with and for its members. Being a part of the leadership team would allow me to take a more aggressive role in highlighting the influence that others can have within the Coalition, with and for other members of the association and the students that we all serve.

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?

If elected into the position of Vice Chair of Membership Engagement, I would like to see increased awareness of the values proposition that the Coalition offers. From my perspective, if the Coalition can more effectively communicate the value added to members, a more informed discussion can ensue as well as increased involvement. With

the existing media and online platforms, I would like to assess the needs of the members within the Coalition, but also consider those who may not be a part of the Coalition, yet could be impacted by the work that we all do. Each year new people join the field and/or take on responsibilities that bring them to working with the men and masculinities conversation. I believe the Coalition plays an important role in collaborating with all levels of professionals to promote the tenants of the mission statement. The goal for my involvement would be to advance the space where and how those conversations happen through partnership with other members of the leadership team and outside representatives, too.

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

I believe that the uniqueness of my application comes in being a young professional in the field. While I might just be finishing my Master's Degree, I have earned experiences in several other capacities that add to my repertoire of skills and interest in member engagement and development. Through my various experiences of interning at a national conference as a member engagement intern, to serving my fraternity at the local, regional, and national levels, to my previous employment serving business members at the Chamber of Business and Industry there are several common themes that emerge out of all those experiences that I recognize today. Among all of the very important intricacies of maintaining and supporting a membership, here are few that I personally commit myself to:

- Continual opportunity for input and communication
- Appropriate representation of ideas and thoughts
- Consistency and credibility
- Leveraging partnerships to promote common purpose and generate opportunity

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?

There are endless possibilities for collaboration with an international organization. Even though the Coalition on Men and Masculinities is a sub-set of ACPA, it still serves to reach out to all of the ACPA members. With regard to collaboration within member engagement, there are several things that I think could further the mission of the Coalition, such as co-sponsoring webinars and in-person events; establishing mentor programs; and encouraging others to partner in research opportunities.

In my experience, I know the Coalition has already existing components of member engagement that are staples, like the clearinghouse, annual meetings, sponsored programs, and newsletters.

To consider both older and newer ideas, I believe that the accountability of them lies in dedication to the position and the Coalition. Clear communication and articulation of ideas is crucial. Visibility of the Coalition (and designees) paired with congruent marketing can send members and prospective members great messages, with ease. Personally, I would develop a detailed plan of communication and programming to support the ideas the Coalition would like to see occur and focus on putting my talents to work on how to establish positive and sustainable relationships with those invested in each respective initiative.