This statement summarizes my qualifications for the position of Program Chair Elect for the Eastern Academy of Management.

*Academic and Leadership qualifications –*

I received my PhD at the University of Mississippi in May 2015. I spent my first three years out of the program at Towson University. I’m currently in my fourth year out, and my first year at Georgia Southern University.

My research interests vary across a variety of topics, but I primarily focus on individual competitiveness. While I have frequently focused on this topic from an OB perspective, I’ve also examined these dynamics in entrepreneurship and new venture teams. Additionally, I enjoy writing with friends, therefore, have published some articles in the family business domain. I also like to examine topics related to diversity and gender issues. As mentioned, this covers a wide range, but speaks to my variety of interests in the academic field. Articles in these topics have been published in journals such as the *Journal of Organizational Behavior, Journal of Business Research, Group and Organization Management,* and *Family Business Review.* Not only do I place a priority on my own research, but also frequently review for journals and conferences in our field. Examples journals I have reviewed for include the *Journal of Small Business Management, Journal of Family Business Strategy*, and *Small Business Economics*.

Another large focus in both my research and teaching is gamification and other experiential learning related topics and exercises. Prior to returning to academics, I assisted in starting a board game company with friends. During this moment in time that felt like a fun and temporary project, later turned into a passion for the industry in both teaching and scholarly activities. The relationships built while being in the gaming industry, that I’ve kept up for the past 10 years, allowed me to do my dissertation on board game entrepreneurs. Industry related papers have been published in both the *Entrepreneurship Research Journal* and *Journal of Business Venturing Insights*. I have also brought this passion into my teaching, where I frequently design experiential exercises or adapt published board games for my classroom. Papers regarding these activities have been published in the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Education* and *Developments in Business Simulations*. I have also reviewed for journals in this topic interest, including the *Journal of Education for Business* and the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Education*.

Additionally, I have experience teaching courses such as Leadership in Organizations, Foundations of Entrepreneurship, Strategic Management, Family Business Strategy, and Organizational Behavior, to name a few. Prior to academics, I worked for Dell Technologies, gaining experience in sales and project management. I’m also a co-founder of the Association of Gaming Academics, which we seek to continue building in order to provide a resource for academics and gamers to connect and share knowledge.

From a general skillset perspective, I am an organized and creative person who knows how to get stuff done.

*Involvement in EAM specifically* -

I have been actively involved in the Eastern Academy of Management for the past few years. During this time, I have presented 6 traditional papers and participated on the panel for 3 PDWs. At this upcoming 2023 Philadelphia conference, I also have an additional 2 papers and a PDW. My co-author and I won the best paper in the OB track award at EAM 2021, and also in that year, my other co-author and I were runner-up for the best experiential learning exercise. Regarding service for EAM, I have also been a reviewer for the conference for the past 3 years. I was a co-chair for the OB track at the 2022 conference in Portland and am currently a co-chair for the ELA track at the 2023 conference. This year, I am also a co-coordinator for EAM 60th Anniversary Edition Game at EAM this year.

Lastly, I’m fully on track to complete my tenure requirements, and have been given the blessing from my Department Chair regarding my application. If you need to follow-up with him further, listed is his contact information: Steve Charlier – [scharlier@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:scharlier@georgiasouthern.edu)

Sincerely,

R. Gabrielle “Gabby” Swab

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