

Mary C. Wacker

14625 Mesa Ct.

Brookfield, WI 53005

(414) 416-3277

mary.wacker@gmail.com

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To the Brookfield Common Council:

I enthusiastically submit my application for appointment to the upcoming vacancy in Aldermanic District 3 of the Brookfield Common Council.

My history, professional skills, experience, and passion for public service bring a unique set of qualities that I hope you will find to be a good fit to represent District 3 for the remaining months of the vacant term.

I have been a resident of Brookfield District 3 since 2007, but my history as a resident of the community goes back much further. I grew up in Brookfield from 1959 to 1977. After moves for college and early careers, my husband and I chose to return to the area to raise our family – first to Elm Grove (1988-2007), and then to our current residence in Brookfield fifteen years ago. My siblings and I, my children, and my grandchildren are products of the Elmbrook School District. The history of our community is part of my personal history. I am invested in what happens in Brookfield now and in the future.

The attached resume details my education and professional background. I am a communication scholar, a licensed teacher, and am currently responsible for market research and professional development in the private sector at Swingtide, an IT consulting firm specializing in health care. Twenty-two years of coaching forensics and debate at Brookfield East High School (1991-2012) gave me the opportunity to teach hundreds of students to research and understand all sides of an issue, and use their voices as future leaders. These skills and experiences will be valuable if given the chance to serve on the Common Council.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue this discussion in person.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Wacker

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OVERVIEW

A dedicated and highly accomplished professional with experience in writing, teaching, higher education, non-profit management, project management, and motivational leadership. Demonstrates strong written, spoken, and group communication skills. A key contributor to the long-lasting success of an organization that values community service and strives for continuous improvement.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

2019-present

Communications Director
Swingtide, Inc.

Brookfield, Wis. (Remote)

Project manager and sourcing researcher, with additional responsibility for recruitment, onboarding, and professional development programming for all employees in this boutique consulting company that specializes in providing solutions in IT contract and vendor management with a focus on the health care industry. Responsibilities include:

- Market research
- Value reporting
- 1:1 and small group instruction in communication and other workplace skills
- Produce and edit Tidings, the company newsletter
- Recruitment and professional development of college interns

2016-2019

Graduate Program Recruiter (Liaison to the Humanities and Social Sciences)
Marquette University

Milwaukee, Wis.

Responsible for student recruitment for all graduate programs, with a focus on building liaison relationships with eleven departments representing the humanities and social sciences, and the Trinity Fellows Program. Developed new student orientation program.

2015-2016

Executive Assistant to the Dean/Vice Provost of the Graduate School
Marquette University

Milwaukee, Wis.

Provided executive administrative support to the dean of the Graduate School to create a culture of excellent service. Ensure compliance with FERPA and other university policies and procedures in all endeavors. Supported the smooth transition of leadership in the Graduate School in 2015.

2014-2015

Administrative Assistant III
Medical College of Wisconsin

Milwaukee, Wis.

Provided administrative support for five pediatric radiology physicians at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Duties included research and IRB support, correspondence, travel and daily workflow support, patient point of contact and departmental scheduling, as well as support to the hospital administrator as needed.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

National Catholic Forensic League, Milwaukee Chapter

Member affiliation 1991 to 2012. Served as competition site chair for the 2019 and 2005 Grand National Tournaments in Milwaukee. Responsible for scheduling more than 240 rooms for competition events, serving as liaison to Marquette University as the primary host site. This tournament travels to a different city each year on Memorial Day weekend, bringing together nearly 4,000 high school speech and debate competitors from around the country.

Brookfield East H.S. Friends of Fine Arts

Served as Treasurer and Vice President of this parent booster organization, dedicated to supporting fine arts programming at Brookfield East. Served on the planning committee for annual Arts and Crafts Fair fundraiser.

Swanson/Wisconsin Hills Task Force

Served at the request of the Elmbrook School District to mend community rifts and achieve success in resolving facility needs after five failed referenda. The task force put forward a proposal in 1995 that resulted in a successful referendum and was implemented in 1997 when two district schools were reopened and repurposed, paving the way for a series of future successful referenda to resolve critical space and update needs.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Communication Studies

Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- Concentration in Digital Storytelling and Narrative Non-Fiction Writing
- 4.0 GPA
- Thesis: *Broadening the Focus: Women's Voices in the New Journalism*
- Key Projects: *Living and Loving with Down Syndrome; The Empty Nest; The Curse of Bembenek*

Bachelor of Arts Communication Education and Theatre Education

Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSES

English (1300), Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Licensed grades 7-12. License #664024

Speech Communication Education (1320), Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Licensed grades 7-12. License #664024

Theatre Arts Education (1325), Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Licensed grades 7-12. License #664024

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Swingtide University

Instructor (2019 to Present):

- Communication in the Workplace
- Giving and Receiving Feedback
- Learning From Your Mistakes
- Social Media 101
- Successful Conversations
- Value Reporting
- Writing with Clarity and Objectivity

Grow with Marquette

Instructor and Participant

Wisconsin High School Forensic Association (WHSFA) and Wisconsin Forensic Coaches Association (WFCA)

Instructor (1999-2012):

- Adjudicator Training
- Training the Trainers Workshop

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND HONORS

Alpha Sigma Nu, Jesuit Honor Society

Inducted as life member to this honor society founded on the pillars of scholarship, loyalty, and service.

National Association for Graduate Enrollment Professionals (NAGAP)

Presenter at the 2018 NAGAP National Conference in New Orleans.

National Speech and Debate Association (formerly National Forensic League)

Three-diamond coach. Served as Southern Wisconsin district chair in 2010 and member of Southern Wisconsin district committee from 2004 to 2012.

Wisconsin Forensic Coaches Association (WFCA)

Recipient of the William Hintz Memorial Award for Coaching Excellence in 2008. Served as WFCA President 2001-2002. Served as chair of program assistance committee, category committee, and tournament practices and procedure committee. Chaired ad-hoc committees on constitution revision, sportsmanship, and awards. Served as a mentor coach.