

**Melanie Marine**

**NCTA 2026 Board Nomination Application**

**Please describe your contributions to NCTA, including what positions and experiences you have had within NCTA and what you have accomplished through these opportunities?**

I have attended all five NCTA conference since I have taken the Director of Testing position. After the first conference, I became the mentee of Cris Gilbert for the next year. After I graduated from that program, I signed up to be a mentor and have been an active member of the Membership Committee for the past two years. Additionally, I have been the listserv moderator since the summer 2025 conference. At last year's conference, I came early to help out with the first time/long time session and planned a dinner out with prospective mentors and mentees. I regularly participate in the book studies, webinars and coffee chats. In 2022-2023, I prepared and successfully completed UW Oshkosh's NCTA recertification process, which was approved for five years. And finally, I am very much looking forward to group-presenting on two different topics at this year's conference!

**Please describe any relevant positions and experiences you have had outside of NCTA, yet within the testing industry, and what you have accomplished through these opportunities.**

This year, we partnered with our Center for Accessibility and Disability Resources office (CADR) to complete an accelerated six-week transition from the Accommodate to the AIM software platform. I assumed primary responsibility for the transition of the Accommodated Testing components, in addition to training student and faculty users. I am also currently working with a small group of faculty to develop and implement a Student Code of Academic Conduct for our whole campus, which we have never had before. And finally, upon hearing that our large classes were using grad students to help proctor in-class exams, I reached out to those areas and developed a training program so those graduate students could be successful proctors.

**Please describe any relevant service or professional contributions have you made outside of NCTA?**

We have a new Chancellor and have spent the last six months creating a new Strategic Plan. That has been approved. The Chancellor has now created a University-wide Strategic Plan Implementation team and has asked me to serve on it, in recognition of my commitment to effective policy development, institutional compliance and identify operational barriers, all things skills I've honed through my work as a Testing Director. In the past, I have served on our Alumni Board of directors. I was President of our Academic Staff Senate (our shared governance group) for two years, one of which was the pandemic year, which taught me so much about leadership. Finally, I have volunteered extensively within my local school district. Most notably, I was PTA president for two years.

**How do the experiences you discussed in the previous three questions qualify you to serve on the NCTA Governing Council?**

I feel I'm well qualified to serve on the NCTA Governing Council based on my demonstrated record of professional engagement, collaborative leadership and institution wide impact. I am very active in NCTA and fully believe that we never stop learning. My history shows that I continuously participate in NCTA as a whole. Additionally, I am active on my campus in ensuring discussion of academic integrity is included where it needs to be, as well as being a strong advocate for students with accommodated testing needs. I have had many experiences in working as part of a leadership team, as well as being elected president of some.

**Explain why you are interested in serving on the Governing Council.**

I would not be the Testing Director I am today without NCTA. On many campuses, few people fully understand what "professional testing" consists of. From the moment I joined NCTA, I found a professional community that understood the challenges we face, as well as the huge impact we have on a university. I am now connected to colleagues who understand exactly what my role is and willingly share expertise and resources. Additionally, requesting a mentor early in my testing career was one the best decisions I made. Now that I'm five years into my role, I'm eager to give back to the organization that has supported me so meaningfully.

**Is there anything additional you would like to tell the NCTA membership?**

I am a firm believer in volunteerism, which has shaped my personal and professional life. I thoroughly enjoy the conference every year, the energy in the room, the passion for testing...and it wouldn't happen without volunteers. I would love the opportunity to be a part of that.