

Rosa Di Virgilio Taormina

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November 30, 2021

Association of Professional Administrators
Elections Committee
c/o Elaine Milo, emilo@salemstate.edu and,
Larry Levison, llevison@massart.edu

Re: Nomination for the position of Vice President

Dear Colleagues:

It is with great enthusiasm that I nominate myself for the position of APA Vice President. I know that many of you do not know much about me, so I'll provide a little professional and personal background information here.

Professional Background: I began my employment with the Commonwealth in mid-2017 as an administrative assistant at Salem State University (SSU). Prior to this, I worked at another university that did not have unions. It was awful. Salary increases happened infrequently, supervisors took advantage of employees, and there was no one to help you fight for what you deserved. Now that I'm in a union, I am extremely grateful for everything they do for their members.

I joined the APA union in May 2018 and have served as SSU's APA grievance officer since December 2018. Even though I have not been a member of the union very long, it is clear to me that union contracts are not always given the respect or funding they deserve. In working with the board, I want to help change that.

Personal Background: I am a first generation American whose first language was Italian (it's terrible now that I hardly remember the language). I am a Connecticut native that transplanted to Massachusetts in 2003. For about a decade, I lived in the Merrimack Valley and I now live on the North Shore in Beverly with my husband, my daughters ages 11 and 6, and my Boston Terrier puppy, Jackie Daytona (named after a character's alter ego on *What We Do in the Shadows*). My dogs have fun names. My other Boston, who passed away this August, was named Liz Lemon after Tina Fey's character on *30 Rock*. In my free time, I enjoy sewing, many forms of needlepoint, and arguing.

The most important piece of information I want to convey to you is that I am a fighter. I don't back down and I don't give up. I will fight my hardest for you.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,



Rosa Di Virgilio Taormina