

5012 11th Ave NE
Unit E
Seattle, WA 98105

April 8, 2017

Mrs. Sue Murphy
Washington Science Olympiad
15112 W 3rd Addition Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004

Dear Sue Murphy,

I would like to submit myself for consideration for the state Board of Directors. This year marks my ninth year of involvement with Science Olympiad. I competed for Canyon Park Junior High and Bothell High, and since graduation from Bothell, I have worked at all levels of state competition.

I have served as a supervisor and test writer for events like Disease Detectives, Anatomy & Physiology, Ecology, and Mission Possible at invitationals, regionals, and State. This year, I wrote the B/C Ecology tests for Seattle Central and the UW tournaments, and the B/C Disease Detectives test for the State competition.

This year, as you know, was the first year the UW hosted a regional competition. I was a major contributor to the organization efforts, including contributing to fundraising, organizing academic events, and serving as the *de facto* director during the day of the competition, resolving issues, computing scores, and running the awards ceremony.

I have an excellent knowledge of the rules, goals, and idiosyncrasies of Science Olympiad, and I believe I would be a knowledgeable board member, drawing on my recent experience as a student and time spent contributing to competitions of all levels. I would continue writing tests and helping at competitions if selected for the board. I graduate from the UW this year, and, with more time on my hands, would be happy to travel to tournaments across the state.

Additionally, next year, I will be working as a Research Scientist at the Integrated Brain Imaging Center at the UW, specializing in fMRI and EEG

processing and analysis. This means that, as an employee, I will have access to a range of resources at the UW that can work in concert with resources students — like Science Olympiad at the UW — have access to. While next year may be too soon to host State at the UW, I think we can easily handle a B and C tournament next year. Furthermore, I believe the board should have someone representing the organizing committee from the UW, so that we can work independently of coaches whose teams may come to the UW next year.

You may be concerned about my past involvement with CPJH and BHS, but rest assured that the integrity of the tournament is far more important to me than helping either team. Since working with the regional and state tournaments, I haven't returned to help CPJH or BHS students with their events; you can ask Mrs. Guard. I don't want to be worrying about knowing what CPJH or BHS students know while I prepare tests.

I also have a few ideas for trial events I will submit to the board, regardless of whether I'm accepted: a neuroimaging and neuroanatomy event for the C division, and a linguistics (my field of study) event for B (and possibly C division).

Science Olympiad was a major influence on my life, and I believe it is a major contributor to my successes in college. I would appreciate the opportunity to give back to the program over the next few years as a board member.

Thanks for your consideration, and I look forward to working with the board, regardless of whether I'm selected, on next year's UW tournament.

Sincerely,

Trevor McAllister-Day
University of Washington