

**Eta Sigma Gamma
Professional Member At-Large (PMAL)
Candidate Information Form**

Name: Amanda Lynch Degree(s): BS, MS

Position: Field Service Assistant Professor

Department: University of Cincinnati: Health Promotion & Education

Address: 2610 McMicken Circle, 460L

City, State, Zip: Cincinnati, OH 45221-0068 Phone: 513-556-5227 (w); 740-361-1475 (c)

Fax: _____ Email: amanda.lynch@uc.edu

Work experience (# years): 5 years in current position at the University of Cincinnati; 2 years as a health promotion practitioner in Oregon at a county health department and non-profit organization.

1. Please describe your interest in ESG and being on the Board of Directors.

After serving as the faculty sponsor and co-advisor for the Gamma Eta chapter at the University of Cincinnati (UC) for the past 5 years, I believe this is the right time for me to take the next step to serve ESG at the national level. Being a faculty sponsor has been an excellent opportunity for me to develop strong relationships with students and provide mentorship as they begin their professional careers. I see the value that ESG can bring to a student's academic experience, and I take great pride in being able to build and support our chapter at UC. I am excited to take what I have learned as a chapter sponsor to the national level and support other chapters as they grow and thrive. Eta Sigma Gamma has great potential to foster students' professional development and build future health education professionals; I believe I can contribute to this effort nationwide.

2. Please describe if you have any prior experience in working with ESG/Gammans on a local (chapter) or national level.

I initially started as a co-advisor to the Gamma Eta chapter at the University of Cincinnati in 2012 with Dr. Liliana Rojas-Guyler and then transitioned to the primary faculty sponsor for the group in 2014. Prior to 2012, our chapter had not held an initiation ceremony in many years; in that first year that I was assisting Dr. Guyler we were able to initiate 13 students. Each year since we have inducted an average of 8 students, and this year we inducted our largest cohort with 30 initiates! We have found an effective activity and leadership structure that works for our chapter, and it has proven to be successful shown by the six national ESG awards that our chapter has received over the last three years. In the past three years I have also attended the national SOPHE conferences and participated in ESG activities and meetings while there.

3. Can you demonstrate evidence of leadership in your work or extracurricular activities?

ESG PMAL

Aside from serving as faculty sponsor to the Gamma Eta chapter, I also serve as the Membership Chair for Ohio SOPHE and have actively participated in the planning committee for their annual conference, the Health Educators' Institute (HEI) for the last two years. Within the Health Promotion and Education program at UC, I have served as the Undergraduate Coordinator and started a variety of out-of-class activities for our students, including: monthly program newsletters, an annual Involvement Fair, Mock Interview Day, monthly Lunch & Learn programs, and a CHES study group. Finally, I also serve on the Board of Directors for the Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence and as a co-chair for the Social Justice Committee at my church.

4. The PMAL candidate is required to serve a three-year term. As the PMAL, you are to commit at least 10 hours per month to participate on conference calls with other ESG Board members (average 10/year; 1-2 hours per meeting), review applications for chapter awards, and plan conference sessions for the annual ESG national meeting, and attend the annual board meetings (one professional conference and one board meeting associated with the national SOPHE conference). Explain if you will be able to do this.

I strongly believe that I will be able to serve ESG in this capacity as Professional Member AtLarge. I am accustomed to participating in and leading conference call meetings with other organizations and have been able to effectively manage my time in these various roles. My department has a strong commitment to professional development and allows for travel to conferences and professional meetings. With the upcoming SOPHE conference being held in Ohio, I definitely plan to not only attend but also assist with the planning of the conference. I believe I could serve as a strong liaison to the planning efforts for ESG and will have the benefit of being in close proximity to the conference location. I consider SOPHE one of my primary "professional homes" and have consistently attended their annual meetings for the last three years.

5. Do you have experience serving on boards? If so, please explain.

I currently serve on the board for Ohio SOPHE as the Membership Chair; in this role I am also on the Executive Committee for the board. This is an active board position that involves managing our membership system, adding members to the listserv, and monitoring the addition and expiration of members. I also work collaboratively with our Marketing Chair and District Representatives for membership recruitment efforts. I also serve on the board for the Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence. In this role I work with fellow board members to identify strategic priorities, make funding decisions, and plan regional gun violence prevention events.

6. Please describe the skills that you would bring to ESG. (Please respond to all that apply.)

Skills	Comments/Examples
High energy level	My students frequently comment about my high energy levels and passion for health education that come through when I am teaching. I get very excited about the things I love – like ESG!
Discipline	I know how to stay on task, effectively accomplish goals, and meet deadlines. I juggle multiple service activities and teach four different classes each semester, so I have found practicing self-discipline is essential to being successful.

ESG PMAL

Communication and interpersonal skills	I have been told that I am an effective communicator both verbally and in written forms of communication. One of my biggest strengths is being a relationship builder, and I think this is reflective of my interpersonal skills, approachability, and ability to effectively work in a team.
Experience with ESG or other honor societies	I have served as a co-advisor and primary faculty sponsor to the Gamma Eta chapter of ESG at the University of Cincinnati for the last 5 years.
Experience in organizational work	I have worked at a non-profit organization, county health department, and a university, as well as served on the boards for both a professional organization and a state-wide advocacy organization.
Positive teamwork experience	I effectively worked with community partners in Oregon to develop a multi-county youth leadership and prevention program and conference that is still in place today, six years after I left. I have worked with partners on campus, in my own department, as well as those at outside organizations to successfully plan events, develop conference presentations, and carryout daily projects.
Problem-solving and decision-making skills	I strongly believe in trying to gather as much information and look at problems from the big picture in order to solve them. I try to solve problems by changing systems and structures that can prevent them from occurring again. I believe in group decision making and hearing out everyone's thoughts and ideas before making a final decision.
Time management and organizational skills	As a field-serve faculty member, my schedule is full of teaching classes and various service activities. I always strive to keep each individual project organized, meet deadlines, and be fully present in meetings. I think a great example of this was when I served as a co-chair for our university's tobacco free campus initiative to adopt and implement a new policy; this was a lot of additional work added to my regular workload, but I was able to manage it successfully without missing a deadline or dropping other projects.
Record of responsibility	I believe our ESG chapter's recent national awards and recordbreaking initiation numbers reflect the high level of
	responsibility and dedication that I have given the chapter. I take this role very seriously and strive to support the chapter and its members in reaching their highest potential. I have also overseen project grants and the chapter's checking account, as well as organized student travel to and from various conferences.

ESG PMAL

Working with diverse groups	Working at a large, public university in an urban setting, I believe working with diverse groups sometimes comes naturally and is something I do in my daily work. Another example is when I was a member of Ohio Advocates, a state affiliate of Advocates for Youth, while in grad school; this group was comprised of young people from a variety of social, geographic, and economic backgrounds, as well as various racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, and gender identities.
Other	I believe I bring a sense of creativity and drive to meet participants' needs in the groups that I work with. I always take the approach of asking students or participants about their challenges and work with them to come up with ideas to address the problem; this is how our program's Involvement Fair, newsletter, social media pages, Lunch & Learn programs, and CHES study groups all happened: simply because I listened and was willing to create a reasonable solution to address the challenge or need. Additionally, I am very passionate about health education and student development. I believe this passion brings a level of energy that will be invaluable to the board and the national organization.