

# Meet the Candidate for Membership Chair PLTE 2017 Election

## Professional Biography

Danielle Butcher is a veteran English teacher with experience in secondary and post-secondary instruction. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in English Education from Southeastern Louisiana University in 2006, then continued at Southeastern to complete a Master of Arts in English in 2008.

During her career, Ms. Butcher has served as a teacher leader, technology facilitator, and dual enrollment co-coordinator. She also authored the Iberville Math, Science, and Arts Academy's application for National Magnet School of Distinction, which won not only the National Magnet School of Excellence Award (2010-2012), but also the Hogan Lovells New and Emerging Magnet School of Distinction Award (2010-2011). She also was selected Teacher of the Year at the Iberville Math, Science, and Arts Academy—East for 2015–2016.

Ms. Butcher is pursuing a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in literacy and ESL at Louisiana State University. Her case study research focuses on high school English teachers and their initial and ongoing ESL training. She has presented her research at various conferences in Louisiana and Texas, and as a National Writing Project certified educator, she has conducted multiple professional development sessions for Louisiana teachers.

## Qualifications for Membership Chair

The Membership Chair position of the PLTE requires candidates to be intrinsically motivated, organized, efficient, and technologically savvy. As a professional educator, I consider leadership roles an honor, and I am therefore diligent in my responsibilities.

As a graduate assistant in the Writing Center at Southeastern Louisiana University, I served as the coordinator of our monthly speaker series *In the Center* and planned and executed the *In the Center: Spotlight* evening with world-renowned author Ngugi wa Thiong'o. I also presented with a panel at the Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference in Nashville, TN and designed the customized *Universal Keys for Writing* SELU English 101 textbook cover.

During my teaching career, I have served as a school-wide technology facilitator and digital media instructor. My responsibilities included maintaining databases of information regarding technology inventory and teacher training, presenting monthly teacher professional development opportunities, composing and sending professional emails in a timely fashion, and updating our school social media accounts. In this position, I also applied the skills I obtained from my A.S. in Graphic Design to design school advertisements and brochures to attract students to our magnet program.

In addition, I have operated as a dual enrollment co-coordinator and member of the Nicholls State University English Advisory Board. In these positions, I planned dual enrollment expectations for SACS certified high school teachers, mapped out dual enrollment credit

courses for our high school, and developed course plans for students so they could graduate high school with up to 30 college credit hours.

As a teacher leader, I have served as the liaison between teachers and administration at my school by attending leadership team meetings and presenting the teachers' concerns and requests. This position required professional email correspondence, handling teacher and administrator questions, participating in decision-making processes, developing schoolwide goals using input from stakeholders, and disseminating information efficiently.

Ultimately, my nine years as an educator in Louisiana public schools have given me the skills necessary to succeed. As a teacher, I have had to be organized and professional in all my paperwork and communication, I have had to work effectively with colleagues to establish and obtain goals, and I have had to make executive decisions in both classroom and schoolwide matters. If elected, I am more than prepared to employ these administrative and instructional experiences in my role as PLTE Membership Chair.