

Hi, everyone! My name is Ella Purington and I would be honored to be MERT's next secretary. I am currently a sophomore and an 802, and have been a part of this organization since fall semester of my freshman year.

I am interested in becoming secretary because I would like to continue streamlining and fine-tuning the application process. Previous secretaries have done an excellent job in making the application fair and digitized, and I would like to continue this trend. In addition to this, I would like to make the application more dimensional to get a better understanding of the applicants. Doing so will ensure that our organization will accept the most dedicated, MERT-oriented individuals. As a member, I still remember the grueling application process, the terror of waiting to hear back, and the intimidating interview process. As part of the Selection committee this previous semester, I was able to see the application process in a different light. I helped select our newest members by reading applications and conducting interviews. MERT is a serious organization on campus, and therefore has and needs a serious application process. I would like to further this by restructuring the application to better understand how potential members work in a group environment and interact with others. Furthermore, I think that one of the best ways to determine who is the best fit for our organization is to observe how applicants interact with present members. We are an organization based on patient and professional interaction, and therefore we should find members who excel in professionalism and communication. The meet-and-greets we have during the application season are a great opportunity to interact with applicants, and I would like to use that as a resource to generate opinions on new members so we can make a more educated decision on whom to offer interviews too.

In addition to the more profound task of the application process that the secretary oversees, I will also continue with some of the more familiar undertakings that previous secretaries have done. These include emailing out executive board and GMM minutes to the general membership. As secretary, I would like to improve GMM membership. It is the job of the secretary to record absences from GMM. I would like to establish a stricter tougher system on this and make sure absent members have valid and reasonable excuses for missing GMM. GMM is an important part of the organization, and attendance is imperative if members are to keep updated on the organizational changes. I intend to establish a way of letting MERT members access their current certifications online, so they can proactively keep them updated. This way we can minimize the number of times people are unable to recertify before their current certification runs out; in addition, it would create an easier system for people to recall their certification numbers for CPR, EMT-B, etc.

MERT is my primary commitment on campus, and I have never felt more passion towards an organization. I have dedicated my time to becoming an EMT and moving up to become a crew chief trainee. I have tried to attend every executive board meeting I could over the last two semesters. I have put in time to become a Certified Lab Instructor, and now help in teaching the EMT class we offer to members. This past year, I have also worked at scheduling and organizing standby events as the standby scheduler. I have been extremely dedicated to this organization, and I would love to continue this trend and become secretary for the upcoming year. Thank you.