Hello,

My name is Roberto Santos and I am currently the National Communications Coordinator for the Residence Hall Association. For this position I have the honor of representing Marquette to our state, regional, and national affiliates. I not only have the honor of being Marquette's voice at for these organizations, but I also have the honor of developing the next generation of student leaders, showing off the amazing people, programs, and school Marquette has by bidding for awards. I also want got to learn about programs that other schools. I want to apply the experiences I have gained over the last year back here at Marquette. Based off of what I have learned this past year there are four main things that I will be focusing on: Financial responsibility, Amplifying current programs, Collaboration, and Training or as I would like to call FACT.

Let's start with financial responsibility. This current academic year RHA has spent over $45,000 and it could be assumed that the rollover going into next academic year is half of what RHA had this year. Also, there is always a worry about getting a smaller budget from the department next year, so in order to account for this RHA has to do something to have another source of steady cash flow coming into the organization. The way that we should do this is by teaming up with that was at NACURH that focused on move out day and storing student's belongings over the summertime. Currently the company that we go through now does not give Marquette anything, while this new company gives RHA a percentage of their sales. In order for this to work RHA should start putting some pressure on the administration to get this accomplished, so future RHAs do not have to worry about their budget.

Next, we have to keep amplifying current RHA programs. This can be done through more collaboration through different organizations, clubs, or departments. For instance, next year for the Golden Eagle Games RHA is getting help from the Rec when it comes to facilitating and where the events are being held. What we could also do is bring in all the RA staffs and make the Inauguration Carnival an annual event that happens the same time as Eagle Fest.

With expanding programs there is always a need for collaboration. Three organizations we should get more collaboration with are MUSG, NRHH, and the Marquette Tribune. This past year MUSG and RHA have done more collaboration than ever before and I want to keep expanding on that. I would want to keep the joint e-board dinner that occur every semester, and MUSG doing events with RHA for both HALLOWeen and Igniting Hope. One hope of mine is that there is joint Student Life meetings each semester to see what each organization is doing to improve student lives. For NRHH we currently just have them help out when needed with our annual programs, but I would like to see them official team up with an RHA program. One idea that I noticed other universities do is Blood Drives and how both
organizations publicize the event and help work the event. Lastly, I would like RHA to get a deal with the Marquette Tribune, so that when an RHA event is coming up students can read about it.

Lastly, I want to focus on training both the executive board and general body. I feel that this is super important because as leaders we are always growing and thus I think RHA can offer those opportunities. I would discuss how this could be accomplished with both the new executive board and advisors. One idea that I do have for the executive board is that I would like to have an exercise that I would be called something like find your inner demon. The object of this would be for the executives to find something that really makes them mad or in a high stress situation that would bring out a person’s bad side. Once we figure out what that is, they learn how to calmly handle themselves while still being positive. The reason for an exercise like this is because as an executive board member there is no need to ever openly express being mad at a representative or if they are having a bad day there is no need to spread it to other members because they do not deserve it.

Through my experiences that I had at Marquette thus far and my passion and vision for RHA that on March 26 you vote for Roberto Santos for RHA President. I would like to thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you

[Signature]

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my support for Roberto Santos as a candidate for president for Marquette University Residence Hall Association. I am a resident assistant at Marquette, and Roberto is a resident on my floor.

I believe that Roberto is very well qualified for the position based on my observation of his work ethic, charisma and dedication specifically to the Residence Hall Association already as National Communications Coordinator. Nearly every time I see Roberto, he is working on, talking about, or planning for an RHA event. He has organized Marquette’s contribution to numerous national residence life conferences, contributing hours of work and preparation along the way.

As president, I believe Roberto would be able to capitalize on these skills. The quality that stands out most of all is work ethic. I am aware that the duties of a president are numerous and often challenging or time consuming. Based on his past ability to balance workload, I believe Roberto would be able to simultaneously handle the responsibilities of facilitating meetings, writing agendas, preparing for guest speakers, making summer contributions, holding office hours, and more as president.

Additionally, a president is not only a workhorse but a leader. As a resident, Roberto has never presented any conduct concerns and always contributes positively to our floor atmosphere. Roberto sets an excellent example of leadership in his careful listening and friendly nature. I am confident in Roberto’s ability to maintain morale while leading an organization as multi-faceted as RHA.

Austin Bohn
Resident Assistant, Straz Tower
Marquette University