

SEC Platforms 2014

Sanuja Bose

Hi, everyone! My name is Sanuja Bose and I would absolutely love 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. Since the beginning, I have been interested in and have become more familiar with the duties of the Secretary, first as a member of the Secretary Committee under Adam, our current DO, and then Marie, our current Secretary. I also had the honor of being a member of the Selection Committee for the most recent application cycle, which reviewed the applications of and interviewed every single one of our lovely newest members.

After going through the application process from this end—as a member of the Selection Committee, I became even more excited about the idea of perfecting the process, from the quality of the questions on the application itself, to the way members are finally selected—in order to make it as fair as possible. Additionally, I hope to work with the Webmaster in finally digitizing the entire form, rendering it not only more eco-friendly, but friendlier towards the people writing and reading the applications, too. (Older members might remember this idea being proposed in the past, but it is now significantly more feasible with the new website; this time, it will be done.)

While running the application process has been the biggest part of this position in the past, once the constitution has been updated and new sub-committees can be created, I will implement them as E-Board and the general membership see fit, and I will ensure all members have access to detailed descriptions of each committee so they can make an informed decision when choosing to join one. In terms of other smaller projects and perks of having me as Secretary, I promise to send out meeting minutes to members who cannot make GMMs so nobody feels left out, as well as updates to members who are abroad but still wish to remain informed about MERT.

For those of you haven't noticed my presence in this organization, MERT means more to me than anything else on this campus. I went to my first E-Board meeting as a freshman, and I've regularly attended them as a sophomore. I was Member of the Month in October because I genuinely love doing everything MERT-related, as I'm proud of what we are and what we do. I also think I've demonstrated that I'm willing to always stand up for what I believe is right. For these reasons, I believe I would be a valuable member of MERT's Executive Board. I hope you see it too, and that you'll give me the chance to prove it to you.

Thank you!
Sanuja Bose

Maria Zagorulya

Hello everyone!

My name is Maria Zagorulya, I am a freshman and an 803. I am running for the Secretary position.

I joined MERT only recently, and the application process is still fresh in my memory. It was long and complicated, but having become part of the organization I have understood how important it is to accept the right people into MERT. If I become secretary, I will work on improving the application for new members. I will revise our current application questions and make careful changes in order to make them most helpful in revealing personality of the applicants. I will encourage more members to participate in the selection process, and conduct workshops to sharpen their interviewing skills. Also, I would like to make the review of applications a blind process – an application ID will be generated for every applicant, and names will be erased. It is important to make sure that our selection is not biased and that the best-suited applicants are accepted into the organization.

Having talked to Marie and Adam, our current and past secretaries, I found out that for the past few years, one of the biggest secretary challenges was to create an online application. Our current webmaster Abhishek has finally found a way to make it possible! If I am to become secretary, I will work on making all the application forms more website friendly. Most of my work on the application will be done over the summer, so that by fall my ideas and plans will be ready for execution.

I will also continue Marie's work on the idea of subcommittees. I think that having subcommittees is a great idea because they allow interested people to become more involved in the organization and they can accommodate the temporary work overloads – such as during the application process – and make our organization overall more efficient.

This year Marie started sending out minutes from weekly E-Board Meetings to all members to help keep everyone involved in the organization. I would like to expand on this idea, and work towards creating a blog on our website, which will be kept updated with new ideas and events, and which will serve as a platform for all our members to express opinions, discuss ideas and vote. I believe that this will help strengthen the community of our organization. I talked to our current webmaster, and he said that creating a blog is very possible.

If I become secretary, I will also continue Marie's job of keeping everyone's certifications and general membership statuses up to date, writing up agendas for E-Board meetings, recording meeting minutes, taking attendance on GMMs, and being approachable to the general members. I will also work closely with the other departments within MERT. I think I will make a good secretary because I am organized, responsible, and genuinely interested in giving back to the organization and in helping MERT grow to become ever better.

Thank you,

Maria